



City of Hermosa Beach

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Proposition 64 – The California Marijuana Legalization Initiative **Notice of Opposition**

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH, I write to inform you of our opposition to Proposition 64 – The California Marijuana Legalization Initiative. The Proposition would allow adults 21 years of age and older to possess and use marijuana for recreational purposes; allow local governments to restrict where marijuana businesses are operated; permit local governments to impose and collect marijuana-related fees and taxes; and reduces penalties for marijuana related convictions.

Legalization of recreational marijuana would bring a handful of problems. Perhaps of greatest concern is that legalization could potentially lead to an increase in impaired drivers on our roadways, and that our youth would have easier/greater access to marijuana. Additionally, the proposition legalizes ads promoting the consumption of the drug, thus presenting additional challenges for our local agencies which so passionately advocate for our residents' health and safety.

In looking at public safety trends among states that currently allow the legal use of recreational marijuana, these statistics are also discouraging. According to local Law Enforcement, in the four states where marijuana has been legalized, marijuana-related traffic deaths, hospital admissions, and youth access to the drug have sharply risen. These risks are too severe to ignore.

It is our opinion that this legislation would negatively impact the public health, safety and welfare of our residents, and therefore, we must oppose Proposition 64.

Sincerely,

Hany Fangary
Mayor, City of Hermosa Beach

cc: Jeffrey Kiernan, League of California Cities, jkiernan@cacities.org
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, mdesmond@cacities.org