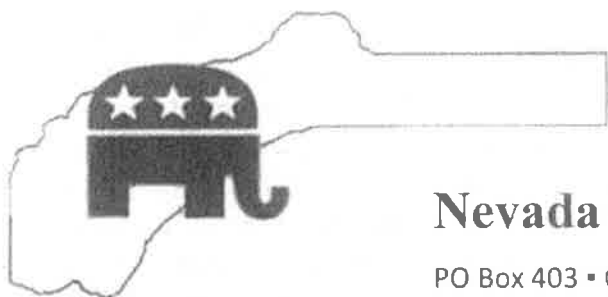


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NEVADA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Nevada County Republican Party

PO Box 403 • Grass Valley, CA 95945 • Phone (530) 478-1467

May 7, 2017

Supervisor Richard Anderson
Nevada County Board of Supervisors
Eric Rood Administrative Center
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Supervisor Anderson,

It is incumbent upon the supervisors to make every effort to structure the cannabis Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) to be reflective of the demographics of the voters and their constituents of Nevada County. The process used by the County's consultant for recommending members of the CAG has not even come close to meeting this test.

The consultant's selections were released within a day and a half of the submission deadline for the applications. That is an inordinately short time to adequately evaluate, perform due diligence and make selections from approximately 40 applications and calls into question the motives and predisposition of the consultant. Furthermore, while perfect alignment is not possible, the actual recommendations are not even closely representative of the county's demographics.

To be more specific:

1. At least three cannabis growers/advocates/promoters are included in the list vs zero persons who could be characterized as advocating responsible grow regulations.
2. There is a high percentage of members in the 30 to 39 year old age group, with four members selected that equals 29% of the 14 members. Whereas, the county voting census shows only 13% in that age group, making two members or less an appropriate number.
3. There is a very low proportion of members in the 40 to 59 year old age group, who would typically have young and teenage children at home. This vulnerable young population should have representation by their parents' age group. As it is, only one member is in this age group, vs four members which would be needed to represent this group in proportion to the county's population. We are aware of at least one other application

from a highly qualified person in this age group that was not selected by the consultant. If more qualified applications were not received from this critical age group, then the supervisors should re-issue the request and advertise for more applicants.

4. There is an inordinately high percentage of members in the 70 and over age group, with 5 members. The county's census data would be properly represented by only 3 persons in this age group. While retired persons may have more time to serve on this CAG, this important advisory group should be more reflective of the demographics of the county.
5. 8 of 14 members registered or re-registered to vote in 2016, coincident with the marijuana initiatives on the ballot that year. Most persons who registered during this time frame did so to vote against the County's regulatory position. This is another indicator of heavy predisposition by the consultant to selecting persons who are against responsible grow regulations.
6. While the Supervisors elected positions, as well as this issue, are non-political, the recommended members are anything but a cross section of the political spectrum in Nevada County. For example, there are 9 Democrats, 5 other, and zero Republican members recommended for the CAG. The two main political parties are nearly equal in percentage of registered voters, representing 35% and 36% of the county's voters. To keep the CAG politically representative of the county demographics, there should be 5 members from each party. This disproportion is most glaring and telling of the obvious bias of the consultant.
7. The consultant selected persons who self-identified as "homeowner" and "community advocate" but did not select any persons who identified as representing "homeowner groups." Selecting persons from the latter category would provide a much broader representation of homeowners compared to the individual selections made.

The purpose of this letter is not to criticize any of the individuals that were selected by the consultant, but rather to point out that the consultant's process and selections did not result in even a close representation of a cross section of the county.

All the data used to support the analysis in this letter comes from publicly available voter registration information. Upon your request, the detailed data to support the above observations can be provided.

We sincerely urge you to exercise your responsibility to represent the voters in the county and your district by not simply adopting the hurried and biased recommendations of the consultant but instead seeking and installing members who better represent your county constituents.

Sincerely,



Robert (Bob) Hren
Chairman, Nevada County Republican Party