

PC 4-9-20
 Hem #2
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 2 pages



Planning meeting April 9, re: agenda item # 2 -20-0382.

1 message

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 Cc: Reah High <high.family@comcast.net>

Fri, Apr 10, 2020 at 3:02 PM

Dear Dear Planning Commissioner's and Supervisors,

I am writing regarding the Planning meeting April 9, re: agenda item # 2 -20-0382.

I tried to make these comments by phone, but was unable to do so. There were several things that were said that were not true that I believe they should be cleared up.

I am disturbed by the lack of facts and the absence of information and input regarding medical patients needs, whose fates are being determined.

It was repeated that 1 plant would grow 1-6 pounds. This is simply not true when sick and disabled people are trying to grow their own medication. Less than a pound per plant is common. If the sheriff sees plants five pounds or more, it's probably not a medical garden!

They also said that some ElDorado county dispensaries are giving away medication for compassionate use, to very low income vets and patients, this is totally false!

Besides the current medical guidelines that allows for up to a 5 person collective on 600 sq ft. to be grown on a large parcel, there's no other type of collective or compassionate care! Legalization has left medical patients out

Dispensaries aren't allowed to give any product away. Even "compassion programs" have to be approved by the BCC and the tax's still have to be paid. No dispensaries are going to be giving away any product any time soon, they can't afford it!

This won't be available until state and local governments take seriously the need to create compassionate care programs for the veterans, poor and disabled patients who have been hurt and priced out of the legal market, and have lost all access to their medication!

They went on to say six plants per dwelling was enough for anyone regardless of their medical necessity or number of patients who live in the dwelling. This is not true. Especially, during a pandemic ppl are smoking less and eating or using concentrated forms that require more plants.

They suggested compassionate care is still possible because someone should be able to grow enough with six plants for their entire household, and to give away enough to other medical patients, unable to grow their own. That's cruel, shortsighted and will leave the most sick and vulnerable patients hurting. Not many people will be giving away extra medication with six plant limit!

The concept of how much medication is needed for various medical patients was also far from accurate. On the low side, one patient may smoke or eat one dose after dinner for relaxation and help sleeping. On the high side are serious medical patients who have cancer, neurological conditions, chronic pain and other serious medical conditions.

These patients may require 1/2 gram every hour or two. They also use very concentrated RSO type oils, that may require several pounds or more a month, per patient.

The claimed was made that if a patient had any of their six plants die during the growing season, they could go buy a new clones, and they would catch up with the other plants. This is false! Anyone who has ever planted a tomato plant knows that you can't start replacement seedings in July or August, and expect to get anything close to the plants planted in the spring. Plants can be difficult to grow for patients and disease, pests and rodents can take a entire crop out.

There was also some discussion about the conflict of the Federal law and that the Sheriff believes that the only defense against that is following state law of allowing six plants.

However, the California people voted to amended the state Constitution in 1996, to preclude restrictions on access to their fellow citizens for medical marijuana use. Prop 215 or CUA, added Section 11362.5 to the California Health and Safety Code. Proposition 215 specifically, "exempts medical patients and their defined caregivers, who possess or cultivate cannabis for medical treatment recommended by a physician, from criminal laws which otherwise prohibit possession or cultivation of cannabis."

This is current California law. Any efforts to remove the medical patient exclusion by the county, would be attempting to remove EIDorado county residents California constitutional right to a medical defense.

Please reconsider your votes and the impact this will have on your constituents. Including those that have moved to and stay in the county, because EIDorado county was considered cannabis friendly to patients, not cartels. We also have one of the best medical Doctor's that patients come from surrounding counties to see, in Cool.
Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Reah High

Placerville