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Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

**From:** sjashbrook@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Cannabis Taxation  
**Attachments:** Cannabis Taxation.docx



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May 13, 2022

Chairwoman Hartmann and Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion on cannabis taxation. Santa Barbara County had plenty of discussions about the significance of cannabis taxes, only to learn cannabis revenues are below forecasts.

Does it surprise anyone that “self reporting” of cannabis taxes is a bad idea? It is next to impossible to verify details and revenue. The County barely has the budget for a team of cannabis enforcement, so there is no way the County has the manpower to follow up on cannabis accounting.

Its time for an alternate method to hold cannabis operators accountable, just like any other business. Option #1 in your staff proposal seems to make the most sense. A flat per square foot tax of \$4 per foot of indoor and mixed light canopy and \$1 per square foot of outdoor canopy can be determined. These rates are still far less than other neighboring Counties. An ordinance will ensure public transparency so the County can let the public know expected tax revenues.

Cannabis should not get allowances over any other small business.

Respectfully,

Susan Ashbrook

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