

INTRODUCTION

Judging from the text of SB56, it seems there are great insufficiencies in this body's understanding of the realities of cannabis from the perspective of the customers and the home growers. I object to much of this bill and feel compelled to help bring full clarity to this issue.

LEAF VS FLOWER

Cannabis LEAF is nearly worthless to most cannabis users as it contains only tiny quantities of THC, CBD and TERPENES, which are the active components that give cannabis its medicinal and intoxicating effects.

Cannabis FLOWER is the only usable part of the plant unless a great amount of energy is spent on concentrating the leaf material.

Any discussion of weight should probably disregard leaf, stem, root, wood, and dirt materials.

ANNUAL VS PERENNIAL

Cannabis is an annual. After it produces its flower, the plant dies. It does not come back.

New plants must be continually made from cuttings of NON-FLOWERING plants or grown from seed. A process where OFTEN the cutting doesn't take, or the seed doesn't germinate, or the young plant falls prey to infection or stress and dies.

This brings us to the first issue with the bill...

NUMBER OF PLANTS

Each home grower must have plants in both vegetative and flowering states to have a continuous supply. For us, we flower 2 plants at a time, letting us vegetate 10 plants in the necessary various stages of vegetative growth. 10 plants is barely enough to preserve the strains which work best for our ailments (because unlike alcohol, different cannabis strains produce different effects medically).

I propose that ANY LIMIT ON PLANTS SHOULD ONLY APPLY TO FLOWERING PLANTS, and not to those in a vegetative state (Vegetative plants have almost immeasurable amounts of any of the active components and can't be used as a drug).

IN LIEU OF AN EXCEPTION FOR VEGETATING PLANTS, THE BILL (SB56) SHOULD NOT BE PASSED AT ALL.

YIELD

There is clearly misunderstanding here. There isn't any specific quantity per plant. The idea that there is, is erroneous.

Depending on the space given, the time spent vegetating, the intensity of the light, and the amount of nutrients, a cannabis plant can produce anywhere from NO FLOWER up to SEVERAL OUNCES OF USABLE FLOWER.

FROM OUR EXPERIENCE using off the shelf standard home growing equipment; A home grower can expect to get 4 to 8 ounces from 2 plants flowered in a 4 foot by 2 foot growing tent for each period of 9 weeks, OR ABOUT 20 TO 40 OUNCES PER YEAR. Again, there need be MANY PLANTS (i.e. 10) in vegetative state to support a continuous cycle which preserves the genetics of a few desired strains. Having fewer than 12 total plants will make it extremely difficult to not lose whole genomes.

Outdoor growing is different, but around here most anything outdoors is less likely to survive and likely to be eaten by animals or stolen.

HOME GROWERS SELLING IT? NOT LIKELY

It is WILDLY ILLOGICAL and there is SURELY NO REASON TO WORRY ABOUT HOME GROWERS SELLING CANNABIS.

It costs us about \$150 PER OUNCE to produce it, yet...

The dispensary price is \$130 PER OUNCE

We would lose money if we sold any of our home grown crop at current prices.

A final note on yield is that HOME BREWERS are allowed to brew 200 GALLONS of beer per year, which is excessive for any 2 people. 40 ounces of cannabis is much less than an ounce per week which is barely sufficient.

CHANGING THE TAXATION RATE

Ohio sellers are already having trouble competing with Michigan prices. Raising the tax rate will merely drive more people to illegally cross state lines to purchase cannabis, taking that money away from Ohio businesses and CREATING NEW CRIMINALS.

Changing the rate also subjugates the voters intentions which were CLEARLY stated in the ballot measure.

CHANGING WHERE THE MONEY GOES

This is THREE CARD MONTY that wholly VIOLATES THE INTENTIONS OF THE VOTERS. We know how to read, and the measure is the language which Ohio voters agreed upon. Re-appropriation violates the measure's intentions even if the idea is popular in this forum here.

SUMMARY

There seems to be two intentions with SB56; both are unscrupulous:

1. Push people into inferior unregulated and, in my opinion, chemically contaminated dispensary cannabis. The unregulated nature of contents which indeed is an issue the Division of Cannabis Control and this body SHOULD be working on.
2. Prove this legislature can get away with "editing" the voters intentions by editing the ballot measure. This legislature has no authority to override the voice of the people.

THE RESULTS

1. SB56 will create new criminals of people who are wholly legally compliant today.
2. SB56 will DEPRIVE medical home growers of their ability to grow what they need.
3. SB56 will cost Ohio businesses customers and profits.
4. SB56 will put Ohio growers, sellers and breeders at a deficit compared to those in other states by encumbering them with poorly designed legislation.
5. SB56 violates the intentions of Ohio citizens who voted assuming their intentions would be honored.

EXHIBITS

See the attached photos to clarify.

Exhibit A: A cannabis leaf

Exhibit B: Cannabis flowers

Exhibit C: 2 Flowering Home Grow Cannabis Plants (in Week 6)

Exhibit D: 10 Vegetating Home Grow Cannabis Plants

Exhibit A:



Exhibit B:



Exhibit C:



Exhibit D:



This document was written and assembled by me, Jeffrey A. Trott for the purpose of communicating my testimony to the Ohio Senate. Everything is truthful to the best of my knowledge and I stand by all information presented.