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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
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September 27, 2021

**RE: 9/27/21 Public Hearing Item 1 REG#21391. Proposed modifications.....
pertaining to the prohibition of adult use cannabis establishments for a
12-month period**

Dear Planning and Zoning Commissioners,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the members of the Board of Selectmen.

As you are aware, a recently adopted state regulations allows a municipality's legislative body to adopt an ordinance prohibiting or restricting the sale of recreational cannabis within said municipality. At the July 20, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen, it was the consensus of the Board to bring referendum questions related to such to a special town meeting with an adjourned vote.

At the Board of Selectmen meeting on August 2, 2021, attorney Nicholas Bamonte informed the Board that legal authority did not exist to allow the referendum questions to be placed on the ballot of the upcoming November 2021 state sponsored election. For practical purposes, this meant the special town meeting and adjourned vote cannot occur before January 2022. Attorney Bamonte also shared that many municipalities were choosing to modify their zoning regulations to prohibit cannabis establishments for a temporary period of time to allow for further clarification from the State.

Such a temporary modification would provide adequate time for the Board of Selectmen to hold a special town meeting with adjourned vote and, if the outcome should so dictate, propose and adopt any required ordinance. As such, the Board of Selectmen supports the proposed modifications which allow for the prohibition of adult use cannabis establishments for a 12-month period.

Sincerely,

Lynne A. Vanderslice
First Selectwoman