

To the Martha's Vineyard Commission:

I question the suitability of the location of the proposed marijuana dispensary. The location is remote and is inaccessible by public transportation. It is seven tenths of a mile from the West Tisbury School.

The required lighting would adversely affect the rural neighborhood. If sensors are used the large deer population in the area could trigger them. The lack of screening (required by regulation) would allow this enterprise to dominate the landscape and intrude on the way of life all of us that live on Dr. Fisher and Pine Hill roads have worked so hard to obtain.

The recreational marijuana regulation in Massachusetts makes clear that experienced marijuana establishment operators will have the first opportunity to apply for licenses to cultivate, manufacture and sell. The term "experienced" is defined by any medical marijuana licensee, or at least a qualifying applicant for a medical marijuana license who submitted an application prior to October 1, 2015.

The applicant, Mr. Geoff Rose, has deflected any questions about legalization and retail by stating that recreational licenses will be only issued in towns with liquor licenses. His business plan suggests a very large financial investment for a dispensary which may become obsolete when retail sales of recreational marijuana begins in the summer of 2018. There are 112 licensed medical marijuana patients in Dukes County as of January 2017 according to the Dept. of Public Health. This building plan and proposal seem out of scale and proportion given the low number of patients and the recent legalization of marijuana in Massachusetts. It seems as apparent he is developing a warehouse type cultivation operation to supply retail markets under the guise of a dispensary.

Fortunately for the medical marijuana license holders here there is already an existing, currently operational company on the island. Therapeutic Health Company - (see their website at thcmv.com)-is a medical marijuana- delivery only- service available to patients in all towns on the Vineyard.

Respectfully,

Constance Breese
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