

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Phillip Ting State Capital Building, Room 6026 Sacramento, CA 95814

Catherine S. Blakespear Mayor

RE: AB 1356 (Ting) Cannabis: Local Jurisdiction: Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity
Notice of OPPOSITION

Dear Assemblymember Ting:

Jody Hubbard
Deputy Mayor

The City of Encinitas respectfully opposes AB 1356 (Ting). Under this bill, local jurisdictions where more than 50 percent of the voters approved of Proposition 64 would be required to issue a minimum number of licenses authorizing retail cannabis activity within that jurisdiction. Under the most recent amendment, the bill requires these cities to issue a minimum of one retail cannabis license for every six liquor licenses, or one retail cannabis license for every 15,000 residents.

Kellie Shay Hinze Council Member

Existing law states that local jurisdictions have the ability to adopt and enforce local ordinances to regulate cannabis businesses, under both the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act and Proposition 64. AB 1356 effectively removes local governments' ability to regulate cannabis retail shops and undermines the foundation of local control which negates the primary purpose of California's dual State and local licensing structure.

Tony Kranz Council Member The mandated land use standard requiring a 1-to-6 ratio of cannabis related shops to liquor licenses or one shop to 15,000 residents are arbitrary given that there is no correlation between establishments operating under a liquor license to the number of residents that voted for Proposition 64.

Joe Mosca
Council Member

In seeking to eliminate local government authority to ban or regulate retail commercial cannabis businesses, AB 1356 would ultimately strip cities and counties of the ability to decide what is appropriate for their communities - a premise that directly contravenes the framework understood by the voters when approving Proposition 64.

For these reasons, the City of Encinitas opposes AB 1356.

Sincerely.

Karen P. Brust City Manager

Catherine S. Blakespear

Mayor

CC:

Senator Patricia Bates

Assembly Member Tasha Boerner Horvath

JGC Governmental Relations

Catherine Hill, League of California Cities Encinitas Mayor and Council Members Encinitas City Manager, Karen P. Brust