



CITY OF HUMBOLDT
OFFICE OF CITY ADMINISTRATION

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Date: March 10, 2023

To: Chairman Tarwater and House Committee on Commerce
From: Cole Herder, City Administrator, City of Humboldt
Re: HB 2447 – Written Opponent Testimony

Thank you, Chairman and Committee, for allowing me to submit testimony on HB 2447. **The City of Humboldt is opposed to this legislation** that erodes Home Rule and Local Government's ability to identify and restrict sales of products and services.

The inability to prohibit the sale of propane within city limits creates a very dangerous precedent. The City distributes natural gas following strict KCC regulations. We are required to have licensed operators, maintain records, maintain a Public Awareness program, and undergo annual audits. We are required to. Additionally, having 1,000-gallon propane tanks in every yard is dangerous to not only the public, but particularly hazardous to our fire fighters and first responders. Our system has shutoffs readily accessible to mitigate home explosions and new installations are required to have excess flow valves. This inability to regulate the sale of bulk propane is a serious public hazard.

This legislation severely restricts local government control which is critical to the vitality of the local community. We also have concerns about many other goods and services, such as exotic animals which are already excluded by our code, hazardous chemicals, and adult industry, to name a few.

For these reasons, I ask that Committee to **not** pass HB 2447, or amend it to allow local sales tax. I'm available anytime if you wish to discuss further.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cole Herder, City Administrator