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Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 5:55 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Comment on hemp



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My comments on hemp

The BOS is elected to provide "...a healthy, safe, and prosperous environment" So the questions is:

1. What have they accomplished with this ordinance? Restating the state and federal requirements? Setting their fees and how they will collect? This does nothing to protect the citizens and businesses of Santa Barbara County. Land Use restrictions are needed.

HERE ARE THE FACTS:

- **FACT:** Hemp and Cannabis are derivatives of the same plant with the same nuisances, as was acknowledged in the BOS April 4, 2017 Urgency Ordinance which was put in place "to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents and businesses stating due to industrial hemp bearing a close resemblance to marijuana, it can pose the same risks that are associated with marijuana, including risks to public health, safety, and welfare."
- **FACT:** The draft Hemp ordinance does not address a single land use requirement. In essence all it does is restate Federal and State requirements.
- **FACT:** Most California Counties, including our neighboring counties, HAVE and ARE establishing Hemp Ordinances that contain land use requirements to protect citizens. Some are prohibiting hemp completely.
- **FACT:** Since hemp has now been deregulated, it has potential for greater impact than cannabis **BECAUSE:**
 - o Hemp farming activities **still** include all the nuisances that accompany cannabis
 - o Hemp farming activities **are not** conducted in a manner similar to proper and accepted customs and practices utilized for other agricultural commodities
 - o The potential for crime, unlike other commodities, and the countermeasures taken by growers and their security personnel on site, pose a risk to the community
 - o **AND** the odor – the odor adversely affects quality of life and business viability