



## GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date 02/16/2025

Name: Lindsay Maloy

Address: 4752 Manchester Ct., Austinburg OH 44010

Telephone: 440 206 6049

Organization Representing: Italian Herbs

Testifying on Bill Number: Senate Bill 59

Testimony:  Verbal  Written  Both

Testifying As:  Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist?  Yes  No

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I write you today to express my concerns and opposition to several key aspects of the proposed cannabis legislation currently under consideration in Ohio. While I understand the importance of ensuring public safety and fairness in regulating cannabis, I believe the following provisions would negatively impact the community, the economy, and individual rights. The three main points I oppose are as follows:

**1. Taxes Being Increased and Taken Away from Local Municipalities**

The proposed shift in tax revenue from local municipalities to the state level represents a significant disservice to local communities. The ability for municipalities to benefit from taxes generated by cannabis sales is an important source of funding for local infrastructure, public services, and other essential needs. Redirecting these funds to the state would undermine the autonomy of local governments, depriving them of a much-needed financial resource. Communities should have the right to make decisions about how to allocate the tax revenue generated from cannabis sales within their own regions. This would not only diminish the potential benefits to local economies but also create disparities between different communities in the state.

**2. Potency Cap of 100mg**

The proposed potency cap of 100mg for cannabis products is both overly restrictive and harmful to patients and consumers alike. For medical marijuana patients, the effectiveness of their treatment often depends on the potency of the cannabis they use. A 100mg cap severely limits options for those who rely on higher-potency products for managing chronic pain, anxiety, and other medical conditions. Additionally, this cap disregards the realities of the cannabis market, where many consumers, both medical and adult-use, prefer stronger products to achieve the desired effects. A cap of this nature would not only limit choice but also push patients and consumers toward the unregulated black market, where they may have less access to quality control and safety measures. I urge the committee to reconsider this arbitrary limit and allow for a more flexible and medically-informed approach to cannabis potency.

**3. Separate Storage for Adult Use and Medical Marijuana**

Requiring separate storage for adult-use and medical marijuana products presents unnecessary logistical challenges, especially for dispensaries that serve both medical patients and adult-use consumers. This provision would lead to additional costs for businesses, which could ultimately increase prices for consumers. More importantly, it creates a false distinction between products that are fundamentally the same, but for their intended use. Medical marijuana patients, particularly those with mobility or financial difficulties, may face increased difficulty accessing their medicine in a convenient and efficient manner. By separating storage for medical and adult-use products, we risk complicating access for those who need cannabis for legitimate medical reasons. This policy could create unnecessary barriers for patients and undermine the spirit of the program.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the committee to reconsider the proposed provisions regarding the redirection of local tax revenue, the potency cap, and the requirement for separate storage. Each of these provisions would create undue hardship for communities, patients, and consumers alike. I believe a more thoughtful and balanced approach will better serve the people of Ohio, ensuring both public safety and fair access to cannabis products.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. I trust that the committee will take these concerns seriously and work towards policies that are both equitable and beneficial to all Ohioans.

Sincerely,

**Lindsay Maloy**

*Owner of Italian Herbs Dispensary*