

Kenai Peninsula Borough



Meeting: Assembly on 2016-04-05 6:00 PM

Meeting Time: April 05, 2016 at 6:00pm AKDT

14 Comments ⌂ Closed for Comment April 05, 2016 at 5:00pm AKDT

The online Comment window has expired

Agenda Item

*d. 2016-10 An Ordinance Placing a Question on the Ballot of Whether the Kenai Peninsula Borough Shall Adopt a Local Option to Prohibit the Operation of Any Commercial Marijuana Establishment in the Area of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Outside of the Cities (Gilman) (Hearing on 05/03/16) [Clerks Note: A teleconference site will be established at the Borough Offices in Soldotna and Homer to receive public testimony on the above ordinance during the assembly meeting.]

[Legislation Text](#) [O2016-10](#) [Memo](#) [2014 Prop 2 Election Results](#) [LAYDOWN Public Comments](#)

13 Public Comments



Tarri Thurman at April 05, 2016 at 1:42pm AKDT

I oppose this ordinance! Voters have already spoken! Look at tax revenue!

Oppose



Dana Guidi at April 05, 2016 at 9:31am AKDT

I am opposed to this ordinance. This has already gone to a vote, you need to uphold the will of the people.

Another vote would be a waste of time and money. At a time when the state budget is in an economic crisis the Kenai Peninsula borough should be a leader in this industry.

Oppose



Christopher Richey at April 05, 2016 at 8:34am AKDT

Let's take control of what is already here. Pot is sold everywhere and every day. And it will always be sold and grown. It needs to be controlled so your not spending \$1000's on endorsement and in the process help pay to run the local government. I am opposed to this.

Oppose



Doug Koester at April 05, 2016 at 7:53am AKDT

I oppose this ordinance here are a few reasons:

Creating jobs

Legalizing and regulating marijuana will bring the nation's largest cash crop under the rule of law. This will create jobs and economic opportunities in the formal economy instead of the illicit market.

Saving money

Scarce law enforcement resources that could be better used to ensure public safety would be preserved while reducing corrections and court costs. State and local governments would acquire significant new sources of tax revenue from regulating marijuana sales.

Reducing harm

The criminalization of marijuana use disproportionately harms young people and people of color, sponsors massive levels of violence and corruption, and fails to curb youth access.

Marijuana Product Standardization and Testing

Marijuana product testing is becoming a standard requirement for legalized marijuana markets. This allows consumers to become better informed about the cannabinoid profile and potency of marijuana they consume.

Oppose



John Sheipe at April 04, 2016 at 9:03am AKDT

Oppose

I feel the people of Alaska deserve better treatment than we have been getting, it's time for real change for a real future for Alaska
\$



Teresa Sundmark at April 04, 2016 at 8:40am AKDT

Oppose

Five reasons I oppose this ordinance:

1. Revenue from the sale of cannabis would be helpful for the Kenai Peninsula Borough. It will be and has been exchanged for decades in the KPB and the KPB has not benefitted from the exchange in an official capacity at all. By allowing the operation of commercial marijuana establishments, the KPB would be gaining something rather than losing something.
2. Cannabis users are not inherently violent, destructive, harmful or illicit in any way. The prohibition of cannabis however, has created a number of problems. By allowing for legal exchange, the Kenai Peninsula Borough would be taking a step to decrease the number of problems that have arisen due to the black market exchange of cannabis.
3. I believe that the voters have already spoken on this issue, and that the majority of the voters in the borough do not want the borough to prohibit the operation of commercial marijuana establishments. Therefore a vote on this issue would be redundant and unnecessary.
4. I believe that by allowing for the operation of commercial cannabis establishments, the KPB would be taking a progressive step that other states, counties, cities and boroughs could look toward and model in the future.
5. There has been a growing agricultural movement on the Kenai Peninsula and there is great promise in the area of hemp production. This should not be thwarted.

Teresa Sundmark



Eck Kilcher at April 04, 2016 at 8:16am AKDT

Oppose

I am a lifelong 33 yr old Kenai peninsula resident and a non Marijuana smoker, however I say NO to this ballot measure!



L K at April 04, 2016 at 12:29am AKDT

Oppose

It's time to respect that Alaskans in the KPB have voiced their opinion on this issue, respect our votes and accept the decision already made!



Kelly Jay at April 03, 2016 at 11:43pm AKDT

Oppose

when colorado legalized cannabis, their tax revenue from retail marijuana sales grew to over \$40.9 million in less than a year! and that did not even include medical marijuana or licensing and fees! i'd like to see the assembly step out of their fear based mindset; quit flip-flopping and wake the heck up to the substantial benefits cannabis can bring to our lovely peninsula and beyond. i highly oppose this wavering mentality of the borough~~~there has already been a vote of the people! represent!!!



Kevin Rowan at April 03, 2016 at 7:02am AKDT

Oppose

Citizens of Alaska already voted yes on this issue. Let's move on.



Jon Thomas at April 02, 2016 at 11:26pm AKDT

Oppose

Enough talking. We don't need an "are you sure" vote. Regulations have been made and you should honor them.



Beth Carroll at April 02, 2016 at 10:28pm AKDT

Oppose

Here we go again?!? Didn't we show up and testify about this issue already? I am insulted and infuriated as a voter, as a constituent, that once again you question our vote.

The expressed will of the voters must not be questioned. Ever. Low voter turnout and slim margins between winning and losing is a reality in our democracy, but must be honored as truth. I ask you each to look at how many votes separated you from your opponent, perhaps slim and in an election with minimal voter turnout. We must believe that those that chose to vote yes on 13PSUM knew exactly what they were voting on. It is not your duty as elected officials to question our votes. If we set this precedent, it may be votes place for you, reconsidered in the future.

I will not waiver in my opinion that recreational, regulated cannabis IS MEDICAL CANNABIS in the state of Alaska! To have such disregard for a persons right to safe, tested cannabis is unconscionable!

Why now? When good, hard working, community minded folks that have strived to compromise with the state and local task forces to help craft strict regulations, wishing to be taxed In an industry that has until now existed and thrived, in a black market, have that work thrown in their faces and mocked by an assembly member in the paper, I say enough is enough!

I ask each of you to please, not even consider entertaining the introduction of the ordinance.

Thank you,
Beth Carroll
Fritz Creek



Karen Berger at April 02, 2016 at 10:03am AKDT

Oppose

It is not the job of the Borough Assembly to question the will of the voters. It is your job to enact fair regulations and begin collection of revenue from the cannibus industry. The three most important words; fair, revenue and industry. The KPB will benefit from this economic growth. Another vote would add additional cost burdens to KPB and is unnecessary.