

MOTION

Illegal cannabis operators undermine the integrity of regulated markets and pose significant risks to public health and safety. Without enforcement, unlicensed businesses can sell products that have not been tested for potency, contaminants, or pesticides, exposing consumers to serious health hazards. These operators may ignore age restrictions, making cannabis more accessible to minors and weakening community protections that legalization frameworks are designed to uphold.

Strong enforcement is also essential to ensure fairness and economic stability within the legal cannabis industry. Licensed operators invest substantial resources to comply with regulations, pay taxes, and meet labor, environmental, and safety standards. When illegal operators are allowed to persist, they gain an unfair competitive advantage by avoiding these costs, discouraging compliance and threatening the viability of legitimate businesses. Effective enforcement helps maintain a level playing field and supports job creation and tax revenue that fund public services.

Unregulated operators are often linked to unsafe working conditions. Consistent enforcement not only deters these harms but also reinforces public confidence in regulatory systems. By prioritizing action against illegal operators it will strengthen the legal markets, and ensure that cannabis legalization achieves its intended economic benefits.

In the past Council approved a task force consisting of multiple City departments and agencies to streamline enforcement and closure of unpermitted Cannabis operators. Since then the taskforce has transitioned into the Cannabis Support Unit under the Gang and Narcotics division within the Los Angeles Police Department which oversees all cannabis enforcement within the City. Although the Cannabis Support Unit works diligently to enforce cannabis regulation, illicit businesses still remain prevalent throughout the City.

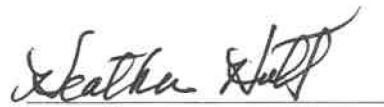
I THEREFORE MOVE that Council REQUEST the Los Angeles Police Department with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, the City Administrative Officer and all other necessary City departments and agencies, to report on the Cannabis Support Unit's current procedures and practices, including recommendations for any additional staffing and resources needed to improve cannabis enforcement within the City.

PRESENTED BY:

SECONDED BY:



MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District



JAN 09 2026

ORIGINAL