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Arapahoe County Commissioners prohibit commercial marijuana establishments in unincorporated Arapahoe County

Littleton, Colo.– On Tuesday, the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance that prohibits commercial marijuana establishments (which includes sales and growing operations) in unincorporated Arapahoe County by a four to one vote.

In November 2012, Colorado voters approved Amendment 64 regarding the use and sale of marijuana. Counties and cities have the option to allow the operation of commercial marijuana establishments; or to prohibit such businesses through the enactment of local ordinances.

Prior to the Aug. 27, 2013 public hearing and vote, Arapahoe County Commissioners held two public study sessions to discuss the issues surrounding implementation of Amendment 64.

“Amendment 64 gives cities and counties the option to prohibit commercial marijuana establishments and we believe it is in our County’s best interest to exercise that option,” said Commissioner Bockenfeld following the hearing.

Douglas County and El Paso County have passed similar ordinances. Adams County, Jefferson County, Aurora, Centennial and Littleton have adopted ordinances temporarily prohibiting commercial marijuana establishments. The City and County of Denver allows commercial marijuana establishments.

A draft copy of the ordinance is available for review at the County’s web site

<http://www.arapahoegov.com/Departments/CM/Agendas/2013/8.27.13%20ph.pdf>

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