

Statement of Lil Clary
Public Comment
Board of Supervisors Meeting 5/1/18
Agenda Item 18-00278

I believe it is very important for the county to establish that cannabis cultivation and related activities are NOT protected under Right to Farm.

Therefore I strongly support the language in Attachment 3, amending the Right to Farm ordinance. Both the text of the amendment and the justifications are well thought out.

Since the state delegates decision making under Right to Farm to the local jurisdiction, the county should take this step now.

Here's why:

In Oregon where similar (but not identical) Right to Farm ordinances exist, cannabis farmers are trying to use them to prevent restrictions. In one example I found, growers are telling local jurisdictions that they have to be allowed to grow or that they have to be compensated for the full value of what they would have earned. In another, cannabis farmers are claiming local restrictions are not 'reasonable' opening the possibility of extended litigation by the cannabis industry.

Settle this issue now so the matter is clear. You have worked for over a year to address cannabis matters and respond to both citizen issues and industry concerns. Growers must be clear that odor, noise, night lighting etc. will not be tolerated and all must understand that the requirements of land use permits must be met.