



OHIO COUNCIL OF
RETAIL
MERCHANTS

March 25, 2025

The Honorable Kristina Roegner, Chair
Senate General Government Committee
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chair Roegner and members of the Committee,

The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants appreciates the opportunity to share written-only
opponent comments on Senate Bill 86.

Instead of the direction that SB 86 takes, we urge the Ohio General Assembly to enact a regulatory framework for the sale of adult-use hemp products akin to one that will soon be introduced in the House. Our members have responsibly sold a range of legal, non-consumable hemp products for quite a few years now. We are unaware of any of our members selling consumables with a high concentration of THC, marketed in packaging to entice children to purchase them, and we do not support the sale and marketing of such products. We believe the regulatory framework should prohibit such sales, as well as require testing for appropriate THC levels for products sold in a non-dispensary, retail establishment.

We also encourage regulations that would permit our members to sell adult-only consumable products sometime in the future with an accepted level of THC as the market for such products develops. Our members' POS systems verify age before purchase, employees are trained to prevent underage sales, and they display signage that indicates age verification. Thus, they are well-positioned to comply with any regulations Ohio adopts for approved, adult-use products.

We hope the Committee will agree that a free-market, regulatory approach is better for Ohio businesses than expanding the current monopoly that marijuana dispensaries enjoy.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our opposition to Senate Bill 86. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me to discuss our position further.

Sincerely,

Lora Miller
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