

CORY V. MCCRAY
Legislative District 45
Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Health and Human Services

Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Vote Yes to SB 469

Title: Maryland Cannabis Administration – Cannabis Licensing – Protests of Renewal
Finance Committee

Hearing: February 22, 2024

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to request your favorable vote on Senate Bill 469. This will be a new piece of legislation that gives citizens of Maryland the ability to protest the renewal of a cannabis license with the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA). This legislation makes the MCA able to receive and address protests, focusing on regulations related to the renewal of cannabis licenses.

The purpose of SB469 is to grant citizens of Maryland the right to voice concerns and protest the renewal of cannabis licenses through the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA). By providing a formal avenue for citizen input, the legislation creates transparency and accountability in the licensing process. It encourages individuals to participate in shaping the surrounding cannabis licenses, ensuring that the MCA has diverse perspectives that they consider during the renewal process. This measure promotes inclusivity and responsiveness for the cannabis industry in Maryland, furthering public trust and the engagement of the people in the decision-making process.

Significance and Impact: The significance of SB469 is that citizens in Maryland can disrupt the operations of malpracticing cannabis shops that detrimentally impact communities' economies

and well-being. By allowing individuals to protest the renewal of cannabis licenses through the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA), the legislation impacts businesses engaging in practices that harm local economies and the overall welfare of residents. This means issues such as environmental, economic, or social harm caused by cannabis establishments can be a reason to protest license renewal. Having this legislation contributes to the regulation and oversight of the cannabis industry here in Maryland, fostering a safer and more responsible marketplace. This bill prioritizes the citizens of Maryland's communities and their well-being, which is why I urge a favorable report for Senate Bill 469.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cory V. McCray', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cory V. McCray
45th District