

February 15, 2018

From: **Ron Green**

To: Lake County Board of Supervisors

Re: **Public Comment for February 15, 2018 Cannabis Workshop**

Personal Use Grows I strongly urge the Board to **exempt grows of 1 to 6 plants** (considered by the State as personal use) from the requirement of obtaining a **zoning permit** with the associated fees, loss of privacy and unnecessary bureaucracy. There is no valid reason for such a requirement and it is of questionable legality. There is no state license required for personal use, and a water board permit is not required for 1 to 6 plants. There are thousands of residents growing 1 to 6 plants for personal use, and if even half or a quarter complied with this requirement, the CDD would be inundated. Actually, I suspect that very few people growing for personal use will know about this requirement or actually apply for a permit, putting them in violation of the ordinance. The personal use grower has not been attending the (commercial) cannabis meetings nor giving input into the process. In any event, it is a useless requirement and should be removed from the ordinance. **You should be concerned with commercial cultivation, not the person growing 2 or 3 plants.** This is overregulation and overly burdensome. There is very little chance of environmental damage or nuisance from 1 to 6 plants on more than 5 acres, or on even one acre, and the CDD can deal with any complaints without this provision.

I urge the Board to adopt all of the Planning Commission's recommendations.

In addition, I urge the Board to allow personal use outdoor cultivation of up to 6 plants on one acre parcels instead of requiring 5 acres. Ecologically friendly outdoor cultivation rather than indoor cultivation should be encouraged.

I support the Planning Commission's recommendation to allow outdoor commercial cultivation in AP, TP, SR and **particularly in RR zoning**. The Board should make cannabis rules as inclusive as possible, to generate maximum revenues to the County in terms of fees, taxes and especially property tax revenues – property values will rise with a liberal cannabis ordinance as will

property taxes collected by the County. Cannabis can be a way out of Lake County's revenue crisis.

Residence Requirement I very strongly recommend that you accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to delete the residence requirement for a commercial cultivation site. Whether or not you do so, but especially if you don't do so, you should also add a contiguous parcel provision, for instance:

Contiguous Parcels *Contiguous Parcel (either legal or assessor's), or contiguous, means a parcel that shares or touches an edge or boundary of a legal parcel with a permitted residential use. For the purposes of this Article only, provided there is a permitted residential use on a legal parcel, additional contiguous legal or assessor's parcels without a permitted residential use and under the same possession and control shall be construed, at the discretion of the person with possession and control, as part of the same legal parcel only for purposes of determining total size in acreage, the number of plants allowed or prohibited, and where the plants can be cultivated.*

Why is this important? For instance, someone may have a house on a 5 acre parcel, contiguous to 100 acres where he/she wants to cultivate cannabis. To deprive this person of the right to cultivate is absurd. There are in fact several people in this situation that have been attending meetings. Or, someone may have 2 contiguous 10 acre parcels, and this should count as a 20 acre parcel.

Conclusion I see a lot of other potential problems with the proposed ordinance, but have not have time to study it carefully or bring everything to your attention. I urge you to pass an ordinance soon, but keep reviewing it for possible improvements. It is way too complex now, and it is going to discourage people from participating, and will lead to a continuation of the black market. But pass this now, and fix it later.

Thank you for your consideration.