

**Kristen Thomson**

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**Subject:** FW: A64 Committee Agenda

**From:** Laura Haynes [mailto:laura@hobanandfeola.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, March 24, 2013 10:32 PM

**To:** 'Kristen Thomson'

**Cc:** 'CHARLES T HOUGHTON'

**Subject:** FW: A64 Committee Agenda

To the members of the Joint Committee on the Implementation of Amendment 64,

We represent over 20 medical marijuana businesses in Colorado Springs and have been informed that there is an individual at the capitol claiming that these businesses don't support Recommendation 1.1 from the Task Force.

Let us set the record straight. Charles and I have spoken to our clients who support vertical integration along with the 70 percent requirement in Recommendation 1.1 as the initial business structure and market control for the next two years. In a time of great uncertainty, implementing the practices and principles found in the medical marijuana code would be the least disruptive path to follow, for the businesses we represent.

It has taken more than two and a half years for regulators to implement the medical marijuana code, and they still are not done. Many of our clients continue to wait for their licenses to be granted by both the state agency and our local government, though they submitted their applications in July of 2010. Over that period of time, they have complied with constantly changing rules, laws, and threats of closure by local governments.

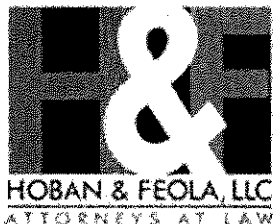
Amendment 64 allowed for medical marijuana businesses to get preference in the initial licensing of adult use marijuana businesses. And, while the regulatory structure for the majority of alcohol sales in colorado differs from the medical marijuana structure, these business have proven that they can be trusted to keep true to the intent behind the regulation of alcohol sales: to prevent monopolies, to prevent diversion to the black market, and to promote community safety.

Until we know what the market for adult use marijuana sales looks like, the General Assembly should not be contemplating an entirely new regulatory structure in 3 months time. We are asking for stability. Please support Recommendation 1.1.

Thank you,

Laura Haynes, Esq.

Charles Houghton, Esq.



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