

## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE \_\_

Measure \_\_ asks voters to approve a tax that will apply only to businesses that grow, manufacture, distribute, or sell marijuana in the unincorporated area of the County. This tax will not affect businesses located in cities. The taxes these businesses would pay are projected to generate about \$1.7 to \$4.4 million in annual revenue for the County. This revenue will be used to regulate the cannabis industry, protect public resources, and help fund public safety, health and other vital public services.

If Measure \_\_ is approved, the County can immediately begin regulating the establishment and operation of commercial cannabis businesses in the unincorporated area in accordance with three previously approved County ordinances. These ordinances mandate local public protection measures over and above state law requirements, including local licensing procedures; licensee qualifications; security of marijuana establishments; hours of operation; testing, labeling, and packaging requirements; reasonable restrictions on advertising; water and energy conservation; and civil penalties for violation of these obligations.

By regulating marijuana like alcohol and tobacco, marijuana businesses will be required to:

- Test marijuana products to ensure that they are safe and properly labeled;
- Sell marijuana products in child-resistant packaging; and
- Check identification of customers to ensure marijuana is not sold to minors.

Too many unregulated cannabis operations have damaged our precious open spaces, diverted our streams, and increased violent crime. Measure \_\_ would fund the implementation of strict standards and location requirements for commercial cannabis businesses. Enforcement of the new regulations will reduce the risk of accidental ingestion of cannabis products, increase health education and outreach, and decrease the violent crime associated with illicit cannabis operations.

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests a YES vote on Measure \_\_.

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KAREN MITCHOFF, CHAIR  
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT IV

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JOHN GIOIA, VICE CHAIR  
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT I