



February 14, 2017

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
SB 307: Relating to cannabis

Clackamas County opposes SB 307: The Board of County Commissioners opposes SB 307, which creates exceptions to the Indoor Clean Air Act (ICAA) and allows for the establishment of cannabis lounges at “temporary events.”

Clackamas County opposes SB 307 for the following reasons:

Creates exceptions to the Indoor Clean Air Act: The ICAA’s entire purpose is to remove the safety risks of second hand smoke, specifically targeting restaurants and work places. SB 307 ignores 2015 legislation expanding ICAA to include marijuana and inhalant delivery systems.

Supersedes land use ordinances put in place by local jurisdictions: Clackamas County has thoughtfully worked to create “reasonable regulations” for the siting and placement of marijuana uses, as allowed and encouraged by HB 3400 in 2015. Creation of local ordinances in Clackamas County included: a stakeholder task force that met for several months to develop code and zoning proposals, three public hearings before the County’s planning commission, and two public hearings before the Board of County Commissioners – which included a total audience of 700 citizens prepared for discussion and public comment. If passed, SB 307 will supersede HB 3400 in matters related to temporary events, and state standards will conflict with the locally adopted regulations for permanent users.

Increases traffic safety risks by impaired drivers: While alcohol is often allowed at temporary events, sometimes in the form of “beer gardens,” additionally allowing cannabis lounges will only increase the number of impaired drivers leaving events. This action will put road users (other drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists) at risk.

At a minimum, SB 307 is premature. The effects of secondhand smoke and ICAA regulations require additional study and more local conversations are recommended to address local land use regulations that already exist. Clackamas County recommends pursuit of SB 308, which would encourage much needed discussion towards improving recreational marijuana use in Oregon.

We urge a “no” vote for SB 307.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.