



General Government Committee
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482

October 21, 2026

Dear Honorable Supervisors,

On behalf of the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance, we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the proposed 2027 Legislative Platform.

After reviewing the redline, MCA is concerned with the proposed removal of three existing cannabis legislative priorities. Given the continued economic and regulatory challenges facing Mendocino County's licensed cannabis businesses, we respectfully request the following:

1. Retain Existing Legislative Priorities

- **Cannabis as Agriculture:** Retain the County's position advocating for cannabis cultivation to be recognized as an agricultural activity and regulated under the California Food and Agricultural Code rather than primarily under the Business and Professions Code.
- **Residential Cottage Industry:** Retain support for removing state restrictions on appropriate licensed cannabis activities within residences, allowing local jurisdictions to authorize cottage industry businesses while maintaining local control.
- **Federal Cannabis Reform:** Retain and update the County's federal cannabis reform position to reflect ongoing rescheduling efforts. Support removing cannabis from the Controlled Substances Act schedules and establishing a clear federal regulatory framework that protects existing state-licensed businesses, preserves state and local authority, and ensures reasonable market access and barriers to entry for small operators.

2. Recommended Additional State Legislative Priorities

- **Cannabis Appellations:** Support state funding and technical assistance enabling small cultivators to participate in California's cannabis appellations of origin program.
- **State Licensing Fees:** Advocate for reductions in state cannabis licensing fees, particularly for small cultivators and businesses.
- **Supply Chain Payment Protections:** Support legislation establishing enforceable payment obligations and credit protections to address unpaid debts within the licensed cannabis supply chain.

- **Regulatory Due Process:** Support fair and transparent enforcement procedures, including appropriate due process protections for licensees facing DCC recalls, embargoes, or citations.

3. Recommended Additional Federal Legislative Priority

- **Small Business Access Under Federal Reform:** Support policies ensuring existing state-licensed cannabis businesses have viable access to federal registration and market participation under any new federal framework, including Schedule III, without excessive regulatory or financial barriers.

Mendocino County has historically been a leader in cannabis policy and advocacy. As our local industry continues to struggle, we believe it is essential that the County maintain its existing legislative commitments while pursuing additional reforms that support the economic viability of small businesses.

We appreciate the Committee's consideration and respectfully request that these recommendations be incorporated into the 2027 Legislative Platform.

We are available to discuss further at your convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mendocino Cannabis Alliance