

capasso_fav_sb356

Uploaded by: cappaso, mike

Position: FAV

TESTIMONY SB-0356

Submitted by Warden Michael Capasso, Harford County Sheriff's Office, Maryland

Greetings members of the Senate, I am Michael Capasso, Warden of the Harford County Sheriff's Office Detention Center under Sheriff Jeffery Gahler. I am here in support of SB-0356 and I am thankful for the introduction of this BILL.

It is only logical to ensure any substance containing even a degree of cannabis does not enter a correctional facility. It is the sworn duty of correctional officers to prohibit it and is a portion of the mission of the entire corrections arena. Why one may ask, because the introduction of such a substance would cause a threat to the general order of any correctional facility. As you could imagine, any CDS would be considered a commodity by the inmate population, and in this environment it would be hoarded, stolen, traded, bargained, and abused. This would certainly result in assaults, fights, and unrest. It is vital that a safe and secure environment be maintained in a correctional facility and this BILL helps ensure that.

Correctional facilities offer a multitude of programs to the inmate population, programs that address faith, behavior, education, and ADDICTIONS. You see - We do everything we can to prevent an inmate's continuance of CDS usage and abuse. Harford County Sheriff's Office, as some other counties, has an SBU, a Substance Abuse & Behavioral Health Unit which focuses on the burden of addictions. These units treat inmates for CDS addictions and educate them on how to no longer use CDS, these units don't treat inmates with CDS.

Cannabis is certainly not the only avenue available in addressing pain management and it should not become one inside the walls of any corrections facility. Medical authorities currently limit the usage of potentially habitual medications for a good reason. Society needs to take steps forward and not take the easy way out by giving in and essentially encouraging inmates to use cannabis. We in the correctional field strive to release inmates better conditioned to be productive members of society NOT to walk around aimlessly in a cloud influenced by cannabis.

Thank you members of the Senate for listening and thank you Senate BILL 356

MD Correctional Admin Association_FAV_SB356

Uploaded by: Foster, Brandon

Position: FAV



SB 356

Possession of Medical Cannabis - Local Correctional Facilities and Home Detention Center Program – Prohibition

MCAA Position: **SUPPORT**

TO: Judicial Proceedings Committee

DATE: February 13, 2020

FROM: T.D. Reece, President

The majority of local correctional facilities within the State have their inmate medical services contracted with an outside vendor. These medical service professionals have many alternative treatments available and are relied upon to make professional medical decisions within a correctional facility.

Medical cannabis is prohibited in the State Prison system and local correctional facilities. Storing and/or distributing the drug is a violation of Federal law. The contracted medical providers cannot store or dispense medical cannabis without being in violation of Federal law.

The prohibition of any controlled substance including medical cannabis on the grounds of a correctional facility or while participating in a home detention program is common sense legislation that the MCAA supports and ask the Judicial Proceedings Committee to support as well.

MD Correctional Admin. Association_FAV_SB356

Uploaded by: Reece, Thomas

Position: FAV



SB 356

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CraigRowe_FAV_SB0356

Uploaded by: Rowe, Craig

Position: FAV



**Office of the Sheriff:
Washington County Sheriff's Office
500 Western Maryland Parkway
Hagerstown, MD. 21740-5199
Phone: 240-313-2100**

Sheriff Douglas W. Mullendore

**Major Craig Rowe, CJM
Warden**

Office: 240-313-2121

Fax: 240-313-2152

Email: crowe@washco-md.net

TO: Judicial Proceedings Committee
FROM: Major Craig Rowe, CJM
Warden, Washington County Detention Center
DATE: February 13, 2020
RE: Senate Bill 356 - Possession of Medical Cannabis - Local Correctional Facilities
and Home Detention Program - Prohibition

Position: SUPPORT

The Washington County Detention Center supports Senate Bill 356 which is designed to prohibit the possession of medical cannabis on the grounds of a local correctional facility or while an offender is in a home detention program.

Currently, there are provisions in the law that address the use or smoking Medical marijuana or cannabis. The prohibition includes public places, motor vehicles, private property rented from a landlord that decides to have a policy against the use, condominiums where the council of unit owners or a homeowners association may prohibit the use as well as in the State Prison Systems. We are supporting Senate Bill 356 so that the grounds of local correctional facilities and inmates under the supervision of Home Detention are included in the law so that possession or use is prohibited.

The majority of local correctional facilities within the State have their inmate medical services contracted with an outside vendor that cannot store or distribute the drug without violating Federal Law. The medical vendors cannot have marijuana or cannabis on their formulary as that is a violation of the Law. The practice of any type of prescription not on the formulary being accepted from an inmate's property, an inmate's family or caregiver ended long ago for security and safety reasons. There are numerous accounts of contraband and medications being laced with CDS. The medical services professionals have many alternative treatments available and are relied upon to make professional medical decisions within a correctional facility.

In today's correctional environment it is not safe to allow medication to come into a facility other than from a pharmacy so there is no possible way for a correctional facility to provide marijuana or cannabis in any form. §13-3304 of the Health General Article provides that "a qualifying patient or caregiver may obtain medical cannabis only from a medical cannabis grower licensed by the Commission or a dispensary licensed by the Commission." There is no provision that anyone else may obtain the drugs.

The prohibition of any controlled substance including medical cannabis on the grounds of a correctional facility or for a participant in a home detention program is common sense legislation that Washington County supports. I respectfully ask that the Judicial Proceedings Committee Support Senate Bill 356 with a favorable report also.

Commissioners of St. Mary's County_FWA_SB356

Uploaded by: Guy, James

Position: FWA

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
**COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY**



James R. Guy, President
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

Senate Bill 356

Possession of Medical Cannabis - Local Correctional
Facilities and Home Detention Program - Prohibition

Hearing: February 13, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

January 28, 2020

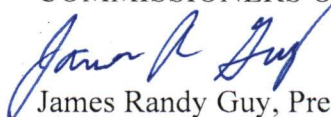
The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chairman
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Smith:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT Senate Bill 356 - Possession of Medical Cannabis - Local Correctional Facilities and Home Detention Program - Prohibition - which is being heard on February 13, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. in the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

St. Mary's County does not support non-FDA approved drug usage at Local Correctional Facilities and while on a Home Detention Program and we would like to amend the bill to include all Local Correctional Facility Programs such as Weekenders, Pre-Trial Services and Work Release. Therefore, we SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT the introduction of this legislation and believe this legislation would benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County. We look forward to working with you on this and other initiatives throughout the session.

Sincerely,
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY


James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/AB/sf
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The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chairman
January 28, 2020

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Delegate Gerald Clark
Delegate Brian Crosby
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael Hewitt
Commissioner Todd Morgan
Commissioner John O'Connor
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
David Weiskopf, County Attorney

MMCC_INFO_SB0356

Uploaded by: Tillburg, William

Position: INFO



February 13, 2020

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 356 – “Possession of Medical Cannabis – Local Correctional Facilities and Home Detention Program – Prohibition” – Letter of Information

Dear Chair Smith:

The Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission (the Commission) is submitting this letter of information for Senate Bill 356 entitled “Possession of Medical Cannabis – Local Correctional Facilities and Home Detention Program – Prohibition.” SB 356 would prohibit the possession of medical cannabis on the grounds of a local correctional facility or while the offender is in a home detention program.

Of the 33 states and the District of Columbia that have legalized the use of medical cannabis, no local, State, or federal correctional facility or prison allows patients to use medical cannabis while incarcerated. Maryland does not have statutes or regulations expressly prohibiting use of medical cannabis in local correctional facilities or while in a home detention program. However, local jurisdictions may restrict use in correctional facilities through agency policies or other internal measures. Proponents of expressly restricting medical cannabis in correctional facilities have cited the federal prohibition on medical cannabis as well as the risk to the health and safety of other incarcerated individuals and the potential for diversion to non-patients.

Medical cannabis is classified under the federal Controlled Substances Act as a Schedule I controlled dangerous substance, a classification for drugs with a high potential for abuse that have no currently accepted medical use. For a pharmaceutical drug to be dispensed in a correctional facility, it must be placed on the facility’s drug formulary. However, medical cannabis is not a ‘prescription’ per se but rather a recommendation because of the federal prescription prohibition. Therefore, medical cannabis, in any form, is considered contraband.

The Commission believes there is merit to clarifying the law in this area and applying it Statewide to avoid confusion as well as potential litigation. We hope this information is helpful as you deliberate SB 356. If you have any questions or wish to discuss, please contact me at william.tilburg@maryland.gov or (410) 487-8069.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William Tilburg". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a horizontal line.

William Tilburg
Executive Director

cc: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee