

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE D

This measure would require cannabis (marijuana) businesses operating within unincorporated Mono County to pay taxes that will provide funds to address the impacts created by this new industry. This is not a sales tax or income tax. ONLY cannabis businesses would be subject to the tax.

This Measure applies ONLY OUTSIDE the Town of Mammoth Lakes, in unincorporated Mono County. The Town is proposing a separate measure that would apply within the Town and would not fund County activities.

On November 2016, California voters approved Proposition 64, which legalized the recreational use of cannabis by adults in California. Over 40 cities and counties in California have now enacted taxes on cannabis businesses to address the increased burdens on local agencies' budgets caused by cannabis legalization.

Increased costs are anticipated in law enforcement, public health, emergency services, code compliance, and other areas. The tax would fund increased demands on County services resulting from this new industry, including enforcement actions related to businesses operating illegally within the County. Without this tax, those burdens would be borne by the taxpayers of Mono County.

The tax revenues generated by this measure will also help fund general County services including law enforcement, emergency medical services, public health and environmental protection. If this Measure is adopted, cannabis businesses would be required to contribute funds to address the indirect impacts of the cannabis industry—impacts that can't otherwise be funded through direct fees to these businesses.

A “yes” vote on this Measure ensures cannabis business operators contribute a fair share toward the law enforcement, public health, code compliance, emergency service and other efforts needed to preserve our community character, natural environment, and quality of life in Mono County. [\[2\]](#)

Mono County Board of Supervisors

Bob Gardner, Chair

Fred Stump, District 2 Supervisor

Stacy Corless, District 5 Supervisor

John Peters, District 4 Supervisor

By the signatures listed above, the Board of Supervisors certifies that this argument is true and correct.