



COUNTY COUNSEL
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 FIFTH STREET

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501

PHONE: (707) 445-7236 FAX: (707) 445-6297

The County Counsel has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

**TITLE: LARGE-SCALE COMMERCIAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION RESTRICTIONS
 AMENDING HUMBOLDT COUNTY GENERAL PLAN, LOCAL COASTAL PLANS
 AND COUNTY CODE AMENDMENTS INITIATIVE**

SUMMARY:

This proposed initiative measure (the "Measure") amends the Humboldt County General Plan, Humboldt County Local Coastal Plans, and Humboldt County Code as they pertain to commercial cannabis cultivation and seeks to restrict commercial cannabis cultivation by promoting environmentally responsible cultivation practices and supporting watershed health for residents, property owners and ecosystems affected by cannabis cultivation activities. The Measure would remain in effect until repealed or amended.

The Measure states it seeks to protect the County's residents, natural environment and reputation for high quality cannabis from harm caused by large-scale cannabis cultivation operations by adding requirements to the application and permitting process including on-site, in-person site inspections before a commercial cannabis cultivation permit could be renewed; imposing a new multiple permit limit per individual; seeking to increase collaboration among the County and other resource agencies; extending the forbearance period for water diversions from March 1st until November 15th; limiting new and expanded commercial cannabis cultivation permits to outdoor and lower-wattage mixed-light operations with a total cultivation area less than 10,000 square feet; limiting generator noise and use; establishing new requirements for private roads servicing cannabis cultivation operations; requiring hydrologic studies for certain well-water usage in cannabis cultivation operations; and, requiring the County to order cannabis cultivation applicants or permittees to either increase water storage in relation to their cannabis cultivation operations or decrease cultivation area if water storage is deemed inadequate.

The Measure would also prohibit the ability of the County to waive any public hearing requirements, expands the notice requirements the County must provide the public and increases the range of commercial cannabis cultivation applications that are subject to discretionary County review.

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The Measure would limit the total number of commercial cannabis cultivation permits issued by the County in certain watersheds and in the Local Coastal Plan areas pursuant to a formula.

As submitted, the Measure includes a total of 38 pages of 8.5 x 11 single-spaced text of General Plan, Local Coastal Plans and County code amendments in 10 sections: (1) Purpose and Findings; (2) Humboldt County General Plan Amendments; (3) Amendments to the Humboldt County Local Coastal Plans; (4) Amendments to Section 313-55.4 of the Humboldt County Code; (5) Amendments to Section 314-55.4 of the Humboldt County Code; (6) Exemptions; (7) Implementation; (8) Effect of Competing or Alternative Measure on the Ballot; (9) Severability and Interpretation; and, (10) Amendment or Repeal. The Exhibit is Humboldt County resolution 18-43 adopted May 8, 2018 establishing a limit (cap) on the number of permits and acres which may be approved for commercial cannabis cultivation within unincorporated areas of the County of Humboldt.

The Measure allows the Board of Supervisors to amend certain provisions of the Measure while other provisions may expressly only be amended by a vote of the people.

Dated: March 18, 2022

By: 
Jefferson Billingsley, County Counsel
Cathie Childs, Deputy County Counsel
County of Humboldt