



**Testimony in Support, with Amendments, to HB622  
Maryland Wholesale Cannabis Trade Association (CANMD) &  
Maryland Dispensary Association (MDDA)  
March 4, 2026**

The Honorable Kris Valderrama  
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee  
230 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Chair Valderrama:

We are writing on behalf of the Maryland Wholesale Cannabis Trade Association (CANMD) and the Maryland Dispensary Association (MDDA). MDDA was established in May 2017 to promote the common interests and goals of Maryland's Cannabis Dispensaries. MDDA advocates for laws, regulations, and public policies that foster a healthy, professional, and secure cannabis industry in the State. MDDA works on the State and local level to advance the interests of licensed dispensaries as well as to provide a forum for the exchange of information in the Cannabis Industry. CANMD was formed in 2016 to represent Maryland cannabis grower and processor licensees. CANMD has worked with policymakers since the adoption of the medical market to develop a responsible cannabis program. We appreciate the opportunity to support HB 622 with amendments.

In the legislation that established the adult-use cannabis market in Maryland, the General Assembly established the responsible vendor training (RVT) requirement for all cannabis industry employees. While CANMD and MDDA support the intent of the RVT requirement, in practice, this has become an overburdensome requirement that is unhelpful to employees and employers. Instead, CANMD and MDDA would support an amendment that would allow companies to complete the training in-house, using materials approved by MCA. Additionally, the training should be valid for 4 years, as the material does not change significantly year to year. This is the same renewal timeline for the comparable training for Maryland's alcohol industry.

Currently, RVT is required for all employees, regardless of their contact with the plant or with customers. No other state requires all non-plant-touching employees to take this type of training. The training is time-consuming and costly, yet it fails to provide adequate new lesson material

during annual renewals. All non-plant-touching employees and vendors should be exempt from any RVT requirements.

Thank you again for considering our input. We are committed to a responsible, well-regulated industry.

Christina Johnson

President, CANMD