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To the members of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors:

The secondary and tertiary effects of permitting cannabis growers have now proven to be many -- and highly troubling. Succinctly, the most important secondary effects can be summarized by the following list:

- 1. Unanticipated heavy drain on ground water and deep well resources, medium to long-term weather forecasts indicate a coming drought. Rainfall is likely be markedly diminished in autumn, 2021**
- 2. Unpermitted capture and exploitation of local ground water sources and their contamination with plant growth enhancing manure and/or chemical fertilizers have *already* rendered formerly potable water dangerously fouled as to endanger their domestic use by neighboring residents.**
- 3. Unlicensed and, therefore, illegal killing of deer and upland game birds, especially wild turkeys and, to a lesser extent, migratory ducks and geese.**
- 4. Loss of topsoil and resultant silting of water courses and riparian and riverine resources from escape of loosened soil, especially following heavy rainfall. Much of this siltation originates from unlawful grading of unpermitted access roads that facilitate marijuana growing in previously forested lands.**
- 5. Law-enforcement expenditure for following up reported (and discovered) code violations by scofflaw growers. Several personal visits with Sheriff Department personnel confirmed that its sworn officers were not keen on responding to complaints about unlawful marijuana grower activities.**
- 6. Unlawful (unpermitted) cutting of established forest resources.**
 - 6-a Unlawful burning of "slash" from this illegal forest harvesting. These acts endangers lives, homes and other structures by range- and wildfires in areas that are difficult for fire-fighters to suppress and/or extinguish.**
- 7. Illegal dumping of refuse, therefore, diminishing "quality of life" of law-abiding, tax- paying, and *voting* citizens. If in doubt, I suggest a brief drive within a mile of the terminus of Mountain House Road and Highway 128 which will confirm my**

contention after seeing discarded tires, used oil in plastic containers, and assorted rubbish. Disposal of trash occurred shortly after the legalization of cannabis and the establishment of major grows in our mixed agricultural-residential area.

Lastly, has anyone performed – or commissioned -- an analysis of whether permitting marijuana growing in Mendocino County has become an inherently tax money-losing enterprise? Considering the manifold civic authority involvement associated either directly or *indirectly*, such an examination appears to me to be due or long overdue. Small individual grows that were originally *anticipated*, have in several instances, “metastasized” into truly industrial enterprises. There has already been substantiated evidence of Mexican drug cartel involvement in these massively expanded grows. In my opinion, a crystal ball for gazing into the future is hardly necessary to provide clues as to what the results of what currently can only be considered encouragement of cannabis growing in areas of residential habitation in rural Mendocino County will yield. There is little, if anything to show so far! Viticulture and enology may have their problems, but they pale by comparison to cannabis culture by scofflaws!

In summary, I urge that the Board exercise sober restraint in providing any further encouragement to the more questionable applicants and expansion of their now-greatly expanded grows.

Respectfully,

Fredric L. Frye

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