

Board of Supervisors

I agree with Supervisor Haschak. The 10% land use provision for growing marijuana is a very bad idea and I oppose it. It invites more crime, more cartels, destroys the environment and sucks water for a, largely, recreational product. In the midst of a drought you want to expand the water sucking marijuana grows. We already have water usage issues. Mendocino County does not need to be a marijuana growing capital. This invites not the best people to come to our county to commit marijuana crimes. It may invite more transients thinking they may have easier access to marijuana. It will take away precious water resources.

It will ruin the environment and landscape. People will cheat. The marijuana crimes are not victimless. Putting all of Mendocino County's eggs in the pot basket is a bad idea, especially if you believe in climate change. It will take away from the longtime local growers. No one wants to live next to marijuana grows for a myriad of reasons including the stench and the possible increase of crime. Will labor be imported, bringing in more people and using more resources we do not have? Will we need more law enforcement hires? Will we need to spend more money on more bureaucracy? Remember, drought.

Mendocino County can do better than just grow more marijuana for a quick revenue buck. It sounds like land grabs by big corporations are in the offing. It makes me wonder what corporations are paying to get this done and who are the corporations paying? It seems of the pros and cons, the cons outweigh the pros on this.

Do not be hasty in this decision. Once made, you can't go back and say oops to undo this mistake.

Look at the possible and probable consequences. Listen to the Sheriff. Listen to Supervisor Haschak. Listen to the public's voices and letters. Be wise and choose, carefully. This is our environment and community at stake.

Kind regards,

Frances Proteau