

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dianne Black, Planning & Development 

The activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

Title: AN INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65858

Description: An interim urgency ordinance establishing a moratorium throughout the County of Santa Barbara during which medical marijuana dispensaries shall not be approved through either the approval or issuance of permits or by Use Determination of the County Planning Commission or the Montecito Planning Commission. During the moratorium, Planning and Development will consider and study possible means to regulate or prohibit medical marijuana dispensaries, including possible amendments to the Land Use and Development Code.

Name of Public Agency: County of Santa Barbara

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3).

Reasons to support exemption findings: The interim urgency ordinance is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15060(c)(2) [activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment] and 15060(c)(3) [activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378]. The ordinance has no potential for resulting in a physical change to the environment directly or indirectly as it prevents change to the environment pending completion of the County's contemplated research and study.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dianne Black, Development Services Director
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Acceptance Date: January 19, 2010

Date Filed by County Clerk: January 19, 2010