



U.S. Hemp  
Roundtable

info@hempsupporter.com | Washington D.C. | @hemproundtable

## **Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 160**

**Jonathan Miller, General Counsel**

**U.S. Hemp Roundtable**

Chairman Thomas, Vice Chair Matthews, Ranking Member Isaacsohn and members of the Ohio House Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in opposition to the hemp provisions contained in HB 160 which reclassifies almost all hemp products as marijuana products and makes them only available for sale in the limited number of marijuana dispensaries.

Moving hemp products under the marijuana regulatory system is, for all practical purposes, a ban by another name, and it will shutter businesses whose owners sought to invest in a new industry that this legislature created in 2019 following federal hemp legalization. We know retail businesses, including those selling emerging hemp beverage products, will be severely and negatively impacted by adopting this type of policy.

Ohio-based CBD/hemp stores, with hard-working owners who have participated in the various legislative hearings around this issue, will surely close with no means to enter the monopolistic world of marijuana dispensary licensing that the marijuana industry created for itself. These CBD store owners have specifically addressed why customers come to them and not dispensaries by explaining that most are over the age of 55 and looking for natural relief and wellness options without the intoxicating effects of marijuana. Their customers want to visit their local retailer for hemp products and are not likely to visit a dispensary with customers seeking a high.

It is important to keep in mind that hemp products are legal under federal law while marijuana is not. The legal implications of forcing hemp products to be sold only by marijuana dispensaries haven't all been fully explored, but significant questions remain as to the ability for states to limit access in such a manner.

The U.S. Hemp Roundtable is committed to safe hemp and CBD products. We have long supported self-regulation of the industry, encouraging third party testing, proper labeling and transparency, and other regulations to encourage responsible sales and use of hemp products. We support legislative changes in Ohio which would create stronger enforcement against



U.S. Hemp  
Roundtable

Paid for by U.S. Hemp Roundtable, Inc., and independent, nonprofit organization exempt from federal taxation under section 502(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. Learn more at [www.hempsupporter.com](http://www.hempsupporter.com)

violators, licensing for manufacturers and sellers, independent testing of hemp products, adequate labeling which prohibits child-enticing images, and age restrictions on the sale of hemp-derived consumable products.

Bans, and limitations on access that act like bans, will only support illicit sales of these products when the legislature seems to want more control. We respectfully submit that a strong regulatory approach to hemp products, without bans, is the best path to address the legislature's goals, and it is also best for the preservation of hemp-related businesses, hemp-product sales, and consumer choice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Miller  
General Counsel  
U.S. Hemp Roundtable  
jmiller@fbtlaw.com  
859.619.6328

# 2025 U.S. HEMP ROUNDTABLE MEMBERSHIP

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

.....

AMERICAN SHAMAN

BRĚZ

CORNBREAD HEMP

CRONOS GROUP

BAYOU CITY HEMP

CYCLING FROG

JUST BRANDS

MEDTERRA

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

.....

AMERICAN SHAMAN

BAYOU CITY HEMP

BRĚZ

CBD FX

CBD KRATOM

CHEECH AND CHONG

CLIMBING KITES

CORNBREAD HEMP

CRESCENT CANNA

CRONOS GROUP

CULTIVATED

CURALEAF

CYCLING FROG

FEALS

GREEN COMPASS

JUST BRANDS

LUCYD

MEDTERRA

PANDA BIOTECH

SUNMED | YOUR CBD STORE

TURNING POINT BRANDS

U.S. HEMP AUTHORITY

VERGE AGRITECH

## MEMBERS

.....

ACANNACO-HEMP INC.

COLUMBIA BASIN BIOSCIENCE

FLOWERZ

MAGIC CACTUS

SPARTAN SWORD\*

ACKNOWLEDGE

CONSUMER HEALTHCARE  
PRODUCTS ASSN.\*

GASKO & MEYER

MARY JONES BEVERAGE

SUNMED | YOUR CBD STORE

ALLIANCE FOR NATURAL  
HEALTH USA\*

CORNBREAD HEMP

GOTHAM GREEN PARTNERS

MEDTERRA

TEXAS HEMP COALITION

ALTERNATIVE HORIZONS  
GROUP

COUNCIL FOR RESPONSIBLE  
NUTRITION\*

GRAIN & BARREL SPIRITS

MINDSET CAPITAL

THE HEMP COLLECT

AMERICAN HERBAL  
PRODUCTS ASSN.\*

CRAFT COLLECTIVE

GREEN COMPASS

MYCPO

THE HEMP DOCTOR

AMERICAN SHAMAN

CRESCENT CANNA

HAPPI

NATIONAL ANIMAL  
SUPPLEMENT COUNCIL\*

THEORY WELLNESS

BATCH

CRONOS GROUP

HEMP ALLIANCE OF TN\*

NATIONAL CANNABIS  
INDUSTRY ASSN.\*

TOTAL WINE & MORE

BAYOU CITY HEMP

CULTIVATED CBD

HEMP INDUSTRIES ASSN.\*

NATIONAL HEMP GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION

TURNING POINT BRANDS

BLNCD NATURALS

CURALEAF

IMPERIAL CBD EXTRACTION

NEW LEAF DATA SERVICES

U.S. HEMP AUTHORITY\*

BRĚZ

CV SCIENCES

INDIGENOUS CANNABIS  
INDUSTRY ASSN.\*

NORTH CANNA CO.

U.S. HEMP BUILDING ASSN.\*

CANN

CYCLING FROG

INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION  
TRADE ALLIANCE\*

NORTHERN DIVERSIFIED  
SOLUTIONS

UNITED NATURAL PRODUCTS  
ALLIANCE\*

CANTRIP

CYPRESS HEMP

INTEGRISHIELD

PA BEER ALLIANCE

VERGE AGRITECH

CBD KRATOM

DELTA BEVERAGES

IRON HEART CANNING

PANDA BIOTECH

VETERINARY CANNABIS  
SOCIETY\*

CBD FX

ESQUIRE BANK

JUST BRANDS

PAPER & LEAF

VIRBAC

CHEECH AND CHONG

FEALS

KOI CBD

PET RELEAF

VIRGINIA HEMP COALITION\*

CLASSIC CITIVA

FIRST CITIZENS BANK

KUSH.COM

REDWOOD BEVERAGES

WAAVE TECHNOLOGIES

CLIMBING KITES

FLEX PAYMENT SOLUTIONS

LUCYD

SARENE CRAFT BEER  
DISTRIBUTORS

WE ARE FOR BETTER  
ALTERNATIVES\*

COLORADO HEMP CO.

FLORAWORKS

MAD TASTY

SOUTH DAKOTA INDUSTRIAL  
HEMP ASSN.\*

WINE AND SPIRITS  
WHOLESALE OF KY\*

MAG INDUSTRIES

\*DENOTES NON-PROFIT ADVOCACY PARTNER.

Advocacy partners do not necessarily endorse the positions of the U.S. Hemp Roundtable