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Subject: Attention Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

To the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Kevin Sparks, of Santa Clara County. I have been following the events unfolding related to proposed Chapter 7.128. This new law would permit commercial cannabis cultivators in the County of Santa Cruz.

While I would like to applaud the County for these efforts, and encourage the Board to pass a permitting system that allows best practice operators to cultivate commercial cannabis in Santa Cruz County, I would like to make some recommendations to the Board regarding the proposed Chapter 7.128.

The percentage of allowable canopy to overall parcel square footage currently proposed hovers around one or two percent (1-2%). There is little reason to apportion the allowable canopy to such a small percentage. Regardless of how the County measures allowable canopy, 1-2% seems like a minuscule and arbitrary peg. Please consider allowing a greater percentage of the parcel to be allowed to cultivate cannabis.

Additionally, the public right of way setback is so large that it blanket-prohibits many buildings that are close to roads simply for efficient agricultural-commercial purposes. Much of proposed Chapter 7.128 already protects the public against the site, odor, and lessons other potential nuisances that may arise from commercial cannabis cultivation.

Please consider lessening the setback from the cultivation area to the public right of way.

Thank you for your time and efforts in bringing safe, clean, and legal cannabis cultivation to the County of Santa Cruz.

Very truly yours,

Kevin Sparks