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To: <bos@mendocinocounty.org>
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Subject: Comments for Board of Supervisors Meeting 3-27-18

TO: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Casey O'Neill, HappyDay Farms, Vice-Chair CalGrowers, Chair MCGA

We are glad for the opportunity to comment today on the following agenda items. The process of cannabis regulation continues, and we are hopeful that the county will continue in the direction of streamlining regulations and reducing costs and barriers to entry. The state is online with its robust regulatory program, and we are hopeful that the county will be able to save money and time by removing redundant processes that are being accomplished at the state level.

Agenda Item 5E:

We appreciate the revisions that are being offered to the cannabis tax, especially the removal of minimum taxes for 2017, and for the removal of cycles as pertaining to taxes. As we've noted in the past, it would be preferable not to have a minimum tax at all, given the punitive reality that it creates in which farms that are struggling will end up paying the minimum because they did not reach enough sales to exceed it. We would also like to express concern about the provision that requires payment of minimum taxes on farms that faced eradication of crops. We have already seen problems occur in which crops that were in process towards permitting have been eradicated. Adding a tax burden would be to add insult to injury.

Agenda Item 5G:

We look forward to a robust discussion about the changes that are being made to the program with the new Cannabis Coordinator. We appreciate Mr. Overton's enthusiasm and hope that his reports will provide insight into the details so that we are able to provide as much assistance as possible in the process.

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