

17 February 2025

Chair Prozanski, Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express concerns about SB 162 which in part proposes to authorize **the destruction of hoop houses when executing a search warrant to investigate the unlawful production of marijuana**. I could support the bill if this section were removed in its entirety.

As a licensed producer, I of course support law enforcement efforts directed at illegal grow sites but the destruction of hoop houses for purposes of executing a search warrant is inexcusable and would set a very bad precedent. Indeed, it is hard to imagine the need for destroying what are arguably temporary shelters that are easily entered otherwise given law enforcement capabilities.

It appears that the destruction of hoop houses provision is an arguably underhanded means of avoiding liability for bogus warrants – the like of which would be encouraged if the section is passed into law.

I otherwise support the other elements of the bill, and it is a shame that the inclusion of a dubious provision threatens their passage.

Les Helgeson