

BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER OF CALLING AN)
ADVISORY ELECTION TO CONSIDER)
WHETHER OR NOT TO ALLOW) Resolution No. -2017
PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND)
RETAIL SALES OF MARIJUANA IN)
SPECIFIED ZONES IN UNINCORPORATED)
YAKIMA COUNTY)

WHEREAS, RCW 36.70A.130(4) requires that Yakima County, a fully planning county, shall update its comprehensive plan and development regulations as necessary, to reflect local needs, new data and current laws; and,

WHEREAS, under RCW 36.70A.130, the plan and development regulations are subject to continuing review and evaluation; and

WHEREAS, on November 6 2012 the voters of the State of Washington approved Initiative Measure No. 502, which (1) decriminalized possession and use of certain amounts of marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia; (2) amended state laws pertaining to driving under the influence of intoxicants to including driving under the influence of marijuana; and (3) authorized the promulgation of regulations and issuance of licenses by the Washington State Liquor Control Board (WSLCB) for the production, processing and retailing of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, in the same election the voters in Yakima County *disapproved* Initiative 502 by a substantial percentage – approximately 58% of votes cast; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 4-2014, concerning marijuana-related uses, passed the Board of Yakima County Commissioners on June 17, 2014, and was codified as amendments to Titles 15.18 and 15A.04 of the Yakima County zoning codes; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid amendments to the Yakima County zoning codes prohibited marijuana-related businesses from operating in unincorporated Yakima County; and

WHEREAS, persons holding marijuana-related licenses issued by the WSLCB seek to operate per conditions of their licenses in unincorporated Yakima County; and

WHEREAS, The Yakima City Council voted 6-1 in January 2014 to ban marijuana businesses in the City, but has since lifted its ban, and

WHEREAS, other incorporated cities within Yakima County now allow marijuana-related businesses to operate within their borders, subject to local regulation; and

WHEREAS, given the mixed messages, it is advisable to ask the voters in unincorporated Yakima County whether they want to allow marijuana production, processing and retail sales to operate in their community; now, therefore,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Yakima County Commissioners that a county-wide election be held on November 7, 2017 for the purpose of submitting to the people, as a non-binding advisory ballot measure, the question of whether or not the Board of Yakima County Commissioners should allow production, processing and retail sales of marijuana in specified zones in unincorporated Yakima County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board is directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Yakima County Auditor, who is hereby requested to place a proposition on the November 7, 2017 ballot in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION 1
(ADVISORY ONLY)

YAKIMA COUNTY

MARIJUANA PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND RETAIL SALES IN
UNINCORPORATED YAKIMA COUNTY

The Board of Yakima County Commissioners adopted Resolution ____ - 2017 concerning a proposition to ascertain the people's willingness to allow production, processing and retail sales of marijuana in unincorporated Yakima County. The Commissioners would like to hear from voters on the question of whether marijuana-licensed businesses should be allowed to operate in their communities. Should the Board of Yakima County Commissioners allow production, processing and retail sales of marijuana in specified zones in unincorporated Yakima County?

YES..... _____
NO..... _____

Done this _____ day of July, 2017.

J. Rand Elliott, Chairman

Ron Anderson, Commissioner

Attest: Tiera L. Girard
Clerk of the Board

Michael D. Leita, Commissioner
*Constituting the Board of County Commissioners
for Yakima County, Washington*