Comment(s)

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April 14, 2019

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Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office
550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK. 99501

To Whom It May Concern:

I am restating my objection to the application for a license for L&A Cannabis, LLC to open a marijuana store in Kotzebue. I object for the following reasons.

AVAILABILITY: We don't need to make it easier than it already is to get drugs of any sort into Kotzebue and surrounding villages. Prior to the legalization of marijuana in Alaska there was plenty of it already in the community. It also opens the door for opportunists to bring illegal drugs such as meth and heroin into the region.

EMPLOYMENT: Kotzebue already has a limited number of employment opportunities and many of these jobs require drug testing. We don't need to make it easier for job-seekers to fail the drug tests when applying for employment.

SOCIETAL ISSUES: A marijuana store would increase and promote drug use in a community that is already overburdened with the social issues related to drug and alcohol use. A marijuana store in Kotzebue would increase the availability of marijuana into the surrounding eleven villages, adding to the problems they already have with unemployment, crime, a lack of healthy activities for youth, and drug and alcohol abuse.

HEALTH: In spite of all the hype surrounding medical marijuana, a marijuana store in Kotzebue is not going to improve the health of the local community. The majority of the users are going to be the same segment of the population that don't eat well, don't exercise and don't have enough money to provide for their children because they already spend what they have on alcohol and other drugs.

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A marijuana store in Kotzebue will in no way benefit the community. It will add to the problems that the health and social service organizations, the schools and the police and justice systems are trying so hard to deal with in a time of increasingly limited financial resources. We have enough problems with poverty, domestic violence, unemployment, homelessness, alcohol abuse, poor education, ill health, limited activities for youth, and crime without adding a marijuana store that will be attractive to youth, addicts, peddlers, criminals and irresponsible parents. A marijuana store in Kotzebue will benefit only personal greed.

Sincerely,

CThompson

Cushla Thompson

cc. City of Kotzebue

L&A Cannabis, LLC

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