

RESOLUTION NO. 22-____

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING, ENDORSING AND ACCEPTING THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED TO HUMBOLDT COUNTY BY THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COALITION TO SAFEGUARD COMMUNITIES IN AN EFFORT TO ADDRESS CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ILLEGAL CULTIVATION OF CANNABIS BY DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS, the illegal cultivation, distribution and sales of cannabis by international Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO) is a pervasive problem throughout Humboldt County and other regions of Northern California; and

WHEREAS, DTO-controlled cannabis operations involve violations of both state and federal law; negatively impact the environment; are catalysts for violence and a conduit for human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, these DTO-controlled operations present a serious threat to public safety and are part of an overall enterprise that controls the distribution of cannabis and other narcotics throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, local law enforcement agencies in Northern California do not have the resources to independently address the breadth and depth of criminal activity attendant to DTO-controlled cannabis operations. And, the evolving legal landscape surrounding the cultivation of cannabis has rendered old enforcement strategies significantly less effective. And, there is an emerging understanding of the environmental damage caused by these operations, as well as their connection to human trafficking in the form of coerced labor; and

WHEREAS, to better address the criminal activity associated with DTO-controlled cannabis operations, law enforcement officials in the counties of Butte, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino and Trinity have joined together in a collaborative effort that will promote the sharing of information, resources and equipment among the constituent counties; and

WHEREAS, this collaborative approach among the constituent counties is supported by the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COALITION TO SAFEGUARD COMMUNITIES (NCCSC), which receives financial and technical support from the CENTER TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING; and

WHEREAS, because of the support provided by NCCSC, the constituent counties will be provided with and have access to subject matter experts, technical resources, personnel and equipment that will better enable them to:

- 1) Curtail the illegal cultivation of cannabis by DTOs;
- 2) Address and mitigate environmental damage cause by these illegal operations; and
- 3) Identify, investigate and prosecute incidents of human trafficking by employing a victim-centered and trauma-informed response.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes and endorses and accepts the technical and financial support provided to Humboldt County by

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the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COALITION TO SAFEGUARD COMMUNITIES in the ongoing effort to address criminal activities associated with the illegal cultivation of cannabis by Drug Trafficking Organizations.

Chair of the Board of Supervisors

VIRGINIA BASS, Chair of the Board

Adopted on motion by Supervisor _____, Seconded by Supervisor _____, and the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

KATHY HAYES
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of
the County of Humboldt, State of California