

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY &
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
January 29, 2025

Kai Luke, Community Advocate
Cannabis Society of Hawai'i (CSOH) Member

Transparency Statement

- **Funding Sources:** I have no external funding sources to disclose for this presentation.
- **Industry Affiliations:** I do not receive funding from the pharmaceutical, alcohol, or tobacco industries.
- **Organizational Stance:** This testimony reflects my personal views and does not constitute an official position of the Cannabis Society of Hawai'i.
- **State-Level Regulatory Work:** While the presentation may touch upon regulatory developments in other states, it does not imply endorsement of these policies by the Cannabis Society of Hawai'i.

Cannabis Society of Hawai'i Overview

- A nonpartisan community group based in Hawai'i.
- Not a political or lobbying group.
- Project from the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges' Good Jobs Hawai'i initiative 2020
- Organized Medical Cannabis Day at the Capitol, June 14, 2024
- Primary focus is bringing community together by sharing information, education, and perspective.



Medical Cannabis Day

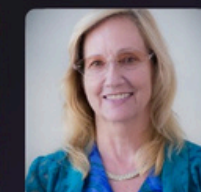
at the Capitol

Friday June 14, 2024 9am - 12pm

EVENT SPEAKERS



Clifton Otto, MD
Cannabis Healthcare Hawai'i



Amy C. Brown, PhD
Professor UH Manoa



Brent Norris
Hawai'i Patients Union



Bobby Ardila, MPAS
C.A.M.O.



Chad Miller
Mad Chiller Extracts



James Trice
C.A.M.O.



Kalei Kaanaana
Grow Guru Hawai'i



Theo Alexander, MHA
C.A.M.O.

CANNABIS
SOCIETY OF
HAWAII

For more info please visit
@cannabissocietyofhawaii



Personal History

- Born and Raised in Hawai'i
- DARE Graduate
- Kamehameha Explorations Participant
- OHA Entrepreneurship Program Participant for Hemp 2005
- UH Cannabis Research Study Participant at Queens Medical Center
- Hawai'i Medical Cannabis 329 Program Patient
- CBD Distribution 2015
- Worked in Licensed Medical Dispensary in Hawai'i 2017-2020
- Contracted to Open Medical Dispensary in Lake of the Ozarks, MO 2021
- "Best Dispensary" awarded by Missouri Magazine 2022 and 2023
- Went through ballot process and transition from Medical to Dual-Use
- Biotrack Experience / METRC Certified



Cannabis History



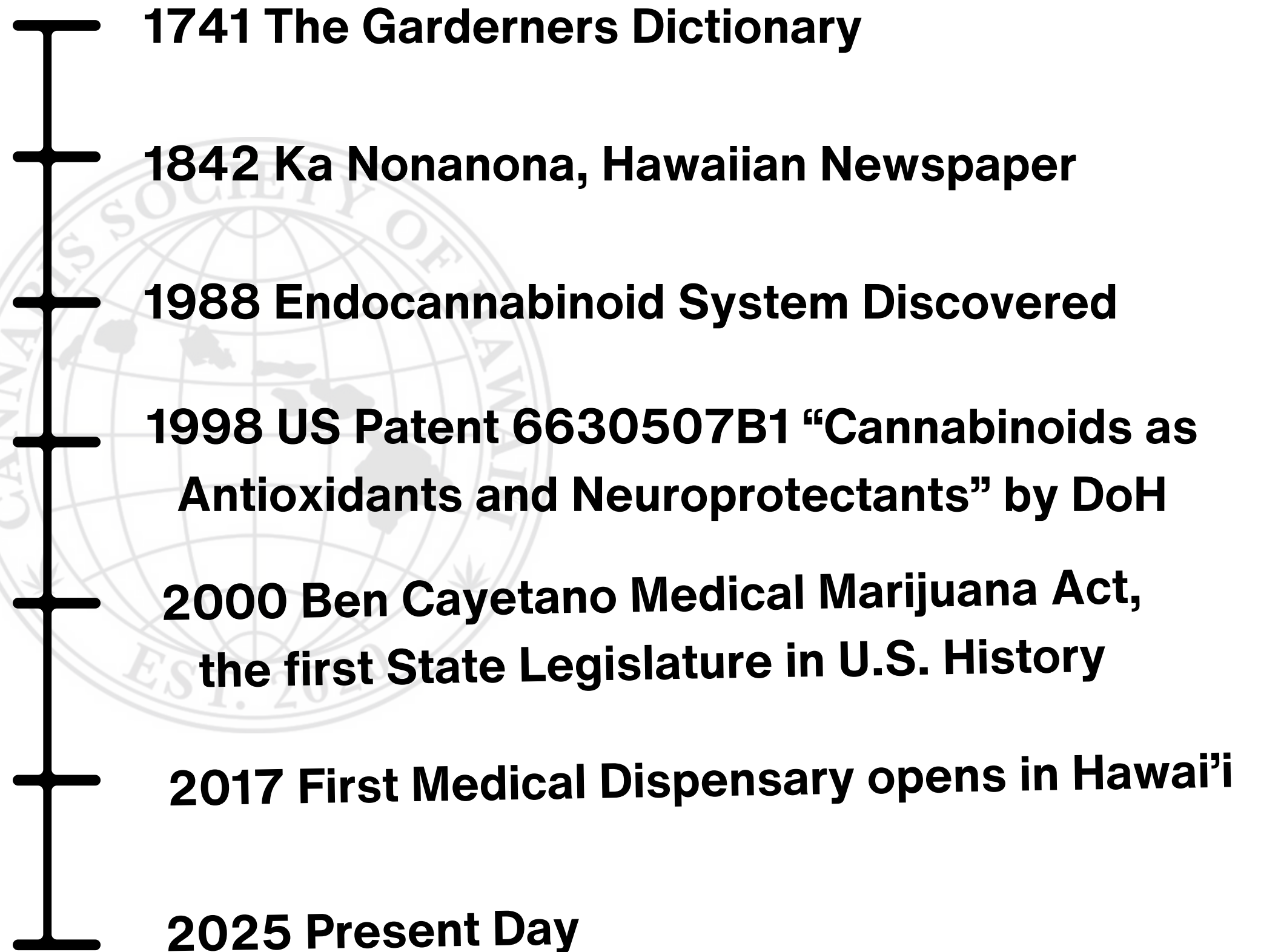
Commentary

Pakalolo's Long History, Regulated Future In Hawaii

Despite Hawaii's centuries-old appreciation for medicinal marijuana, dispensaries coming on line later this year are unlikely to make access and affordability better for patients.

By Zuri Aki, Mahealani Traub / February 19, 2016

Pakalolo is the Hawaiian word for cannabis and it literally means “numbing tobacco.” The chronicled use of cannabis in the Hawaiian Islands, appearing in the Hawaiian Language Newspaper *Ka Nonanona*, goes as far back as the year 1842 – though cannabis use probably goes back much further. Advertisements for medical cannabis continued in Hawaiian newspapers throughout the 19th century.



Workforce Development , College Training, Community Service

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Feature | Article | January 30, 2024 |

Cannabis Science and Technology |

Higher Education: Academic Perspectives on Cannabis | |

Growing Opportunities: A Look
Inside Saint Louis University's
Cannabis Science and Operations
Program

Jan 30, 2024

By Erin McEvoy

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In Spring 2023, it was named the outstanding
program of the year by the University
Professional and Continuing Education
Association (UPCEA). The award recognizes
outstanding professional continuing education
programs.



Godlewski: The Cannabis Sciences and Operations (CSO) program is comprised of six courses: Cannabis Fundamentals, Cannabis Plant Sciences & Cultivation, Cannabis Extraction & Product Production, Cannabis Compliance & Dispensing, Pharmacological Properties of Cannabis, and Cannabis Law & Entrepreneurship. All courses are taught by industry experts who are currently working in the industry in managerial roles or higher. We also have nurses, doctors, and lawyers who specialize in cannabis and CBD usage teaching courses.

Godlewski: Both education and careers are in high demand. Many students seek out our program because it is flexible, online, and taught by industry experts across the nation. Job postings in the cannabis industry see thousands of applicants. Our students have a step up in the industry when they apply with a cannabis certificate from an accredited university that has a program taught by industry leaders. Educating this emerging industry has been a key factor to legitimizing the industry and its employees.

Since its launch in 2020, the Cannabis Science program has been one of the most successful in its college, drawing students from across the United States (US).

University of Maryland School of Pharmacy
<https://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu>

Graduate Studies in Medical Cannabis

The pioneering MS in Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutics is the first graduate program in the United States dedicated to the study of medical cannabis.

Massachusetts Department of Higher Educati...
<https://ccce.necc.mass.edu>

Cannabis Education

Covers a range of topics, including: the business of cannabis cultivation, botany and genetics of the cannabis plant, seeds, germination, cloning, and much more ...

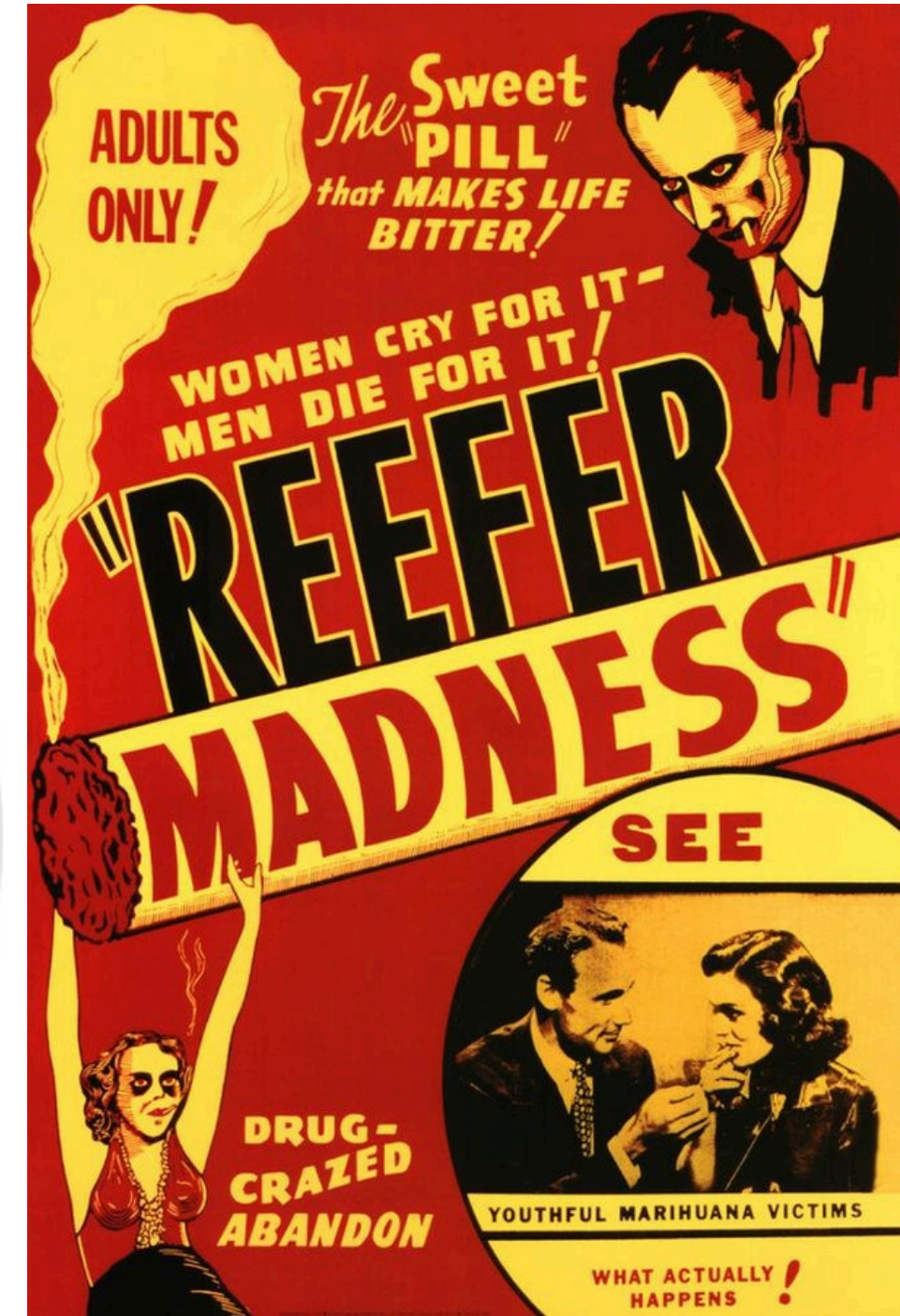
Beal University
<https://beal.edu>

Online Cannabis Degree Programs & Courses

Since 1891. Located in Bangor, Maine, Beal University has been providing exceptional, career-focused education for more than 130 years.

Roadbumps (Roadblock + Speedbumps)

- Federal Position
- Reefer Madness
- Perpetuation of Propaganda
- Law Enforcement Education
- Fear, Stigma, Miseducation
- Bureaucratic Red Tape
- Legislative Process
- Over Regulation
- High Barrier to Entry
- Public Trust
- Community Engagement and Cooperation
- Void of Legacy Farmers, Indigenous Communities and Minorities
- No clear way for Local Participation and Opportunities



Accommodations

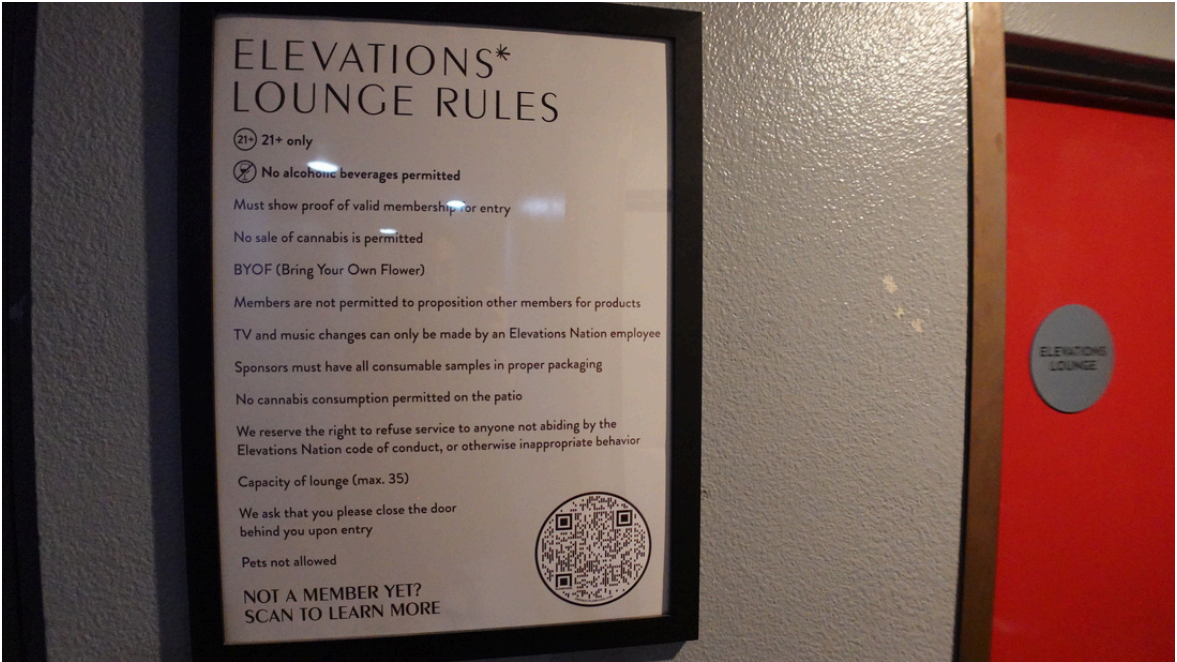


The Clarendon Hotel & Spa
<https://goclarendon.com>

Clarendon Hotel & Spa: Sophisticated Adults-Only Oasis in Phoenix


Indulge in luxury at Clarendon Hotel & Spa, Phoenix's premier adults-only retreat. Experience tranquility, romance, and sophistication in every moment.





THE FIRST
CONSUMPTION LOUNGE
IN PHOENIX

The Elevations Lounge is a safe and sophisticated space for community members to partake in cannabis, discover curated products, wind down, or recharge.



ELEVATIONS NATION
Today: 1:00 - 9:00 PM

401 W CLARENDON AVE
PHOENIX, AZ 85013

(480) 422-1099

Hours of Operation

elevationsnation.com



The Lexi Las Vegas
<https://www.thelexilasvegas.com>

The Lexi Las Vegas | 21+ Boutique Hotel in Vegas | Adults Only Hidden Gem


Luxury hotel located near the Las Vegas strip. Affordable rooms and pool cabanas. Boutique rooms and topless pool. 21+ Adults Only. Free Shows!

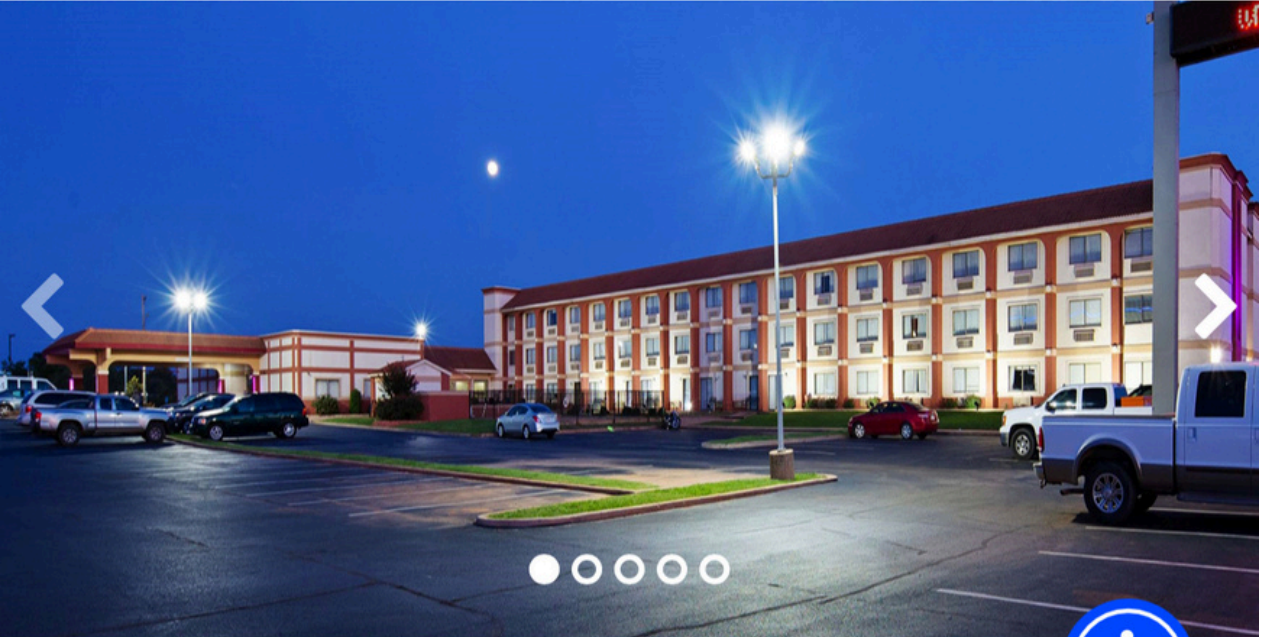


Amenities at The Lexi Hotel

Dining at The Lexi

Room





Find A Room

Arrival

01-29-2025

Departure

01-30-2025

BOOK NOW

Future Vision

- Accessible Medicine
- Public Education
- Legal Protections
- Safe Spaces
- DEI
- Expediated Licensing Programs for Native Hawaiians
- Protections for Land and Agriculture
- Local Lending Institutions or Programs
- Equity Programs / Technical Assistance
- Prioritize Indigenous Growers
- Incentives for small locally owned farms
- Special Insurance Considerations
- Focus on Hemp Homes
- Cannabis Research Center
- Cultural Recognition / Landback



Donate

A look inside an innovative hemp home on Maui

Hawai'i Public Radio | By Catherine Cruz

Published September 4, 2024 at 1:52 PM HST



LISTEN • 11:07



Hemp Home Hawaii

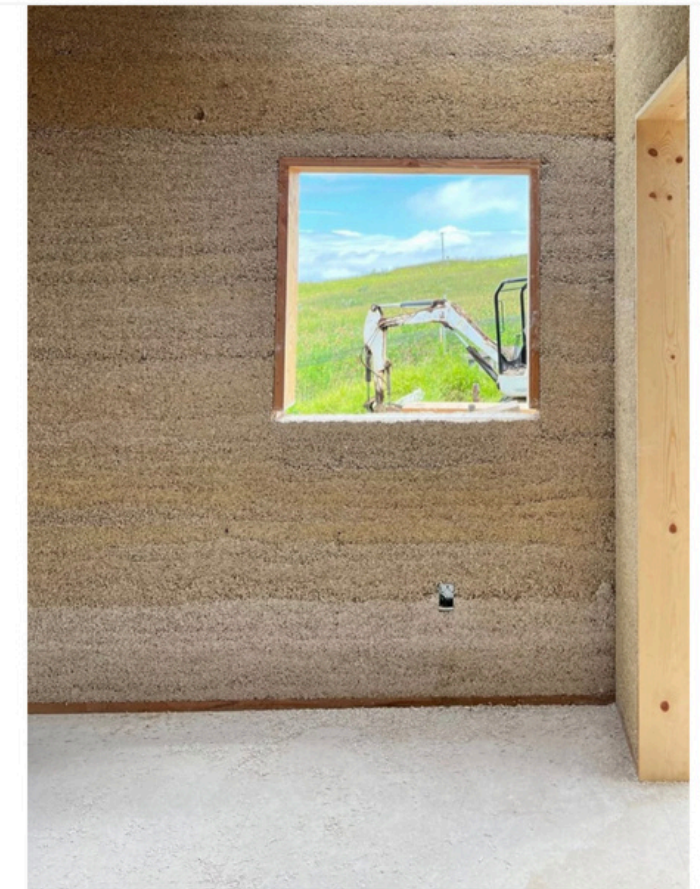
State Attorney General Matt Platkin has previously said that police officers in New Jersey are allowed to use legal cannabis while they are off duty. Aug 26, 2024

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org>

[Jersey City to face fines if it does not rehire police fired for cannabis use](#)



Donate



Hemp Home Hawaii

Hemp Home Hawaii uses hempcrete because of its environmental benefits.

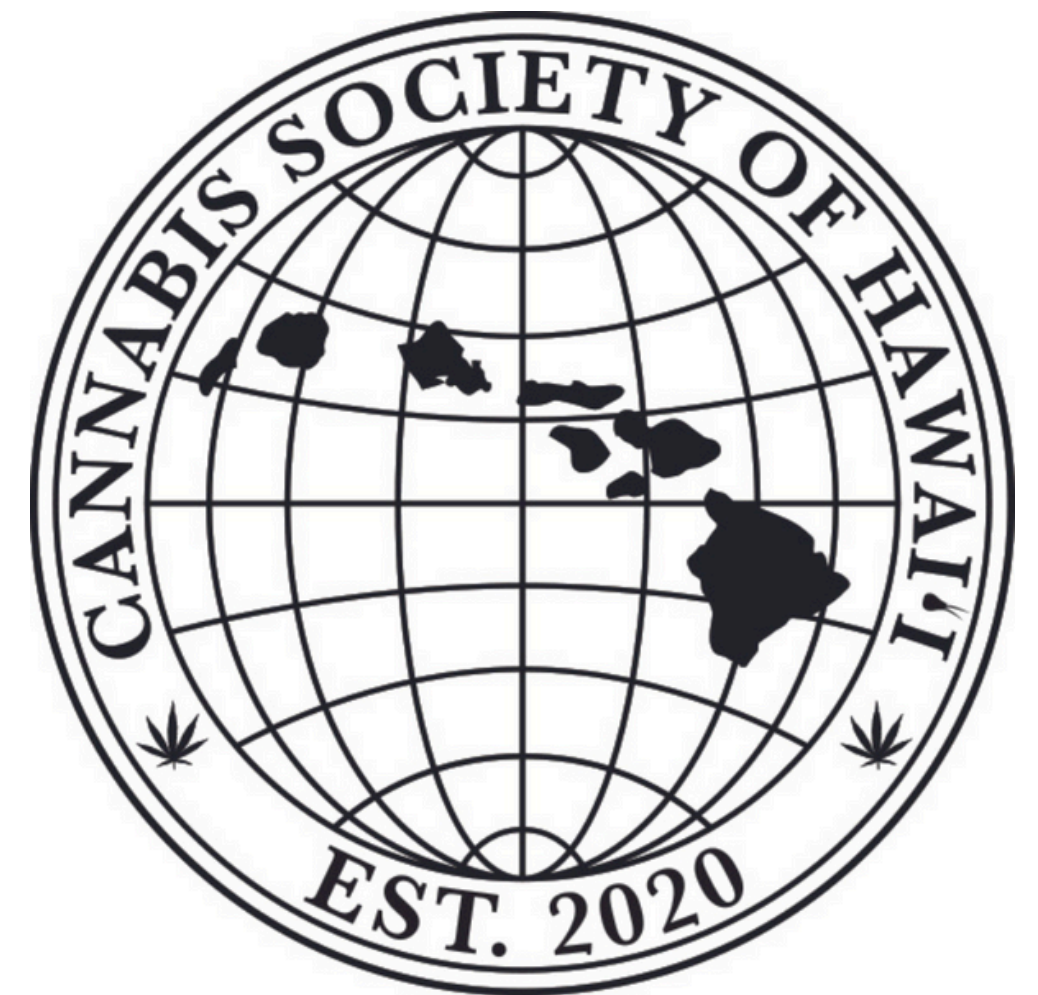
THC 911: Cannabis For Utah Emergency Workers. Did you know that Utah is the only state that allows firefighters to use medical cannabis during their off-hours? The January 2022 Utah legislative session passed SB 46.

<https://dragonflywellness.com>

[Utah Medical Cards for Emergency Workers | Dragonfly Wellness Blog](#)

MAHALO

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