

SB0404_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
2/22/2022

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TESTIMONY ON SB#0404 - POSITION: FAVORABLE
Criminal Law - Controlled Dangerous Substances and Firearms

TO: Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0404, Criminal Law - Controlled Dangerous Substances and Firearms

This bill is an attempt to continue decriminalization of cannabis for adults twenty-one years or older within specified limits. It establishes for other more dangerous drugs limits on the amount of the drugs and classifies exceeding those limits or dealing in those drugs, especially more than the limits penalizing a person as a volume dealer or drug kingpin, as a felony under Maryland law.

It protects a person over age 21 in a private residence from penalty if the amount of cannabis products is less than the limit established and said cannabis products or concentrated cannabis is for personal use or sharing with other adults.

This continues Maryland's reclassification of cannabis such that penalties applied in the past are no longer needed for that class of drugs below a certain limit. Police and judicial resources are no longer involved when a person follows the requirements this bill will establish.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB0404.