

To: The Joint Committee on Marijuana Regulation,

Honorable Co-Chairs Burdick and Lininger, and The Committee,

We support SB 874 which directs reporting of violations to the Commission as this should give some support and encouragement to whistle-blower reporting which otherwise may be subject to too much employer, industry pressure.

We also support HB 2198, understanding the renaming of the OLCC and consolidation of licensing in that re-named agency. However, we object to any increased production per license or grow area. Also problematic would be any removal or prohibition of Time, Manner, and Place regulations by local cities or counties. This ties to the attempt to do so by Dash -11 Amendments to SB 1057.

We are residents of Deschutes County, living in a beautiful place in which we have invested a great deal of time and money. We enjoy our residential, rural setting and quietly grow some excellent orchard grass. Across the street the owner/non-resident has applied for and is close to receiving a permit for a grow operation. His operation will be 400-450 feet from a family of 6 (4 young children). While we have objected to the application, it appears that the applicant has met the criteria, and will be granted the permit. That is the give and take of a rural/residential community adjusting to a new industry.

The burden of the legalization of recreational marijuana is being borne on the rural communities of this state. Urban dwellers only see nice retail establishments, from which to purchase their products. While we are not against the legalization or legal enjoyment/benefits of marijuana, we are worried about the consequences of grow and processing operations in our rural/residential community.

That being said, our county commissioners (BOCC), undertook a difficult task when this was thrust upon them. They formed the Marijuana Advisory Committee (MAC). There were many hearings, much public input, and lots of discussion, all around. Then, they held more hearings, and decided with lots of input from our Planning Commission, and issued our county code to govern the industry and community. The Planning Department has acted in a responsible way to guide applicants through the process, and the growth of the industry here in Deschutes is moving on.

We think that the county code is too permissive, damaging personal investment and quality of life. The industry is bothered by the regulations and process. Maybe that is an unhappy compromise for both, as happens in most back and forth situations. The BOCC has done a good job with a challenging issue. Most importantly, these decisions need to remain in Deschutes County, where

knowledge of local issues is current and known. The time manner and place TMP regulations challenged by Dash-11 Amendments must be kept in place, and the amendments rejected.

Thank you,
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