

## **SB 86 Testimony**

**3/19/25**

Please accept these written comments in OPPOSITION to Senate Bill 86.

Good afternoon, Chair Roegner, and members of the Senate General Government Committee. My name is Robert McClure. I am a United States Marine Veteran and owner of SUNMED | Your CBD Store Centerville and Deerfield Township, Ohio. My business has proudly served our communities since October 2019; providing high-quality, hemp-derived wellness products that improve lives. All while contributing to the local economy. Over the past 5 years, my staff and I have had the pleasure of serving just under 40,000 SUNMED | Your CBD Store customers, thousands of whom I have personally helped.

Senate Bill 86, which proposes THC limits of .5 mg of Delta 9/serving, 2 mg of Delta 9/package, would put myself and many others who are doing it right, out of business. Our Full Spectrum CBD products are 90% of what our customers use. They are absolutely instrumental to our business. All SUNMED products are legal and fall under the parameters of 0.3% THC threshold set by the Farm Bill. Our number one product sold, a 3000mg Full Spectrum Tincture, has approximately 2.5mg of THC per serving. Each bottle is formatted as a 30-day supply, containing approximately 75 mg of THC. Numerically speaking, that may seem like a lot. What's being misunderstood is the 40:1 ratio of CBD to THC. Not to mention this ratio is diluted in coconut oil, which is not something wherein serving sizes would be abused. So, what does that mean?

Well, I have to give you a quick science lesson for you to understand this. We all have cells in our body with hair like follicles called receptors. When people use THC products, it binds to their receptors causing a psychotropic effect. You can also build a tolerance to THC. Which means; over time it takes more of the same thing to get the same results. CBD does not bind to the receptors, it influences and conditions them so to say, making it more difficult for THC to bind. Thus, limiting the effect of THC. Note, you don't build a tolerance to CBD.

Why do you think the dispensaries sell marijuana in so many different ratios? Some people like the extreme effects and others do not. Some are not

looking for an effect at all. Everyone's physiology is different. The people walking into our stores are not looking to get high, they are looking for relief. Most of our customers will not go to a dispensary for a multitude of reasons. On occasion we run across people who think they want to try THC for their problems, and they quickly learn there are better ways. You have the option of covering up the issue or strengthening your body's ability to take care of the source of the problem.

Let's refer back to the 40:1 CBD to THC ratio. That ratio equates to 3000mg CBD to 75mg of THC, meaning you are NOT going to have the same effects from that 75 mg of THC, as you would without the presence of CBD. This has been proven in many studies. One you can look up is with the **National Library of Medicine National Center for Biotechnology Information**, under; **Cannabidiol Modulation of Antinociceptive Tolerance to  $\Delta^9$ -Tetrahydrocannabinol**. There are also a few that contradict these studies that lack credibility in actual live case studies. So, the most frustrating part is minimal education and experience.

I want everyone to understand that I am not testifying against THC. It absolutely has its place, like I said before, our number one seller is a 3000mg Full Spectrum oil that contains THC. The therapeutic and medicinal benefits that come from the combination of plant compounds, is what gives our customers such great success. However, when people use marijuana derived products, all they're doing is covering up their issues. The reality of it is, when those effects from THC wear off, whatever issues you were targeting are still there. They didn't go anywhere. Most people are using THC for recreational use, under the premise of medical marijuana.

I need the Senate Committee to know that those of us doing it right are not against regulation. We are against the products in our industry being put into the hands of dispensaries. They have no business there and require much more education at the point of contact. SB 86 is NOT taking the right approach. Do you really think the dispensaries are going to properly educate people on the use of CBD? Everyone KNOWS THEY ARE NOT. It's not what they do.

So, I'm sure you're up there wondering, "What is the right way to do it?" In our stores, we spend 20 to 45 minutes educating all new customers who walk

through our doors. We educated them on what CBD is, how it works, and the different extracts. We also educate them on all the different options and based on what they tell us, we make suggestions. This way, they don't waste their money and they can make the BEST educated decision for themselves. This is a prime example of the responsible way to do it. I promise you that will not happen in a dispensary with any THC product, let alone any CBD product. I say this based on first-hand knowledge. I've been to several dispensaries in Colorado, Michigan, and Ohio; and I've witnessed the lack of information given with their products. As I've stated before I have close to 40,000 customers, and that is just the tip of the iceberg in regard to people looking for relief. Our communities deserve access to the very best education that our stores provide. Passing Senate Bill 86 will shut down the line of education from our stores.

We require customers to be 21 years of age or older to purchase our products. Each one of our products are Third-party tested and are the absolute highest quality in the industry. I invite each and every one of you to visit my stores. That way, you can see the safest way to help people find the relief they are looking for, not just steer them in a direction of getting high. I would even encourage you to send a secret shopper to my stores and have them give you a full report.

I believe our State can adopt a more balance approach to address concerns about intoxicating hemp products and more importantly necessary hemp products. We can mandate child proof packaging. We can implement an extensive out of state, product registration process to approve or deny certain products being sold in our state. We can establish reasonable THC mg limits and regulations to protect public safety, while allowing small businesses to thrive. It's imperative that we have the ability to sell a 30-day supply. Hemp should not be sold in stores that do not have the capability to educate thoroughly.

We are the largest dedicated, brick and mortar CBD store in the world. My Centerville, Ohio store has been ranked in the TOP 20 nationwide since our doors opened in 2019. We have NEVER claimed and/or given the impression of being a

dispensary or anything else. The fact that we are even categorized with these irresponsible individuals is frustrating to say the least.

After listening to last week's proponent testimonies, it's clear people from another industry were testifying to eliminate competition, and that is wrong and unethical.

As a business owner, I am committed to providing safe, rigorously tested products that support the wellbeing of my customers and my community. My stores comply with all state and federal regulations, ensuring that the products we sell are safe, effective, and responsibly marketed.

I truly believe that we can come up with more reasonable terms for regulation, opposed to putting a multitude of CBD Stores out of business.

Thank you for your time. If anyone has any questions, I will be happy to answer them.

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