

Dear Supervisors,

I have been in the cannabis industry in Mendocino County since 2005, as a cultivator and then a retailer. I've been a policy advocate and political activist for close to 40 years. I've worked on cannabis policy in this County since 2014.

So much has happened over these past few years that it must be clear by now that we get 1000% over prohibition and the war on drugs. Please move into the future so that we can all benefit from the culture, the medicine, the tourism, the global admiration and appreciation for our fine cannabis. MCA has worked consistently and with great skill and passion to help local government, business, and our civic communities understand cannabis and join with us in realizing its benefits as a valued crop -- a crop that can become the driving engine of economic growth and development in our beautiful county.

We are in a crisis. And as ancient wisdom says: "With crisis often comes opportunity." Please move rapidly toward fixing this situation and adopting the recommendations that we in MCA are offering.

And let us work with you toward a bright future.

With respect and looking forward,

Jude Thilman