ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE S

Measure S is not about the choice to use marijuana.

It’s about a special interest group -- the marijuana industry -- establishing retail pot shops where they choose, on their own terms, exempt from City regulation. It adds 33 pages of unchangeable language to local ordinances, drafted by and benefitting the marijuana industry. It renders the Council and public powerless to engage in the usual vetting, discussion, mitigation and review processes, taking away local and public control. Local control was the reason the city incorporated in 1986.

If approved, not a word can be amended without a public vote at taxpayer cost of approximately $200,000.

Contrary to what signature gatherers erroneously claimed, the measure does not safeguard kids or schools. It requires only that pot shops be 600-feet from Public schools but requires NO separation from private schools, daycare centers, playgrounds, youth facilities, or churches.

The ABC can deny an alcohol license within 600 feet of public playgrounds and youth facilities. This measure prevents Solana Beach from doing the same with pot shops.

Marijuana storefronts -- with NO size restrictions -- are allowed in any non-residentially zoned area. The City must permit them to operate 15 hours daily. Marijuana cultivation is allowed in all zones.

A Colorado study found that neighborhoods with commercial marijuana activity saw crime increase up to 1,452% higher than those without. If such problems materialize, Solana Beach cannot increase fees or recoup costs for additional enforcement.

Regulatory costs, potential crime, and risk to youth are just some of the reasons that 82% of California cities do not allow pot shops.

This measure undercut City authority and the right of Solana Beach residents to weigh in on decisions that impact our neighborhoods, community character, and ability to raise children in a drug-free environment.

Vote NO on Measure S.

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