

Argument in support of the proposed laws are the opinions of the author.

Argument in Favor Of Measure _____

In 2012, the voters in the City of Needles approved Measure S. The measure locally legalized cannabis and created a system for it to be taxed at a rate of 10% for the benefit of our residents. The promise was that revenues would be used to enhance public services including repaving roads, providing additional police and fire personnel and improvements to our parks. Since that time, the City has received and invested over \$20 million keeping the promise. Unfortunately, state and federal laws have not kept pace with our local actions and taxing cannabis cultivators based on a percentage of sales is proving challenging to regulate and audit. Measure __ provides the opportunity for the City Council to convert the current percentage tax system to a per square foot tax system where all cannabis cultivators will pay a monthly fee based on actual cultivation space.

If passed, the City Council for the City of Needles will create a working committee of cannabis industry representatives, community leaders and elected officials to discuss converting to a per square foot tax instead of the current percentage tax to make sure that it is done in a fair and equitable manner protecting the cannabis industry, local jobs and the tax revenue that has and will continue to benefit our residents.

Please join me and my colleagues on the City Council in voting YES on Measure __. Help us continue our work to continue to provide a safe community for our children and families.

Janet Dernigan

City of Needles Mayor Printed Name

[Redacted Signature]

City of Needles Mayor Signature

FILED

AUG 19 2024

BY AW DEPUTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS


July 19, 2024

Date

**ARGUMENTS
FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY
AUTHORS OF ARGUMENTS**

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with § 9200) of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following form statement **to be signed** by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument:

The undersigned proponent or author of the primary argument in favor of ballot proposition to enact an alternative tax regarding Cannabis Cultivation at the General Municipal Election for the City of Needles to be held on November 5, 2024 hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief.

Print <u>James Jernigan</u>	Name
Title <u>MAYOR</u>	
(If applicable): Submitted on behalf of: <u>City of Needles</u>	Date <u>July 19, 2024</u>
_____ (name of organization)	