

**BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS**

County Administration  
Building  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Telephone: (805) 568-2190  
[www.countyofsb.org](http://www.countyofsb.org)

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

May 20, 2019

The Honorable Phil Ting  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1356 (Ting) Cannabis: local jurisdictions: retail commercial cannabis activity - OPPOSE**

Dear Assemblymember Ting:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, we must respectfully oppose AB 1356 (Ting), which would require that if more than 50 percent of the voters of a local jurisdiction voted in favor of Proposition 64, these local jurisdictions must issue a minimum number of licenses authorizing retail cannabis activity within that jurisdiction. AB 1356 would mandate that local communities issue retail cannabis permits in spite of clear and unambiguous promises to voters in the Control, Regulate, and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Proposition 64) that local communities would have the right to decide how and when to adopt local legal regulatory frameworks for adult use cannabis business.

In line with CSAC's April 26<sup>th</sup> letter, the County believes that AB 1356 would fundamentally erode local control as provided in Proposition 64. The bill requires that local jurisdictions must issue a number of retail permits in a ratio related the number of on-sale general licenses for alcoholic beverage sales in a community. This connection between existing alcohol licenses and future cannabis permits is arbitrary and clearly reflects an attempt to make economic winners of the cannabis industry through state government action while avoiding local community involvement, or even basic supply and demand.

With the passage of Proposition 64, voters were promised a system of state and local authorization. This dual licensing system requires commercial cannabis businesses to have both a state and local permit or authorization in order to operate legally. This bill fundamentally erodes our current process just as we gain momentum on the implementation of Proposition 64.

The Board of Supervisor's adopted the 2019 Legislative Platform that specifically opposes the preemption of local control to ensure local authority over governance issues. For these reasons, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors must respectfully oppose AB 1356 (Ting). If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Dennis Bozanich at 805-568-3403 or [dbozanich@countyofsb.org](mailto:dbozanich@countyofsb.org).

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg  
*Governmental Advocates, Inc.*

cc: The Honorable Assemblymember Phil Ting, Author  
The Honorable Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable Assemblymember Monique Limon, 37<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
The Honorable Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer  
Dennis Bozanich, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors