



February 14, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of Grow West MD, a cannabis cultivator in Cumberland, Maryland, I would like to express my unqualified support of **Senate Bill 347: Medical Cannabis - Employees in Health Care Settings Caring for Qualifying Patients.**

The Maryland Medical Cannabis program opened access to patients, with a recommendation from a physician, to purchase cannabis products, and with the passing of the Adult Use program anyone over the age of 21 is now able to join the group. However, there is still a large, overlooked group of people in our communities. I am referring to our senior population living in assisted living facilities who rely on the expert care of staff to meet their needs. Many of these residents want to have the right and the ability to consume medical cannabis products in their home. The current caregiver designation process restricts how these residents can access medical cannabis.

Under Senate Bill 347, licensed medical staff will be allowed to administer cannabis to the medical patient when the patient's designated caregiver is not available.

We are proud to have worked with the Maryland Cannabis Administration on the measure.

Therefore, on behalf of Grow West MD, I am respectfully requesting a favorable report of this bill.

Sincerely,

Susan Valois
President
Grow West MD, LLC

