

WE Watch, P.O Box 830, Solvang CA93463



April 15, 2019

TO: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Nancy Emerson, President, WE Watch
RE: Budget Hearings, Cannabis revenue

Thank you to your staff for providing informative budget workshop documents.

WE Watch asks that the first priority for cannabis revenue be enforcement and processing of applications so that maximum effort and efficiency is directed to these two tasks. This includes staff in the following departments: Sheriff, Planning and Development, Agriculture and other departments involved in these two activities.

It is very important that there be enough staff during this crucial period so the Sheriff's Department and District Attorney can root out all violators. The departments involved with applications need as many staff as possible doing the detailed work of processing them so mistakes are not made due to overload. We do not want to see violators receiving permits and licenses.

If additional revenue is available after meeting enforcement and processing needs, please direct cannabis revenue to Public Health and Mental Health drug related work.

Even though you can use cannabis tax revenue for "general governmental purposes," until the enforcement and processing bottlenecks are over and cannabis related health care issues are addressed, **citizens are going to be upset if they see any cannabis revenue being used for purposes unrelated to the cannabis problems being experienced by our communities.**