URGENCY ORDINANCE ADOPTING CANNABIS LOCAL EQUITY PROGRAM FOR THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

ORDINANCE NO. 2623

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Findings.

A. On September 26, 2018, the State of California adopted the California Cannabis Equity Act of 2018 (SB 1294, Bradford, 2018), authorizing grant funding through the Bureau of Cannabis Control (BCC) for local equity programs to assist eligible individuals in local jurisdiction to gain entry to, and successfully operate in, the state’s regulated cannabis marketplace. On March 1, 2019, the BCC published a Notice of Funding Availability and Local Equity Grant Program Guidelines and online application form, with an application deadline of April 1, 2019. The online application lists the documents required for application as including a “Local Equity Ordinance.”

B. On November 13, 2018; the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors directed staff to prepare grant program for cannabis impacted communities. On March 12, 2019, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 19-23 Adopting a County of Humboldt Local Equity Program. On March 19, 2019, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Adopted Resolution No. 19-24 Adopting Cannabis Local Equity Program Manual For Operation Of The County Of Humboldt Local Equity Program, Pursuant To The California Cannabis Equity Act Of 2018.

C. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors finds and declares that maximizing its chances of securing grant funding from all available sources is of paramount importance so as to assist individuals in Humboldt County who have been adversely impacted by past criminalization of cannabis to gain entry to, and successfully operate in, the state’s regulated cannabis marketplace for the reasons more fully set forth in Resolution No. 19-24. Completing all necessary application materials through adoption of the Humboldt County Cannabis Local Equity Program by Ordinance as well as by Resolution is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of the citizens in Humboldt County.

SECTION 2.

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Resolutions No. 19-23 and No. 19-24, are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference, as if set forth in full, as constituting the County of Humboldt Local Equity Program.
SECTION 3. Amendments.

Amendments to the County of Humboldt Local Equity Program Manual, Exhibit A to Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 19-24, shall be by Resolution.

SECTION 4. Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

SECTION 5. Exemption from CEQA.

The Board of Supervisors finds, pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 15061(b)(3), that this ordinance is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that it is not a “project” which has the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

SECTION 6. Effective Date.

This ordinance is an ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, and shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the Board of Supervisors in accordance with Section 25123(d) of the Government Code of the State of California. The facts constituting the emergency are contained in Section 1 of this ordinance and the board report thereto.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of March, 2019 on the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Fennell, Bohn, Bass, Wilson, Madrone
NOES: Supervisors --
ABSENT: Supervisors --

Rex Bohn, Chair
Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt,
State of California

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Humboldt, State of California

By: Ryan Sharp, Deputy