

Resolutions Committee Report

Los Angeles County democratic Party
06/13/2023

Promoting Social Equity in the Cannabis Industry

WHEREAS with the development of the new legal cannabis industry, we have the opportunity to encourage better business standards that address social equity and the unionization of its work force; and

WHEREAS the L.A. County Office of Cannabis Management is presently developing a social equity program for the issuance of permits to operate cannabis businesses in the unincorporated areas of L.A. County and has proposed allocation permits based on applicants meeting minimum standards based on social responsibility commitments combined with a lottery that does not fully evaluate an applicant's merit and ability to actually achieve cannabis social equity programs objectives, and, along with the first come, first serve permit allocation method, has caused significant challenges for various cities in L.A. County implementing cannabis business permitting protocols for social equity applicants; and

WHEREAS by implementing a merit-based application process with labor standards that considers an applicant's proven ability to achieve L.A. County's social equity objectives, the L.A. County Office of Cannabis Management can identify systemic inequalities and determine financial viability to guarantee the fair and equitable distribution of economic opportunity, including Union jobs, and that will serve the whole community;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party supports using social equity standards in the permitting of cannabis businesses in the unincorporated areas of L.A. County, by means of a merit-based process with labor standards that identifies systemic inequalities and determines financial viability to guarantee the fair and equitable distribution of economic opportunity and the creation of union jobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Los Angeles County Democratic Party shall communicate this resolution to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors and the L.A. County Office of Cannabis Management.

Submitted and Authored by:

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Sponsors:

UFCW Western States Council, UFCW Local 324, UFCW Local 770, UFCW Local 1428