

3/18/2020

Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Section 130.14.260

PC 326.20

Item #3

Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>



Fwd: Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Section 130.14.260

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

Wed, Mar 18, 2020 at 1:25 PM

To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>, Debra Ercolini <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Marshall Wexelberg** <m.wexelberg@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Mar 18, 2020 at 1:24 PM

Subject: Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Section 130.14.260

To: <planning@edcgov.us>

Good afternoon,

I am contacting you regarding the public hearing set to take place March 26 addressing proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance section 130.14.260.

I am asking you to reject the proposed amendments. By getting rid of the medical distinction you are creating criminals by the stroke of a pen. The voters of California voted on and approved medical cannabis which includes the cultivation of amounts deemed medically necessary by a physician, licensed with good standing with the state of California. These proposed changes put an undo hardship on the citizens of El Dorado County as well as law enforcement.

The board must reject these proposed amendments and keep the medical label and not lump it in with personal use regulations. They are completely separate and must be kept completely separate.

Thank you for your time,

Marshall Wexelberg

Item #3
Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

3 pages

Fwd: 20-0382 Public Hearing

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>
To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Thu, Mar 19, 2020 at 8:21 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jesse Edwards** <jesseredwards@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, Mar 18, 2020 at 4:56 PM
Subject: 20-0382 Public Hearing
To: planning@edcgov.us <planning@edcgov.us>

Hello,

It has been brought to my attention that the planning commission is going to have a hearing to change the cannabis ordinance for medical outdoor cultivation during the middle of a Corona Virus Pandemic. I am writing this letter to the board instead of appearing at the meeting in order to have my voice heard without the danger of contracting the virus. Please take my words into consideration when making your decision on the matter.

The idea of changing the ordinance to 6 plants scares me. Currently we are allowed a 200ft canopy per patient with up to 99 plants within the canopy. 20ft x 10ft = 200 sq ft. Taking into consideration these plants need 7 ft of spacing to grow without growing into each other and causing mold problems that is roughly four plants in 400 gallon pots per patient. Each of these plants will roughly produce 4 to 5 lbs with that amount of soil if everything goes perfect. That is roughly 16- 20 lbs of dried product when everything is harvested.

This equates to 1.3 lbs a month of dried flower per patient. That is 1.21 oz or 33.8 grams every day for 30 days. If bugs infect your plants or a deer eats your plants that number decreases greatly in some cases by up to %75 loss. There have been years I have lost 21 out of 15 plants due to Broad Mites, Fire, Deer, Moles, Gophers, or Powdery Mildew. Every year due to the environmental conditions in El Dorado County every grower will lose roughly 15-30% of their crop to bud rot aka Botrytis. This is very common information. Considering all these variables medical patients have no guarantee to produce the allowed amount of dry cannabis currently allowed. In most cases they do not produce %100 of the weight they intended to grow.

As a patient this hearing is really threatening my way of life. Each year I am barely able to grow enough cannabis to meet my health needs. To think that I would not be able to grow my 200 sq. ft. and put more than six plants inside the canopy really makes me consider whether I want to live in this county anymore. It would make way more sense to move to Colorado or Oklahoma which currently allows way better options for patients. Having the ability to grow more than 6 plants in a 200 ft canopy makes it so if a bug or an animal destroys part of my plants I have the ability to put another plant in its place. It does not produce any more or less. Big fruit needs big roots and the amount of soil that you put into each pot determines the amount of dried product you end up usually.

You can not fit anymore plants into that space than mentioned before. Usually 4 big ones. Having more plants usually means that people keep smaller ones in the canopy to replace the big ones if they die. it does

not equate to more dried cannabis in the end of the day. Small plants do not yield very well outdoors and require vast amounts of water to keep from dying. They are just insurance in my garden they serve no other purpose. It just makes it so there are more plants to replace the ones that die off with. Even if you put 99 plants in a sea of green 200 sq ft canopy the yield would still equate to nearly the same amount grown or less if you did 4 big plants in 400 gallon pots. Sea of Green methods have no empirical evidence that prove it yields higher than traditional pot or trench methods.

The quality of cannabis on the open legal market has drastically declined since Prop 64 went into place. The meds that are currently on the shelves are usually 3- 5 months old by the time it becomes available to the public and low quality outdoor is being sold for extreme prices that are not affordable to anyone except the extremely wealthy. Ever since prop 64 has gone into effect an eighth of an Oz went from \$35 to \$75 and the quality declined drastically. Im currently not able to find legal cannabis in any dispensary that is the same quality I have been using for the past 20 years. Growers from other states have formed companies in California with next to no experience in producing healthy organic marijuana that is worthy of being called medicinal and have been allowed to push their products in our state for extreme prices. There are no laws dictating where the capital comes from which has brought a lot of crooked capitalist into something that was meant to be medicinal. This really is a sad day for the citizens of California.

Our politicians have put forth a proposition that blatantly puts corporate greed before the needs of the people. The taxes imposed on the growers are so exuberant that it is compared to a Russian Oligarchy. No other commodity has ever been taxed the same way throughout all of American History nor has any business ever been regulated in such a manner including alcohol and tobacco. I have not been able to purchase legal market cannabis because I can not afford it. The legal cannabis system in California is a complete failure. They will never have the ability to stop the black market as long as the taxes and policies keep the price of cannabis so high.

If you ingest cannabis you use 5 to 10 times the amount you would have to smoke to get the same benefits. Smoke is a carcinogen and the State of California agrees it causes cancer. After your deduction for mold 33.8 a day turns into 26g or less after harvest. The average dosage for edibles that are powerful enough to cure stomach cancer and roughly 7-10 grams a dosage requiring 2 to 3 dosages a day. If you look at it from a patients perspective this is exactly the amount I need everyday to manage my condition. This is the figure for if you eat it.

If you make RSO oil which has been proven to be way more effective than those numbers decrease drastically and the amount we are allowed to grow is not enough to even cover our basic needs. You people are intelligent enough to see that this is not in the interest of the patients of El Dorado County. This is a move to force more people into a corrupted broken legal market that sells low quality meds for exuberant prices just to line the pockets of the greedy corporations capitalizing off of the suffering of others. Don't be those people. Your election depends on it. We will mount an opposition against those who vote for this change.

If this law passes my family and I will be forced to relocate again to another state that will allow me to continue to grow enough medication to treat my cancer. I urge you to not make a mistake that will hurt so many people. There are people who abuse the system and then there are actual patients like myself who are just trying to live. Cannabis is the only treatment I have ever found that completely got rid of my cancer without more Chemo Therapy and also does not have any of the side effects. It is a real medicine not just a party drug. Please do not take away something so important to my well being. My life literally depends on the ability to suppress the cancer.

Please do not change the ordinance for it will only hurt the real patients you are by law required to serve. This change to the ordinance will only hurt patients and benefit the corporations.. Growing my own cannabis has been the only way i am able to have these meds and the ability to treat my condition. Take that away from me and your basically signing my death sentence. The changes made to the ordinance would reduce the amount of medicine I would have the ability to grow and would force me to buy on the legal market from strangers who do not care about my health, just profits.

Please hear my voice and take this letter into consideration when making your decision.

Sincerely,

Jesse Edwards
1070 Trails End Dr.
Placerville Ca, 95667
510-906-7343

a Hearing to consider Title 130 Zoning Ordinance for the cultivation of cannabis for personal use, amending Zoning Ordinance Section 130.14.260 (Outdoor Medical Cannabis Cultivation for Personal Use). The proposed amendments will make the existing ordinance consistent with state law, which allows for the cultivation of no more than six cannabis plants per residence for either medicinal use or recreational use by adults over the age of twenty-one. The proposed amendments would no longer distinguish between cannabis grown for medicinal use versus recreational use by adults over the age of twenty-one and would instead impose consistent regulations for all cannabis grown for personal use. Staff is recommending the Planning Commission recommend the Board of Supervisors take the following actions: 1) Find that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Section 130.14.260 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3), 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3...