



February 9, 2021

*The Voice of Merit Construction*

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TO: ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE  
FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS  
RE: H.B. 683 – WORKERS' COMPENSATION – MEDICAL CANNABIS –  
COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS  
POSITION: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) supports H.B. 683 with a significant amendment for 9-660(a)(3).

Construction sites are constantly changing and need a workforce that is fully alert and free from influence from any substance that impair judgement, slows reaction time, alters depth perception, inhibits coordination, and impairs motor skills. Additionally, modified duty activities would be difficult to accommodate at a jobsite if the worker is actively using cannabis. ABC is respectfully asking for this amendment to replace 9-660(a)(3) it replaces the word "including" with "excluding":

**(3) medicine, excluding medical cannabis;**

In the alternative, if special recognition may be afforded to the construction industry, this amendment which would add 9-660(a)(3)(i):

**(3) medicine, including medical cannabis;**

**(i) Medical cannabis is prohibited from the construction industry, meaning all business with a NAICS code beginning with 23.**

We have learned an extremely hard lesson from the use of Opioids in treating workers compensation injuries in the construction industry. Please do not let us repeat the same mistake by allowing cannabis in workers compensation cases for the construction industry.

On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC business members in Maryland, we respectfully request an unfavorable report on H.B. 683.

Marcus Jackson, Director  
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