

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing to you to speak out against SB215. In its current state, this bill would do more harm than good for not only the cannabis industry, but for the individuals who rely on this plant for their health and wellbeing. I create content for the cannabis industry, and I have been a part of some amazing events around the country. The benefits that come from these events and lounge spaces are immense for the community, but that comes with far less restriction. If a person is able to consume this product in their home to the volume which they choose, it makes not sense why the cannabis industry would face restrictions that limit how people choose to use their own bodies. There is no restriction that limits alcohol consumption at bars or social gatherings. It is hypocritical to place restrictions on cannabis to a far tougher degree.

To specify my points, I will list the page and information in the document and explain my disagreements:

Pg. 2) Cannabis beverages should not be limited by dosing to 5mg for the same reasons I mentioned above. If alcohol (a far more dangerous consumable) is not limited to such a low margin, why does cannabis have that restriction? Not being able to consume cannabis in all forms is also restricting and preferential. Cannabis is often smoked or vaporized, and a facility should be able to allow people to consume how they want, so long as the business can maintain safety for everyone inside.

Pg. 4) Not allowing food and other specialty beverages to be prepared with THC is not going to safeguard folks from the plant. It will simply force them to unsafely attempt these things without proper guidance or assistance. If the commercial restaurant industry had more availability to hit a new market, the benefits to business and to the experiences the customers have would surely be a net gain for all parties involved including the MD State Government.

Pg. 7) Cannabis events should not be regulated, at least with the current wording and legislation looking to be placed. This does not REMOTELY define what a cannabis event is. There is not determination on how small a gathering can be where legal adults consuming cannabis stops being a gathering and becomes an "event". Until that is clarified much more properly, I don't see how we can enact laws pertaining to those events.

Beyond this, the scope of the bill is too broad in certain areas and far too definitive in others. This needs to be paused and rewritten with more input from cannabis industry members. These are systems that function amazingly in other states with nothing but benefit for the government. There is no reason why that can't be here. I hope you read this and take everything into consideration.

Thank you,

Travis Hale

Medical Cannabis Patient