

ORDINANCE 398 (07-10-2024)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR MILL, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY MEDICAL CANNABIS FACILITIES IN THE CITY AS PERMITTED BY KRS 218B.130.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has adopted KRS 218B.010, et. seq., providing for the legalization of the use of medical cannabis and the operation of medical cannabis facilities in the Commonwealth pursuant to the terms and conditions of said state law, which statutes *inter alia* contain KRS 218B.130 which allows local governments like this City to prohibit all cannabis business operations within its territories through passage of an ordinance; and

WHEREAS, smoking cannabis, even for medical purposes, can have adverse health effects, particularly on the respiratory system; and the long-term effects of cannabis use, especially on developing brains, are not yet fully understood; and

WHEREAS, legalizing cannabis for medical use could lead to increased recreational use and abuse, especially among young people; and

WHEREAS, using medical cannabis could serve as a gateway to using harder drugs; individuals who start using cannabis for medical purposes might be more likely to experiment with other, more harmful substances; and

WHEREAS, the psychoactive effects of cannabis, particularly THC, impair cognitive function and could potentially pose risks, such as impaired driving or operating heavy machinery; and

WHEREAS, the operation of even-legal medical cannabis facilities create complex legal and regulatory challenges for law enforcement, healthcare providers, and policymakers, leading to difficulties in enforcement and compliance; and

WHEREAS, medical cannabis goes against our City's societal norms or cultural values, as cannabis use is still stigmatized; and

WHEREAS, many still question the efficacy of cannabis as a medical treatment; more research is needed to establish its effectiveness for various conditions and symptoms; and

WHEREAS, there are already approved pharmaceutical drugs available to treat many of the conditions for which medical cannabis is proposed as a remedy; these alternatives should be utilized instead; and

WHEREAS, federal law still prohibits its use, and so conflicts between local, state and federal regulations could potentially lead to legal challenges and uncertainties;

WHEREAS, for the reasons stated above, which the City Commission finds as true and accurate, the City Commission hereby determines it to be in the interest of public health, safety and welfare to prohibit the operation of any medical cannabis facilities in the City.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAYLOR MILL, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1

Pursuant to KRS 218B.130, all cannabis business operations as defined in KRS 218B.010 shall be prohibited within the City of Taylor Mill.

SECTION 2

Any and all Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance shall be, and hereby are, repealed to the extent of said conflict.

SECTION 3

If any part of this ordinance or its application is deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the city council intends that such invalidity will not affect the effectiveness of the remaining provisions or applications and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

SECTION 4

That this ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and shall be published under KRS 83A.060(9) and other applicable law. This ordinance may be published by summary.

Passed by City Commission on July 10, 2024

CITY OF TAYLOR MILL, KENTUCKY

By: Daniel L. Bell
Mayor Daniel L. Bell

ATTEST:

Kristy Webb
Kristy Webb, City Clerk

First Reading: 06/12/2024

Second Reading: 07/10/2024

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