



**Testimony of LaWann Stribling, Founder of STRIB'ble District LLC
Maryland General Assembly Judiciary Committee
HB0413 - Unfavorable Testimony on the Inclusion of Literature Regarding Illegal Handgun
Possession**

Date: January 31, 2025

Dear Esteemed Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am LaWann Stribling, the founder of STRIB'ble District LLC, a business committed to wellness, sustainability, and community empowerment through holistic practices. I am here to express my concerns regarding HB0413, particularly the inclusion of literature related to illegal handgun possession in a bill that, in my view, should focus on the critical need for patient and adult safe access to medical cannabis.

As a passionate advocate for the healing properties of cannabis and its rightful place in our communities, I believe it is essential to approach the subject of cannabis access in a way that fosters trust, support, and education, not fear or unnecessary stigmatization.

Cannabis is not just a plant; it is food, medicine, and a complex herb that has been gifted to us by our Creator. For many individuals, cannabis is a vital component of their wellness routine—whether it's for chronic pain relief, mental health management, or a variety of other health concerns. My work through STRIB'ble District LLC, which includes *Cann'A Woman Heal*, *STRIB'ble Treats*, and *STRIB Flowers and Herbs Ancestral Farms*, has shown me firsthand how cannabis—along with other holistic practices like herbal medicine, nutrition, and wellness counseling—can profoundly improve people's lives.

By categorizing cannabis within the same scope as illegal handguns or other criminal matters, we are not only perpetuating unnecessary fear but also hindering the progress we've made toward ensuring that patients have safe, accessible, and legitimate means to utilize this life-changing medicine at home.

I believe the focus should remain on the safe and informed access to cannabis for patients and adults in Maryland. The inclusion of literature that associates cannabis use with illegal activity or criminal behavior is counterproductive. It creates a narrative that undermines the efforts of individuals and organizations—such as mine—that are working to destigmatize cannabis and ensure it is treated with the same respect and understanding as any other medicinal or therapeutic tool.

Furthermore, I stand firmly in agreement with the idea that we should "use what you grow," and that food is medicine. This concept extends beyond the plants we cultivate for nutrition into the medicinal plants we nurture, like cannabis. By supporting initiatives that allow individuals to cultivate their own cannabis for medicinal purposes, we are empowering them to take control of their own health and wellness. It is an act of both healing and sovereignty.

I urge you to reconsider the inclusion of literature regarding illegal handgun possession in this bill. Instead, let's focus on patient access, education, and wellness, while honoring the sacredness of the plant and its ability to heal. As we continue to move toward a future of greater understanding and inclusivity, we must be mindful not to perpetuate harmful stereotypes or misrepresentations.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I remain hopeful that we can continue to work together to ensure a safe and respectful environment for patients who rely on cannabis as a form of medicine.

Sincerely,

LaWann Stribling

Founder, STRIB'ble District LLC

Cann'A Woman Heal

STRIB'ble Treats

STRIB Flowers and Herbs Ancestral Farms