ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE JJ

MEASURE JJ, the Patients’ Access to Medical Cannabis Act of 2008, ENSURES RESPONSIBLE REGULATION, PROTECTS SAFE ACCESS, and ENDS POLITICAL GRIDLOCK.

MEASURE JJ is a citizens’ initiative to control medical cannabis (marijuana) through reasonable zoning regulations and a city oversight commission. It includes City Council-approved limits on the number and location of medical cannabis dispensaries in our city.

- **MEASURE JJ ENSURES RESPONSIBLE REGULATION**
  
  Currently, there is no clear framework for dispensary oversight. JJ creates a city commission that controls dispensaries, protects neighborhoods and businesses, and helps patients. It prohibits dispensaries in residential areas. It protects property values and neighborhood character.

- **JJ PROTECTS SAFE ACCESS**
  
  JJ ensures that patients have access to medical cannabis that is safe, responsible, and controlled by doctors under state law. It aligns Berkeley medical cannabis law with current state law.

- **JJ ENDS POLITICAL GRIDLOCK**
  
  JJ provides clear direction and a framework for City staff and dispensary operators to maintain the status quo of no more than 3 well-regulated “good-neighbor” dispensaries. JJ ensures that our tax-paying dispensaries are not shut down by the current unworkable permitting process.

JJ is a fact-based, experience-proven approach to medical cannabis regulation. It deputizes trustworthy dispensaries to work with the City to develop controls and regulations. It recognizes existing Berkeley dispensaries’ track record of beneficial community engagement.

JJ’s changes are incremental, but vital for the future of medical cannabis in Berkeley. Once again, Berkeley can lead the way in effectively integrating medical cannabis under city permission and control.

Medical cannabis is working in Berkeley. To keep it working, we must take the next step: sensible regulation.

**VOTE YES ON JJ.**

s/Max Anderson
  Berkeley City Council, District 3

s/Kriss Worthington
  Berkeley City Council District 7

s/Amanda Reiman, MSW, PhD
  Coordinator of Academic Programs, School of Social Welfare UC Berkeley

s/Hilary Mcquie
  Regional Director, Harm Reduction Coalition

s/Frank H Lucido MD
  Family Practice Physician

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE JJ WAS SUBMITTED.