

Dear Board of Supervisors of Mendocino County,

Good day and thank you for the Opportunity to share my opinion.

It upsets me that cannabis on many occasions is associated with crime. There are many various aspects of crime activity in this county. Some of it has to do with drug use and or abuse, other parts of it with mental health, economics, yes, some of it comes from cannabis, but to say that all cannabis affiliations fall into a crime infested reality, is a hard pill for me, and I can only hope, for all of you as well, to swallow.

Now, I don't know if I am 100% clear on the full aspect of what will be discussed and agreed upon, but I think that those of us that have given our everything, have got to see this reality of cannabis legalization succeed, and we do believe that there is yet so very much work to be done in such a short amount of time to see that all of us get through the finish line, if there is such a thing.

My wife and I entered into the county program back in the end of 2016, after having been involved in the 9.31 program that Sheriff Allman had created, but have also been a part of the prop 215 program as well, working with medical patients throughout the state. So we have been in this business, working and doing our best to stay positive with all the twists and turns and trials and tribulations. That being said, we strongly urge you, our Board of Supervisors, to please not forget the Phase 1 applicants. We have worked tirelessly and we have done our very best to give you, the county, as well as the state, everything you have asked for at the drop of a dime. We personally have been in great standing with both the county and the state. But we are fearing the worst. We don't know what the solutions are. We hope that this discussion will help address those issues.

In regards to changing the regs on the allowed 6 plants within city limits or in neighborhoods. All I can say is the discussion has to be based around the idea of quality of life. It's a hard conversation. Because quality of life in this goes both ways. Those in favor and those against. Those against could potentially have a prejudice and so will find any idea to grab onto to complain. Or, they could have a valid concern. Personally, I can't say I've heard a valid concern. That doesn't mean that valid concerns don't exist. And it doesn't mean that I don't take the nay sayers opinions to heart. I just personally have not heard scientific, logical, or realistic for lack of a barter word. I have heard some cockamamie ideas though. On the pro side, There could be a medical patient who needs to grow their own medicine because they can't afford it elsewhere. But actually really need this for many reasons. They should have that right. One question I would ask, how does California code express cannabis for a medical patient. Or any California citizen for that matter. Do they have rights under some sort of health code and or guideline that states that they can't be denied their human right to this plant medicine? If this is the case, then I would take a hard look at why we deny some of these patients their rights handed down by the people of this great state.

I know you all have a hard road ahead. We all do. Cause we somehow find ourselves in this together. But I have trust and faith in the ingenuity of our thoughts, our actions, our will and the systems that have been put in place, which allows for the ability to lead to a consensus to those decisions, which can have a profound effect, and which has the potential to propel a peoples forward into the future. I hope that we can have the vision and the strength and the ingenuity to make those decisions, the ones that might appear to be frightening right now, but what we can only hope will bring good fortunes and well being for our county and all its people on a whole. I thank you all for doing the hard work and for taking the time to read my message. Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely
Gerasimos Christoforatos