

**From:** Mendocino County Executive Office

**To:** Carmel Angelo; Karla Van Hagen

**CC:** Cassandra Borgna

**Date:** 5/14/2019 8:24 AM

**Subject:** From Karen Byars: Public Comment for agenda item 6e) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Recommendations of the Cannabis Cultivation Ad Hoc Committee

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>>> Karen Byars <karenbyars420@gmail.com> 5/13/2019 >>>

Greetings,

I look forward to tomorrow's meeting agenda item

6e) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Recommendations of the Cannabis Cultivation Ad Hoc Committee (Sponsor: Cannabis Cultivation Ad Hoc Committee (Supervisors McCowen and Haschak) and I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

I am asking that in addition to the Ad Hoc recommendations that the Board of Supervisors also;

1.) Extends the application deadline for the Accommodation Districts for one (1) year, July 1, 2020, in order for a path to develop for an applicant to successfully apply for both the local & state license.

2.) Extend the Chapter 20.118 Cannabis Accommodation Combining Districts, Establishing a new CA Combining District deadline by six (6) months or until May 1, 2020. I feel there has not been enough outreach in the community for citizens to know of this option.

When I attended the Mendocino County Dept. of Agriculture workshop on Accommodations Districts in Feb., there was not a clear path on how to successfully make it through the state license since Temporary Permits phased out Jan. 1, 2019 & with the state & other agencies so backed up approving Annual Permits, it was my understanding that an Accommodations applicant would have to start the process, pay the related fees, then have to wait out a year & even that was not a given if they had to be approved for their state annual permit.

Now that Governor Gavin Newsom has issued a revised state budget with several cannabis provisions about the cannabis language in the trailer bill an easier path could be established.

The trailer bill includes language that;

'Opens up provisional licenses to all, not just those who hold a temporary license (Section 26050.2). It allows those still in process for CEQA compliance or local ordinance compliance to apply for provisional licenses, which are to be valid for 12 months. Language disallowing the renewal of provisional licenses has been struck, instead adding that, "A licensing authority may, in its sole discretion, renew a provisional license annually" until a permanent license is issued. The provisional license may be revoked if the licensing authority "determines the licensee failed to actively pursue requirements for the annual license, or for any other reason." Provisional licenses, or their revocation, may not be appealed under current statute. A section allowing for provisional licenses only until January 1, 2020 is also struck in the Governor's language.'

The Accommodation districts were set up in order to include some of our County's smallest cultivators in areas that cannabis cultivation was already established. I was a member of the Opt. In working group as a citizen volunteer. I know how much time & energy went into the Accommodation regulations. I would guess the County has about \$250,000 + dollars invested as well.

I'm asking that we leave the window open for a longer period of time so the program is successful & the county gains full value from our effort.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Karen Byars

3rd District

Link to Trailer bill pdf. [http://dof.ca.gov/.../Trailer\\_Bill\\_La.../documents/Cannabis.pdf...](http://dof.ca.gov/.../Trailer_Bill_La.../documents/Cannabis.pdf...)

Link to CA Norml's report on Trailer Bill

[https://www.canorml.org/governor-releases-revised-state-budget-statutory-changes-affecting-cannabis-in-california/?fbclid=IwAR2NqNH36ZBgDFlnp5-EM\\_rnHfjV4wbqbXqQYfbYZY4Gyr8-MbBmJ1t3TSU](https://www.canorml.org/governor-releases-revised-state-budget-statutory-changes-affecting-cannabis-in-california/?fbclid=IwAR2NqNH36ZBgDFlnp5-EM_rnHfjV4wbqbXqQYfbYZY4Gyr8-MbBmJ1t3TSU)