

**February 18, 2020**

Hon. Chair Shane E. Pendergrass  
6 Bladen Street, House Room 241  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Madam Chair,

House Bill 625 requires the Medical Cannabis Commission to report data on cannabis use and enforcement.

During the interim, the Marijuana Legalization Workgroup heard testimony from a diverse set of stakeholders in regard to legalization efforts across the country. Jonathan Hudak from the Brookings Institute spoke about the use and collection of data to drive cannabis policy. Specifically, he noted the lack of data collection and the inability to form and inform policy due to that lack of data. His suggestion was to begin to collect data which may be useful now.

House Bill 625 requires the Medical Cannabis Commission to report data on cannabis use and enforcement. As drafted, this bill is by no means all encompassing. However, it is a starting point for understanding data on cannabis use and how related policy impacts our state. If we don't make the initiative to start asking questions now on use, enforcement, health and public safety in our own state, we will find ourselves with nothing but questions in the future.

Thank you for the hearing for House Bill 625. I am happy to discuss any questions and I ask for a favorable report.

Delegate Robin Grammer