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Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors 105 East Anapamu St., Rm 407 Santa Barbara, California

Nereyda Harmon 123 East Anapamu Street Santa Barbara COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dear madams and sirs,

While I am a relatively new resident of The Meadow in Carpinteria, I have been visiting my mother here for the last several years. A few years ago, I began to wonder where that skunk I was smelling lived, and how we could persuade it to go somewhere else. Of course, I soon learned that the foul odor was not from a skunk, but from the cannabis growing in the greenhouses surrounding this area.

At certain times of year, the dirty, skunky smell is overwhelming. I smell it even in my bedroom with all the windows shut. In talking with my neighbors, I learned that I am not the only one who objects to this nuisance being imposed on us in our own homes.

This is a public nuisance, which I strongly request that you as county supervisors and representative of the planning and development department to do everything possible to contain. It makes no sense to allow additional cannabis production here until there is a more effective odor amelioration system available. I am also concerned about the health effects of the system currently in use, which just seems to replace the foul odor of cannabis with a different chemical, this time an artificial one. Has there been an environmental and health impact study undertaken on the effects of the "Byer's system"? I understand that this system was developed to contain landfill odors. Most landfills, however, are much farther away from residences than are these greenhouse. I strongly urge the board, to the extent that you can, to require an impact study before allowing any further permits for cannabis production.

I also question why, if growers cannot be controlled because they do not have the requisite permits, they are allowed to continue growing, without permit, a substance that, while it might be legal, is still a psychotropic drug that should not be imposed on people who have not chosen to imbibe it?

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I would like to point out also that many of the people in my neighborhood are retired. There is currently a building permit pending that, if approved, will allow even more cannabis production in our already-smelly neighborhood. Can we get the definition of "sensitive receptors" (a rather inhuman label I must say) expanded to include us? I think anyone will agree that people over 60 have more health issues than those under 18. As we protect our children, please protect the rest of us as well.

Whatever you think of my complaint, at the least, know that one citizen of Carpinteria (actually, not just me but everyone I have talked to) is strongly opposed to more marijuana production here or in the parts of the country adjacent to us. Please keep our beautiful little city a healthy, pleasant, and odor-free place to live.

Thank you for your attention,

Carrie A. Miles, Ph.D.

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