

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

August 22, 2017

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board City Hall Room 244 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

RE: BOS File No. 170865 [Zoning - Interim Moratorium on Medical Cannabis Dispensaries]

Small Business Commission Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors: Approval, with one (1) condition

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On August 14, 2017, the Small Business Commission (SBC) voted (6-0, 1 absent) to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve BOS File No. 170865, with one condition:

1. Applicants already on the Planning Commission calendar prior to the effective date of the moratorium should be allowed to complete the application process.

As of August 8, there were 27 applications under review and 39 Medical Cannabis Dispensaries (MCDs) in operation. If all 27 applications were approved, the number of MCDs in San Francisco would increase by nearly 70%. The City is currently developing a regulatory system for commercial cannabis sales (adult use and medicinal), and draft ordinances are to be completed by September 1, 2017. The future of MCDs under a new regulatory system, including whether the MCD program would continue in its current form or whether existing MCDs would be allowed to transition from a non-profit to for-profit model, has not yet been determined. In light of this, the Commission supports the intent of this legislation to pause new MCD approvals while the City develops a comprehensive regulatory system for the cannabis industry.

However, the Commission is also sensitive to the time and cost that applicants invest to obtain MCD land use approval. If an applicant has completed the prerequisites to be scheduled for a hearing at the Planning Commission, the SBC believes the hearing should occur as scheduled.

The Commission respectfully requests that you approve this legislation with the condition listed above.

Thank you for considering the Small Business Commission's comments. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

ZMDick Lidenzi

Regina Dick-Endrizzi Director, Office of Small Business

cc: Malia Cohen, Board of Supervisors John Rahaim, Planning Department Aaron Starr, Planning Department Mawuli Tugbenyoh, Mayor's Office Francis Tsang, Mayor's Office Lisa Pagan, Office of Economic and Workforce Development Erica Major, Land Use & Transportation Committee