



GREENWAVE DISPENSARY  
P.O. BOX 442  
70 HOLIDAY DR.  
SOLOMONS, MD 20688

February 12, 2021

Maryland House of Representatives

RE: HOUSE BILL 32 By: Delegate J. Lewis

Maryland Delegates,

I would like to offer my written testimony in support of HB 32 with amendments on behalf of Greenwave Dispensary located in Solomons, MD.

We are an independent woman owned and operated dispensary that feels a near tripling of licenses granted for retail dispensaries would be detrimental to the overall health of the industry in Maryland.

Being an independent operator comes with obvious supply challenges and disparity when competing with vertically integrated companies. The enormous increase in retail dispensing licenses would further exacerbate supply issues with quality flower. We of course would make sure medical patients receive priority but the reality is there will only be so much product to go around without causing price instability.

Instead I propose HB-32 approaches industry expansion in a much more steady fashion. A total retail licenses issued, with an initial cap of 150, *including* dual Medical/Recreational licenses, would achieve the goal of the bill without creating market instability in both price and supply. Section 23-405 (3) states the Commission may reopen the application process at any time to meet demand. There is no need to create chaos, that will ultimately be detrimental to medical patients, when this stipulation is already included in the bill.

Reducing the amount of retail licenses has another benefit as well. It is vital for public opinion to ensure dispensaries are operated both professionally and compliantly. By growing too fast there will undoubtedly be a vast increase in violations and to say it plainly, shady operators. The commission needs time to grow and adjust into a full adult use market. This is the more responsible way to proceed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input at such a dynamic and exciting time in my industry.

Respectfully,

*Lauren Simpson*

Lauren Simpson

Director

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