



# Mendocino County

## Legislation Text

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File #: 23-0202, Version: 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** County Counsel

**Meeting Date:** February 7, 2023

**Department Contact:** Christian Curtis

**Phone:** 707-234-6885

**Item Type:** Regular Agenda

**Time Allocated for Item:** 30 Minutes

**Agenda Title:**

Discussion and Possible Action Including Approval of Agreement with Larson LLP in the Amount of \$25,000 for Legal Opinion Regarding Federal Implications Associated with Mendocino County Cannabis Local Equity Grant Program, Effective Upon Signing Through June 30, 2023  
(Sponsor: County Counsel)

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Approve agreement with Larson LLP in the amount of \$25,000 for legal opinion regarding federal implications associated with Mendocino County Cannabis Local Equity Grant Program, effective upon signing through June 30, 2023; and authorize Chair to sign same.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

During the December 13, 2022, Board of Supervisors meeting, this Board directed County Counsel to bring an item forward on the agenda to obtain a legal opinion regarding the federal criminal implications, if any, associated with the Mendocino County Cannabis Local Equity Grant Program.

**Summary of Request:**

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors directed County Counsel to obtain a contract for outside counsel opinion regarding the federal criminal implications, if any, associated with the County's Local Equity Grant Program, and directed County Counsel to bring this item forward on the agenda early this year. Larson LLP has extensive experience including in white collar defense and government investigations. Partners Hilary Potashner, a highly regarded former public defender and Stephen G. Larson, a former U.S. District Judge and founding partner, are available to assist with this project, and have agreed to significant reductions to their standard hourly rates.

**Alternative Action/Motion:**

Direct County Counsel to obtain an opinion from the Attorney General

**Does This Item Support the General Plan?** N/A

**Strategic Plan Priority Designation:** An Effective County Government

**Supervisory District:** All

vote requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At: n/a

**Fiscal Details:**

source of funding: CO-862189

current f/y cost: 25,000

annual recurring cost: n/a

budget clarification: n/a

budgeted in current f/y: No

if no, please describe:

revenue agreement: N/A

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: Yes

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CEO Liaison: Executive Office

CEO Review: yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk

Date: February 7, 2023

Final Status: Direction Given to Staff

