

February 4, 2019

To the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors,

As part of the Cannabis Update, I would like to bring your attention to a potential crisis looming for cultivators' licensing at the state level. Just last week, it was brought to the attention of many cultivators that the CDFA was not going to be extending any Temporary Cultivation Licenses past the expiration dates of the current operating licenses which will be expiring anywhere between February and April. Many cultivators, including myself have had our Annual License applications submitted for months and are simply waiting on CDFA to process them. This past year, while CDFA has been working through the processing of the Annual applications, they have been granting 90-day extensions. I received my first Temporary License in January of 2018 have been automatically granted 3 90-day extensions. In December 2018, the CDFA reported that of the 3, 821 Annual License applications received, CDFA had only granted 4 permanent cultivation licenses.

I confirmed with CDFA last week that they will not be granting extensions after my current Temporary License extensions expire. I have also contacted my state representatives, about the issue explaining to them that if the Annual License is not issued before the Temporary License expires, every cultivator will be forced to either put their business on hold and wait until their Annual License applications are processed or continue to cultivate on out of compliance. To exacerbate the situation, distribution companies will only work with cultivators who have Temporary Licenses that are active. Not having an active Temporary license will prohibit cultivators from being able to access the legal market to sell their product.

This will pose a serious problem to Mendocino County's already struggling Cannabis Cultivation program. A unified response to the state from Mendocino County could really make a difference for the cultivators of our county as well as the county's Cannabis program.

Thank you.