

Hello, my name is Susan Madison and I have lived in Mendocino County my whole life and I proudly work in the legal cannabis industry. I have a great passion for my job and the help and healing that our work brings to so many people. I am excited to see what our future will bring in this essential industry. It is imperative for our county to be able to move forward at the same rate of growth as the rest of the state, which is why I fully support phase 3 and the 10% expansion.

The local cannabis industry has generated a lot of growth in the county. At a time when so many in our community are having trouble finding work, legal cannabis has been able to provide gainful employment. For the first time in my life I can say I have a full time job that I love, which actually provides me with a liveable wage, health benefits and equity in the company. Until now, I have only been able to find dead-end work with no possibility of advancement or investment in my future. My future finally looks bright thanks to the available work in the legal cannabis industry.

I worry for the future of cannabis in Mendocino County if the proposed expansion does not pass. We are competing with many other counties which are already allowing a canopy of 10% or more. If we are unable to grow on the same level, these counties will be leading the state in the legal cannabis market and we will be left behind. None of the farmers, regardless of size will be able to keep up with the dropping prices, and will be pushed out of the market. Furthermore, our cannabis program generates nearly \$6 million dollars of annual tax revenue; much of which goes towards law enforcement and public safety.

I know many people are against phase 3 and expansion because of the problems they have seen with phase 1 and their worry over the environmental impact. However, I see this as a better solution to an extremely flawed program. Phase 3 environmental requirements are much more stringent and demands a complete analysis as well as a thorough review of the impact the site will have on noise and air quality. I feel that phase 3 puts a greater emphasis on the environment and limiting the negative impacts caused by cultivation.

S. Madison