

My name is Ian Powell, I am the President of Yokayo Ranch, Hensley Creek Holdings, and Mendocino Grasslands. I am writing this letter in support of the phase 3 ordinance.

I am proud to say that my family has been in Mendocino County for 4 generations. I am from Ukiah and have chosen to stay and raise my kids here. My company is not a big corporation and I would like the opportunity to be able to expand my business. If companies like mine are allowed to expand it means that we will be providing more jobs of different pay scales to people in our community. We will also be putting more money into local businesses as we scale our farms up.

Mendocino County is a unique area because we have had cannabis cultivation for multiple decades. This means that we have many different types of cultivators who produce different qualities of cannabis. Some have figured out how to produce top shelf product on a smaller scale and others produce lower quality but on a larger scale. There is a place for all of the different qualities of cannabis, whether the product is used for extraction or is put into a jar and demands top dollar. The thing that most of the farms have in common from this area is that we produce the cleanest cannabis in the state. I believe that all of the different cultivators should be given a chance to thrive in this new industry no matter what quality they produce.

Our county has spent a lot of time on this issue and while it is important because many of us depend on the cannabis industry for our livelihoods; I believe that it is time to come to a decision and move on because there are many other important issues that our county faces including growing homelessness, mental health issues, schools and roads, just to name a few.

Thank you all for the time and effort that you have put into understanding this issue and making the best decision for our community.