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April 21, 2017

The Honorable Ginny Burdick and Ann Lininger, Co-Chairs
Joint Committee on Marijuana Regulation
900 Court St NE, S-407
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 1057 / Dash – 11 Amendments

My husband and I are residents of Deschutes County. We live just outside the City of Redmond in a neighborhood of 5-acre home sites with our four children, aged 4 to 12. We utilize Central Oregon Irrigation District water to grow hay, raise chickens and 4H pigs. It is an idyllic life that my husband and I work hard to provide for our children. My husband served honorably as an U.S. Air Force officer flying the C-17 for over ten years. He deployed to the Middle East multiple times. He transitioned to the Alaska Air National Guard in 2014 and is currently serving as an instructor pilot and Major in the 249th Airlift Squadron. I am an engineering manager for a local geothermal energy company. After our final Air Force assignment in Anchorage, Alaska, we chose Redmond, Oregon as the place to raise our children for its weather, its population size, its proximity to Bend, its beautiful scenery, its clean air and its year-round outdoor activities. Unfortunately, the marijuana lobby is relentlessly attacking our way of life. A landowner directly to the south of our property, merely 350 ft from our property line, has applied to Deschutes County for a marijuana production facility permit. I fear the ramifications on the enjoyment of our property, the influence on my four children and the devaluation of our land because of this facility. I have voted against all marijuana legalization efforts. Despite our opposition to the legalization of marijuana, we have appreciated Deschutes County's willingness to hold public hearings and its willingness to engage with all members of the public on this issue, including the marijuana and anti-marijuana contingencies. Rural Deschutes County widely rejected the Measure 91, and our voices deserve to be heard.

Although I do not personally agree with all our local ordinances on marijuana production facilities, I defend the county's right to maintain control of this important and polarizing issue at the local level. The Deschutes County planning department and the Board of Commissioners are best situated to make decisions for my county. The State should not remove authority from the county level; as there is no lawful reason to do so. The marijuana lobby is growing stronger by the month. It reminds me of the tobacco lobby in the 1980s. I fear that their strength will only continue to grow with their lobbying and campaign financing support. I ask the Co-Chairs to dismiss the proposed SB 1057 / Dash -11 amendments and leave these local decisions about land use to the locals.

Sincerely,



Laura Nofziger