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**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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February 23, 2021

The Honorable Anna Caballero California State Senate
State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE:SB 59 (Caballero) Cannabis licenses. – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Caballero:

The County of Mendocino is pleased to support your bill SB 59, which would extend the sunset date of the provisional cannabis licensing program to January 1, 2028.

The Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) presently authorizes a licensing authority to issue a provisional cannabis license if an applicant has submitted a completed license application to the licensing authority, and demonstrated that compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and local cannabis ordinances, is in process.

With this provision set to expire on January 1, 2022, and a majority of operators still pursuing environmental review, local jurisdictions are without recourse to ensure that applicants meet all CEQA requirements.

Mendocino County is working closely with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Department of Food & Agriculture in good faith to ensure that operators meet all CEQA requirements, but current timelines are prohibitive to environmental compliance.

The County of Mendocino strongly supports SB 59 (Caballero) to ensure that the thousands of statewide operators in this position continue to have a regulatory pathway to state licensure.

Please contact County Counsel, Christian M. Curtis at (707) 234-6885 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dan Gjerde
Chair, Board of Supervisors

CC:
Senator Mike McGuire, 2nd California Senate District
Assemblymember Jim Wood, 2nd California Assembly District
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Nicole Elliott, Senior Advisor on Cannabis, Governor Gavin Newsom
Stuart Thompson, Chief Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Governor Gavin Newsom

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