



Mission: To improve public health in Maryland through education and advocacy Vision: Healthy Marylanders living in Healthy Communities

HB 1 Cannabis Referendum

Hearing Date: 2/14/22

Committee: Judiciary

Position: Favorable with amendments

Chairperson Clippinger and members of the Judiciary Committee: The Maryland Public Health Association (MdPHA) would like to offer favorable testimony with amendments regarding HB 1.

We recommend extending the timeline to full legalization an additional year to July 1, 2024. At a minimum, in order to appropriately establish a baseline data surveillance system, in addition to the time required to establish a well-informed regulatory system and avoid unintentional consequences additional time will be necessary.

The Maryland Public Health Association (MdPHA) is a nonprofit, statewide organization of public health professionals dedicated to improving the lives of all Marylanders through education, advocacy, and collaboration. We support public policies consistent with our vision of healthy Marylanders living in healthy, equitable, communities. MdPHA is the state affiliate of the American Public Health Association, a nearly 145-year-old professional organization dedicated to improving population health and reducing the health disparities that plague our state and our nation.