

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

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 56. My name is Robert McClure, and I am the owner of Sunmed | Your CBD Store, Centerville and Deerfield Township., OH. Since October of 2019, my business has proudly served our community by offering high-quality, hemp-derived wellness products that promote well-being while contributing to Ohio's economy.

The restrictions Senate Bill 56 propose would eliminate 90% of the non-intoxicating full-spectrum hemp products we currently offer. This would drive consumers to unregulated online markets, creating potential safety risks and diverting significant tax revenue out of Ohio.

Additionally, discussions about transitioning all hemp products, including CBD, into the existing recreational marijuana regulatory framework are deeply concerning. This approach would irreparably harm small businesses like mine. Unlike dispensaries, we do not target or sell products designed for intoxication. Instead, we specialize in cannabinoids such as CBG, CBN, and THC-V—compounds that would neither thrive nor be permitted in a dispensary environment. Our customer base is also fundamentally different; the majority of our customers are over the age of 50, seeking non-intoxicating, hemp-rich products. These individuals would not feel comfortable visiting a dispensary and would struggle to find the products they rely on for their health and wellness. Our ingestible full spectrum oils, which exceed the proposed limits, are non-intoxicating. They are also 90% of what we sell.

The Dayton Daily News recently interviewed myself and the Senate President, in which he said, "I still think if they were operating before, they'll be able to operate after". He also said, "I don't have a lot of sympathy for some of those businesses that are now being forced to not offer a product that was very clearly dangerous and targeted towards children," said Ohio Senate President Rob McColley, R-Napoleon." This tells me and everyone else concerned about our businesses, that He is clueless and has no idea what he is talking about., and He is helping make regulations? Why? Because NOTHING we sell is targeted towards children and ALL/EVERY SINGLE PRODUCT in our store is third party tested. Also, the only way any products are dangerous is if people are not properly educated. LOOK IN YOUR MEDICINE CABINETS AT HOME! That dog won't hunt! In addition, I have been carrying these products since 2020, all within the first year I opened. All legal products. I have always required 21 or older and I've also kept a very LIMITED supply of the intoxicating products, due to the fact the majority out there is absolutely garbage. So not only do I ensure the highest quality of products, but I have also held the HIGHEST standard possible. To categorize the stores doing it right with all the "bad actors" out there is ridiculous. I urge government officials, to put the work in to establish real and

reasonable regulations. Making our products the responsibility of dispensaries is completely irresponsible, and the LAZY way out. These bills that have been proposed are nothing but a political money grab. The fact that the Governor and anyone else trying to pass it off as, "The safety of the children", is beyond unacceptable. Senator Steve Huffman said, "Current intoxicated hemp products are untested and unregulated," and "The bill protects buyers from gaining access to these intoxicating products and ensures adults can still purchase them from existing regulated operators." All of our non-intoxicating and intoxicating hemp products, ARE TESTED! NOW REGULATE THEM AND US, WE ARE EXISTING! No dispensary is going to educate to the level we do. We are willing to be regulated, we are willing to educate on a whole other level, LET US!

Two things:

1) You want to keep it out of the hands of the children? Put together the proper regulations and ENFORCE THEM! Do you people really think putting these products in the hands of the dispensaries is going to do that? WRONG! It starts with PARENTING, REGULATIONS, and ENFORCEMENT!! But WOW what a great story it is for the non-suspecting public! "SAVE THE CHILDREN!" Not to mention, dispensaries are not going to carry these non-intoxicating and intoxicating hemp products, and they sure as heck are not going to educate people enough to be effective. To think otherwise is insane or just a blind eye to pursue an agenda. One of the biggest obstacles I have run into in 5 and a half years in business, is educating employees. This is a difficult task that takes 2 to 3 months to effectively accomplish. I have done this. What is your plan for that?

2) You want to eliminate the garbage products out there? Put in place the proper regulations and testing for any hemp products in-state and out-of-state. Have a process! All of the things that go without saying such as; must be 21 or older, must be third-party tested, and perhaps all products being sold need to be registered through the state, etc.

Everyone who has heard me testify understands my biggest concern is all of my ingestible, full spectrum, non-intoxicating hemp products being banned. These products are far more effective than any broad-spectrum product (no trace amounts of thc).

However, the intoxicating products that we do carry are of the highest quality, third party tested, and are mainly used as a micro dosing tool for individuals who are not looking to get high. That won't happen without the proper education. Even if an effect, is the goal of a responsible person, they still need to be educated far better than what dispensaries and most others are doing. All regardless of whether it's from Hemp or Marijuana.

When I listened to the testimony of Hannah Hays; of the poison control center, she gave questionable numbers all around the board, while blaming hemp retailers. I'm willing to bet the

majority of those numbers came from dispensaries. But we don't want to talk about that, do we?

I can no longer stand by politely and watch pure stupidity unfold. The businesses doing it right should not be excluded. We are small businesses, not multi million-dollar businesses like most of you think. If I wanted to get people high and teach people how to cover up issues their having, I would have opened a dispensary. My passion for helping people runs far deeper than the political BS.

I urge you to consider supporting alternative, balanced approaches that address concerns about intoxicating hemp products without undermining an entire industry. The industry as a whole wants to be regulated and would support a robust framework with measures such as establishing an age restriction of 21+ and requiring childproof packaging. Setting reasonable regulations can effectively enhance public safety while allowing small businesses like mine to continue serving our communities.

Please support small businesses and vote no on Senate Bill 56.

Sincerely,

Robert McClure

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