



Chair Melony Griffith
Senate Finance
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Reference: SB0516 - Favorable with Amendments

By:
Tyler Van Wingerden
Blake Van Wingerden

Dear Chairs and Members,

Catoctin Hemp is a family business located north of Frederick, MD. We started in 2019 when there was an opportunity to do research with the hemp plant. We partnered with the University of Maryland and started to work on understanding the hemp plant and how it can be used in Maryland's agriculture.

Since 2019 we have become much more educated about the hemp plant and the industry that has been built up around it. Our family business now grows, processes, and extracts hemp plants. We also formulate the extract into non-intoxicating products that are now being used by hundreds of customers to help with pains and ailments.

Catoctin Hemp is not a part of the 75% other CBD hemp extract producers who are participating in the Delta-8 and other loophole intoxicant market.¹ We have been operating by both the letter and intent of the law. We strongly believe that all intoxicating products should be under the jurisdiction of the MMCC (now ATCC). What constitutes an intoxicating product is the distinction that requires clarity for efficient and effective regulation. There is precedent in other states to look at the ratio of CBD to THC as an indicator on whether or not the product is intoxicating. Colorado is a leader in the nation in regards to regulating cannabis and hemp products. Under SB22-205, the state set up a Task Force to conduct a study on the distinction between intoxicating and non-intoxicating hemp products. Based on their findings, they established a limit of 2.5mg of total THC per serving AND a 15:1 CBD to THC ratio or higher.

¹ <https://mjbizdaily.com/2022-us-hemp-harvest-projected-to-shrink-by-nearly-half-of-2021/>

It is our request that Maryland take into consideration the ratio of CBD to THC in the products that hemp companies sell as well as a milligram limit per serving. The ratio we recommend, based on the Colorado Task Force findings, is 15:1, CBD to THC (includes all forms of THC), and the milligram limit per serving is 2.5 mg of total THC per serving. By following the guidelines set in Colorado, Maryland will be able to ensure that non-intoxicating hemp products will still be available to licensed hemp farmers and producers. The Task Force says on page 19 of its report, "the Task Force recommends that a milligram potency limit per serving coupled with a CBD:THC ratio is currently sufficient to guard against intoxicating hemp products from being sold within Colorado and no container limit is recommended at this time."²

Thank you for your consideration, we are looking forward to growing the non-intoxicating Hemp products industry in Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,

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Catoctin Hemp

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² SB22-205 Task Force Final Report, page 19