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de la Guerra, Sheila

From: fnemerson <fnemerson@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 9:55 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Letter re Chapter 50, Cannabis Business. Licensing
Attachments: WEWBOSBusLicOrdFinal4119.docx

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Dear Clerk's office staff,

Attached is a letter for the April 2 hearing on the Cannabis Business Licensing Ordinance amendments.

Thank you.

Nancy Emerson, WE Watch

WE Watch, P.O Box 830, Solvang CA93463



April 1, 2019

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Nancy Emerson, President, WE Watch, Santa Ynez Valley
RE: Amendments to Chapter 50, Cannabis Business Licensing

We are glad to see that the storefront retail operations will be limited to one in each area of the County. Looking forward, WE Watch has a generalized feeling of concern about whether the Business Licensing Ordinance's processes provide the needed level of opportunity for citizen involvement. We ask you to evaluate this dimension of this ordinance.

Individual citizens in some areas of the County have already been poring over state and local lists of applicants in an effort to ferret out fraudulent affidavits, temporary licenses and land use applications. It is difficult to impossible for them to do this work alone.

Citizens need to understand when and how they can comment about retail applicants and the type of operation and location proposed before they have been selected. This work will need to continue for retail operations for some time. (For land use permits, it will be almost indefinitely.) There is no mention of procedures for challenging an application on the Pre-Qualified Cultivation Applicant or Cannabis Cultivation License Eligibility Lists.

In addition, we ask that cannabis manufacturing and any other activities where fire safety is an issue be evaluated as carefully as retail operations before approving their land use permits and business licenses. A 2018 article about firefighters' evaluation of cannabis manufacturing and fire safety in Colorado appeared in the NAFTA journal* reminding us that this is an important issue for cannabis regulation. We question whether it is wise to allow them to operate in AG-II zones given our county's fire danger and less AG-II proximity to fire fighters.

Thank you.

* www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Publications-and-Media/NFPA-Journal/2018/July-August-2018/Features/the-cannabis-industry