

PROPOSED PLACER COUNTY ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO MARIJUANA CULTIVATION AND DISTRIBUTION

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WHEREAS marijuana is categorized as a Schedule I federally banned illicit drug because it has no accepted medicinal value, potential for harm, and cannot be administered safely under supervision. Legitimate medicines must have known compounds, dosage and potency and be replicable in a uniform manner, such as a pill.

WHEREAS marijuana in various forms has escalated in potency from about 4% in 1996 to a normal range for smoking in the 20 percentile range, and as high as 96% as Butane Hash Oil (BHO) used in edibles and vaping. There is no regulatory model that will protect public health and safety.

WHEREAS marijuana is now considered a hard drug, with elevated levels of harms to humans; and it is a gateway to other drugs that are killing 129 people daily just by overdose.

WHEREAS marijuana is known to cause or contribute to permanent structural and chemical changes to developing brains for anyone under age 25, leading to loss of IQ by up to 8 points; psychotic breaks leading to violent acts and suicides; psychosis including schizophrenia, paranoia, bi-polar disorder and suicidal depression; addiction in 17% of youth and 9% of adults, 25 to 50% for frequent users; birth defects; physical health problems; and doubling the risk of traffic fatalities.

WHEREAS fertilizers, pesticides and rodenticides are inflicting irreparable harm on our natural resources, while plants consuming 6 gallons of water per day per plant are sucking up enormous quantities of water during a drought. Noxious odors from marijuana cultivation are diminishing the quality of life and real estate values in populated communities, while the ability to grow pot has and is attracting less than desirable "new neighbors" from throughout and even outside the U.S.

WHEREAS the social and economic burden of public health and safety caused by marijuana cultivation and distribution is beyond the County's ability to control. The economic cost is projected to be the same as with the two legal drugs, alcohol and tobacco, which are 10 times greater than tax revenues.

WHEREAS availability of marijuana elevates its use by juveniles which in turn diminishes academic achievement and reduces their upward mobility, productivity and earning potential.

WHEREAS addiction, poverty, mental illness and impaired driving elevate the level of crime and pose a safety risk for all residents in the County.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED

- 1) ALL OUTDOOR CULTIVATION in Placer County will be banned. Violations will result in heavy fines, potentially property confiscation and jail time.

- 2) DISPENSARIES OFFERING marijuana for medicinal or recreational use will be banned.
- 3) INDOOR CULTIVATION for a maximum of three plants (equivalent of 3600 joints at 1200 joints per lb, one lb per plant) will be allowed for personal medicinal use subject to the following conditions:
 - There will be no juveniles living in premises where pot is grown.
 - Licensed residences where pot is grown must be at least 1,000 feet from a school or playground.
 - The party will obtain a license from the County and pay an annual fee of \$50 for the permit.
 - Growing marijuana indoors without a permit will result in a substantial fine.
 - Odors adversely impacting neighbors will be cause for cancellation of the license.
 - Ownership of the premises will be disclosed. If the property is rented, a letter of authorization from the owner will be required.
 - A recommendation will be required from a doctor who is acknowledged by the County as being competent, and who has personally examined the “patient” and counseled him/her on alternatives.
 - The “patient” will be given a full disclosure of the potential side effects and harms in writing, and sign an indemnification agreement that the County is to be held harmless in the event of adverse effects, and/or actions or harms to others caused by the “patients” use of marijuana.
- 4) ADULTS (18 or older) providing marijuana to juveniles will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, which by California law could mean a \$2,500 fine plus one year in jail.
- 5) EDUCATIONAL material and programs will be offered to all residents on the true nature and harms of marijuana so people can make informed decisions regarding its use; and schools in particular will offer programs for parents, teachers and students (K-12) to prevent the onset and use of marijuana and other drugs. To the extent that funds are available from a SAMHSA grant (\$288,000 in 2015/16) administered through the California Health Services, they will be used in whole or at least part for this purpose.
- 6) DRUGGED DRIVING incidents and/or accidents where marijuana impairment is suspected will require a blood test within 1 hour (2 hours maximum). A THC of 2 ng/ml (or a combined level of blood alcohol of 0.04 BAC and any level above 0.00 THC ng/ml) will result in a recommendation by the enforcement agency to the California Department of Motor Vehicles to withhold driving privileges. If blood is drawn AFTER 2 hours from driving, any blood THC level above 0.00 ng/ml will be deemed to have been above 2 ng/ml THC within 2 hours.

This ordinance is to go into effect on _____

Signed _____