



Kriss Worthington

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CONSENT CALENDAR

November 27, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington
 Subject: Support League of California Cities' Efforts to "Stop Wandering Weed"

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council supports the League of California Cities' efforts to urge the Bureau of Cannabis Control to "Stop Wandering Weed" and amend proposed regulations that are negligent to consumer public safety and health protections. The Council should also send a letter requesting our State Assemblymember and State Senator to introduce or support legislation that allows local control on cannabis delivery.

BACKGROUND:

The League of California Cities is an association of California city officials who work together to influence policy decisions that affect cities. In August 2018, the League has issued a statement on the Bureau of Cannabis Control's proposed delivery regulations. Working with the California Police Chiefs Association and United Food and the Commercial Workers (UFCW) Western States Council, the coalition launched a collective initiative to "Stop Wandering Weed" by amending the regulations concerning delivery services.

The coalition have pushed for this initiative because of the concern about how the Bureau's delivery regulation would authorize "cannabis delivery anywhere in the state regardless of conflicting local regulations or bans" (Covina Mayor Walt Allen). As a result, this authorization would provide "unrestricted access to the cannabis delivery industry and open the floodgates to a number of public safety risks" (California Police Chiefs Association President David Swing). In turn, the costs to maintain public safety obligations may place a burden on local law enforcement agencies and the City. However, the burden may be avoided if we create City regulations to limit the accessibility of cannabis delivery permits and the type of cannabis being sold through delivery services.

In order to "Stop Wandering Weed," the Council should support the League of California Cities' efforts to end the Bureau's proposal to permit delivery of recreational cannabis from any jurisdiction. We should ensure that recreational cannabis remains to be sold with strict safeguards because "if marijuana can be delivered anywhere with virtually no regulation, California will lose these safeguards that protect communities and children" (UFCW Western States Council Executive Director James Araby). Through our support, we not only provide more agency for the City to regulate the cannabis delivery industry, but also increase consumer public safety and health standards to keep our communities more safe.

In addition to supporting the League's efforts, the Council should also send a letter requesting our State Assemblymember and State Senator to introduce or support legislation that allows local control on cannabis delivery.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION: Minimal.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: Consistent with Berkeley's Environmental Sustainability Goals and no negative impact.

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