

ATTN: JOINT COMMITTEE ON MARIJUANA REGULATION

Public Hearing: SB 1057

April 23, 2017

Concerns & Opposition to the Removal of marijuana regulatory Time, Manner & Place regulations

-11 Amendment

Rural Deschutes **DID NOT** vote to legalize marijuana, nor did we vote to turn marijuana which is federally illegal into an agricultural crop, our State Legislature did.

I am writing today to support the Deschutes County Commissioners and oppose any attempts through the -11 amendment to try and remove any of the current marijuana regulatory time, manner, and place regulations. Our Deschutes County commissioners have spent months listening to all concerns of both the marijuana industry and rural residents.

Deschutes is a legacy to the state of Oregon because of its pristine nature, its quiet nights, and its dark skies. Other farmers and ranchers have always abided by the rules that provide for the continuing quality of life that exists in our high desert.

If the marijuana industry wants to become a part of this community, if they want “fairness” then they should be required to abide by all County, State, and Federal laws, like all other rural farmers and potential neighbors.

I am vehemently opposed to the legislature’s attempts to coerce a rural county who was close to opting out, opt in by allowing Time, Manner and Place regulations.

I am opposed to any attempts that would undo the marijuana regulation work in Deschutes County and in fact we are asking Commissioners to take into

consideration the size of the EFU property in relation to the smaller EFU residents who already live around it— residents who have family, children, and farm animals. Truly, these smaller EFU residents were there first. They abide by the laws and have intentionally sought and purchased their lands for the purpose of the tranquility that has previously existed there for generations.

Following are examples of potential and real problems:

- Greenhouse lights left all hours of the day and night
- The skunk smell of pot is so strong and repelling, neighbors can't even sit on their own decks outside to enjoy their properties
- The unfriendly behaviors of these “farmers” including vicious dogs barking at all hours, the “KEEP-OUT” exteriors that resemble prisons, and the increased traffic
- Some locations have brought in semi-truck containers and lined them up to make it look like a fence. This is concerning not only from an aesthetic point of view, but these containers might be used unintentionally as a means of shelter for vagrants, transients, drug dealers and / or sadly the drug-addicted. Again, attracting undesirables to an otherwise quiet and tranquil place in our county.
- Lack of Code enforcement
- Waste, and water usage

The more marijuana grows we have in our County, the more we have to make sure that we are not compromising our county based upon this single industry. These ‘farmers’ must comply with the laws and respect their neighbors. This is just common sense and a reasonable expectation of decency.

We must protect and fight for our public safety, our quality of Life and our property values.

Respectfully,

G. Marie Wirtz

Resident of Bend (in Deschutes County), Oregon