



February 10, 2025

Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Taylor House Office Building, Room 251  
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee:

**House Bill 804 – Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies**  
***Letter of Information***

House Bill 804 seeks to require the governing bodies of condominiums and cooperative housing communities to establish a smoking policy, which includes specifying areas where smoking is allowed or prohibited. This bill could impact medical cannabis patients who rely on inhalation as their primary method of consumption. Unlike other forms of cannabis use, inhalation provides fast-acting relief, which is critical for patients managing conditions such as chronic pain, PTSD, and severe nausea.

In the state of Maryland, smoking cannabis and hemp is prohibited in any public place. This includes outdoor spaces such as parks, streets, and sidewalks. Many patients face barriers to cannabis use due to housing restrictions, particularly those in federally subsidized housing, where cannabis use is entirely prohibited. House Bill 804 risks compounding these challenges by allowing multifamily communities to impose additional restrictions without requiring any designated areas for patients.

A balanced approach would protect residents from unwanted exposure to smoke while also ensuring that patients can safely and lawfully access their medicine.

I hope that this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at (443) 610-1666 or [audrey.johnson1@maryland.gov](mailto:audrey.johnson1@maryland.gov) or Courtney Davis, Deputy Director at (443) 610-1730 or [courtney.davis@maryland.gov](mailto:courtney.davis@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Audrey Johnson  
Executive Director, Office of Social Equity