

We strongly oppose SB 365. Marijuana operations have a heavy impact on roads and other services, and because of that, they should not be excused from doing their part in paying SDC fees.

We are also opposed to any amendments or new legislation that would prevent Deschutes County from following the time, place, and manner regulations that have been established through thousands of hours of meetings, discussions, letter writing efforts, and involvement from county officials, law enforcement, local citizens, and the marijuana industry. Our county is different in many ways from the rest of those in Oregon, and the current set of rules has been developed to address the needs of our community. It would be unconscionable for the state to try to undermine and override the decisions that have been made locally.

Marijuana growing facilities are already compromising our rural neighborhoods, but the industry is well-organized and constantly pushing for more opportunities to expand their operations. We ask you to respect the lives of rural Deschutes County residents who never wanted recreational marijuana to be legal to begin with, as shown by their voting against Measure 91. We urge you to vote against SB 365 and also against any possible legislation that would open up rural lands to special marijuana events, tasting, tours, lodges, or other commercial developments.

Sincerely,

Gretchen and Robert Pederson

Deschutes County residents