



Testimony HB 837: Cannabis Reform

Position: SUPPORT

Judiciary Committee

February 14, 2022

Dear Chair Clippinger and members of the Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of Trulieve, I respectfully urge a favorable vote on HB 837, which lays out the critical initial steps policymakers need to chart a path thoughtfully and efficiently toward an equitable adult recreational cannabis industry in Maryland. We appreciate your leadership and the Speaker's in your work over the interim through the Cannabis Referendum and Legalization Workgroup. Your commitment to equity and social justice is clear from HB 837.

Trulieve is an industry leading, vertically integrated cannabis company and multi-state operator in the U.S. operating in 11 states, with leading market positions in Arizona, Florida, and Pennsylvania. Our recent acquisition of Harvest Health expands our footprint in the northeast with additional affiliated facilities in Pennsylvania and entry into Maryland with our dispensaries in Halethorpe, Rockville, and Towson as well as our processing and cultivation facility in Hancock. By providing innovative, high-quality products across its brand portfolio, Trulieve delivers optimal customer experiences and increases access to cannabis, helping patients and customers to live without limits.

Trulieve is commitment to doing the work to ensure a diverse and equitable industry. For instance, in other markets, we have created equity and ownership partnerships that have allowed us to couple local community members with industry expertise to create an equitable and well-rounded cannabis marketplace. We very much look forward to working with the General Assembly and stakeholders to explore the right policies and incentives where existing license holders can mentor and formally partner with new social equity applicants so that they can thrive as well in this complex regulated industry. In particular, we support provisions in HB 837 for expungement, criminal justice reform, the Cannabis Business Assistance Fund, and the Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council.

We thank Chair Clippinger for his leadership on this bill and look forward creating hundreds more family supporting wage jobs as the cannabis industry expands across Maryland.

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