

Good evening Chair Burdick, Co-Chair Lininger and Committee

My name is Gary Hower from Deschutes County.

I live on 2 acres near to a proposed 10 acre EFU commercial marijuana grow. We have appealed this application.

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

I am supporting 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. Deschutes County has spent months listening to all concerns of both the marijuana industry and rural residents.

Deschutes is a legacy to this State because of its pristine nature, its quiet nights, and its dark skies. If the marijuana industry wants fairness then they should be required to abide by all County, State, and Federal laws like all other rural farmers.

The legislature has attempted 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 live around it who have family, kids, and farm animals and asking them whether this is even a good use of this land.

Examples of complaints include:

- Increased Traffic
- Greenhouse lights left all hours of the day and night
- The skunk smell of pot is so strong you can't even sit out on your own deck
- The unfriendly behaviors
- Some locations have brought in semi-truck containers and lined them up to make it look like a fence.
- 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 a single industry.

We are willing to fight for our public safety, quality of life and property values.

Thank you.

*Gary Hower*