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Board Members Phone: [\(707\) 463-4221](tel:(707)463-4221)

[1st District: Supervisor Glenn McGourty](#)

[2nd District: Supervisor Mo Mulhearn](#)

[3rd District: Supervisor John Haschak](#)

[4th District: Supervisor Dan Gjerde](#)

[5th District: Supervisor Ted Williams](#)

Dear Mendocino County Board of Supervisors,

We are disturbed to see the changes in the direction this County is taking, in that it appears cannabis growers are receiving more than a fair amount of support from Supervisors and it is our belief that the lobbying by this industry has blinded the eyes of BOS.

The proposal sponsored by Supervisors Williams and Haschak to strip our Planning Commission of the at large seats for Forestry and Agriculture is to silence the voices of major taxpayers having representation. These two industries (agriculture and forestry) are natural resources that must be protected in this County. Other industries (restaurants, tourism, and some manufacturing) are not natural resources requiring protection because

these industries can move anywhere and do not deserve a seat at the table. The climate and uniqueness of the soils of our County allows farmers to grow organically. This cannot be done in other areas because of the climate – a fact much touted by cannabis growers.

As you know, Agriculture includes: Fishing, small farmers who supply our organic co-ops, farmers markets, etc., plus the other legal tax paying enterprises such as grapes, pears, alfalfa, etc.

Since the Creator is not making any more of these types of resources, knowledgeable voices need to be heard in the decision-making process. We are truly blessed to live in a County so unique and these wonderful resources deserve to be protected by sound decision making.

We **strongly** oppose the changes proposed by Supervisors Haschak and Williams and ask you please not remove the seats representing these valuable resources.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ted and Carole Hester

Deerwood Subdivision, Ukiah