



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 23-1068, Version: 1

To: General Government Standing Committee

From: County Counsel and Cannabis

Meeting Date: October 30, 2023

Department Contact: Jared Schwass
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Time Allocated: 1 Hour

Agenda Title:

Discussion and Possible Action Including Providing Recommendations to Staff and a Referral to the Board of Supervisors Regarding the Streamlining of Cannabis Department Programs and Chapter 10A.17
(Sponsors: County Counsel and Cannabis Department)

Recommended Action/Motion:

Provide recommendations to staff and referral to the Board of Supervisors regarding the streamlining of Cannabis Department programs and Chapter 10A.17.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

On May 17, 2022, the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed department staff to return with an answer as to whether the current cannabis ordinance process is as streamlined as possible, and if not, provide recommendations on more streamlined versions with pros and cons.

On October 4, 2022, the Board discussed and directed staff regarding the Cannabis Ad Hoc Recommendations, including direction to bring Ad Hoc Recommendations 8., 11., and 12., to the General Government Committee for discussion and recommendation.

On March 14, 2023, the Board directed County Counsel to prepare a draft ordinance and environmental document removing or streamlining local cannabis permit requirements while maintaining all of the same environmental protection measures.

At an April 14, 2023 special meeting of the General Government Committee, a draft of the ordinance was reviewed, and recommendations were made.

On May 23, 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted 23-0600, an Addendum to the Previous Adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration for Amendments to Mendocino County Code Chapters 10A.17 and 20.242 Streamline Cannabis Cultivation Permitting Processes and Approving an Amended Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

During the September 25, 2023 General Government Committee (GGC) meeting, the GGC set a special

meeting to discuss potential changes to Chapter 10A.17 and make recommendations, potentially to include a referral to the full Board.

On October 10, 2023, the special GGC meeting was held and staff received input and recommendations from the GGC and the cannabis community. Staff was asked to make the recommended changes and to bring the revised draft ordinance amendment back to the GGC for further review and possible referral to the Board of Supervisors.

Summary of Request/Referral:

Staff from the Cannabis Department and Office of County Counsel have conducted two public meetings to receive feedback from the community on opportunities to further streamline the cannabis program. Input was also received from the GGC on October 10, 2023. County staff and made additional changes based on the GGC's recommendations and community feedback. Those changes are now being presented to the GGC and staff from the Cannabis Department and Office of County Counsel are requesting a referral to the Board of Supervisors from the Standing Committee.

Supplemental Information Available Online At: N/A

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: N/A

current f/y cost: N/A

annual recurring cost: N/A

budget clarification: N/A

budgeted in current f/y: N/A

if no, please describe:

revenue agreement: N/A

CEO Liaison: Executive Office

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Deputy Clerk

Date: Date Executed

Final Status:Item Status

Executed Item Type: item **Number:**