



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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April 18, 2023

The Honorable Marie Alvarado-Gil
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7240
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 820 (Alvarado-Gil): Cannabis Enforcement, Seizure of Property

Dear Senator Alvarado-Gil:

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is writing to express support for SB 820, which adapts the asset forfeiture provisions currently applicable to unlicensed manufacturing of alcoholic beverages (i.e., moonshining), to cover unlicensed commercial cannabis activities.


Illicit cannabis grows have taken a heavy toll on County and external resources. The exploding numbers have devastated the environment with pollution and negatively impacted the local water supply.

California law currently does not have penalties strong enough to deter the widespread illegal commercial cannabis activities present in many communities like ours. Unfortunately, many illicit cannabis operations quickly recover following enforcement actions due to complicit landlords, exploitation of workers, and remaining specialty equipment used for the cultivation and manufacturing of cannabis.

It is critical to ensure that the limited enforcement resources to target illicit cannabis operations be effective. SB 820 allows law enforcement to disrupt the financial resources of unlicensed conspirators that allow illegal cannabis operations to thrive.

For these reasons, the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors support SB 820 (Alvarado-Gil) and encourages your “aye” vote. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact Elizabeth Nielsen, Deputy County Administrator at enielsen@co.siskiyou.ca.us or (530) 842-8012.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Ed Valenzuela, Chair
Board of Supervisors

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Ed Valenzuela
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Nancy Ogren
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