

**Senate Bill 508 – Hemp Farming Program – Use of Hemp and Hemp Products in Consumable Products**

**March 30, 2023**

**Favorable with the current amendments please!**

Hello 🌻

My name is Abigail Diehl, born and raised in Maryland for over 40 years and a local Annapolis resident for nearly half my life.

We are in FULL support of SB0508 with the current amendment added in the Senate.

This bill mirrors the language approved thus far in HB556 – Cannabis Reform.

Thank you!

On a very important side note, we also would like to point out that in HB556, without the clarification of greenhouses being considered indoor space for canopy measurements, you are allowing a **single license** the ability to build out 1.2 MILLION square feet of cultivation space starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The state hired consultants predicted 4 million square feet total for the whole state, with other industry experts anticipating less than 2 million needed.

If you allow this and just 2 of the existing licenses build out 1.2 million each (2.4 combined), there will be no room left for anyone new.

We support the intent to leave room for new social equity licenses. Which is why we strongly implore you to please clarify the language in conference committee that greenhouse grows are regarded as indoor (rather than outdoor) for canopy measurement purposes. If not, this will create a complete barrier to entry for any new social equity license to become operational in the future. Thank you!

As well, SB508 makes it possible for real hemp farmers (not D8 processors) to make quality consumable products that can actually help people.

Perfect example is Warren Tewes, a retired dentist who has lived and worked most of his life here in Maryland; currently living on the Eastern Shore with his wife, Liguori. Not long ago, he was taking 4,000 mgs of Advil every day; 2,000 in the morning and 2,000 in the afternoon. Using no less than 5 ice packs throughout the day because he was in so much pain due to his spine. He is now taking ONE 50mg Sunny C every morning and living his best life!! No more Advil or ice packs needed!! He spends his afternoons out on the pier fishing instead of laying on the couch in pain. I receive cards, calls, and emails full of appreciation every few months from his whole family 💕

I have been working in the Maryland Medical Cannabis Industry since the application process in 2015. As well, I have worked with farmers throughout Maryland my whole life as my family owns a produce market, Diehl's Produce, in Severna Park.

As a serial entrepreneur, I have founded and operated multiple businesses in the area, including

but not limited to Diehl's Produce (Eastport), Sunny C's LLC, and our newest venture, West Street Strategies. We are always doing our best to support Maryland in every way possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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ABP

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Please help us fix this so Marco and Warren can both live their healthiest lives?

I know I sound super cheesy but I can't explain how much my dog, friends, and family mean to me. This goes for all Maryland residents across the state that need relief without getting intoxicated or addicted to pain pills.

My Dad is now able to walk up the stairs with both legs instead of one step at a time (due to his bad knee)... first time in over 2 years because he finally started taking Sunny C's every day!! Plus, his cancer is stable as of now... I'm not going to take credit for that one. However, numbers don't lie and I'm thrilled regardless the reason!!

Sunny C's are a full spectrum cbd chew made from some of the highest quality hemp in the country, testing over 37% cbd. Grown hydroponically in greenhouses on Maryland's eastern shore by Jennifer Sturmer, a graduate of Tufts University and a pioneer in hydroponic tomato farming for the past 38+ years here in Maryland. Both businesses were founded and operated by two different local Woman Owned Maryland Small Businesses; one that has been operating in Annapolis Maryland for over 10 years, and the other in Ridgely Maryland for over 38 years. All Sunny C's are third party tested with a MMCC certified lab to confirm they are a safe and consistent product.

We have testimonials from Warren, Tara (a middle-aged teacher with debilitating arthritis), and plenty of others that have found relief, while staying functional, from our products. The naturally derived full spectrum oil that goes into Sunny C's gives people a safe alternative for a better quality a life. Please do not take this away from people who need it, especially those who are already relying on it.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns!!

Thank you so much for your time and consideration!! Really appreciate you and everything you do!!

Cheers,

Abigail Diehl

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