



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1429_SD2_HD1
RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS**

REPRESENTATIVE SCOT MATAYOSHI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Hearing Date/Time: March 19, 2025, 2:00PM

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** No impact to the General Fund. The amendments to Act 159, Session Laws
2 of Hawaii 2018, to extend current filled exempt positions will require continued appropriation
3 of special funds.

4
5 **Department Testimony:** The Department strongly supports this measure and sincerely
6 appreciates the inclusion of our previously requested amendments in prior drafts. The
7 amendments are essential to ensuring continued patient access to medical cannabis and
8 continuity for Hawaii's medical cannabis program. Specifically, repealing the sunset date for
9 caregiver cultivation will allow patients who rely on home cultivation to maintain access to their
10 medical cannabis. Additionally, extending the sunset date for dispensary employees and the
11 interim rule-making authority is crucial for preventing job losses and significant disruption to
12 the medical cannabis program and for ensuring sufficient time to implement the relevant rule
13 changes. Lastly, we greatly value the inclusion of enforcement authority, as it is essential for
14 ensuring effective regulation in the rapidly evolving medical cannabis industry. This authority
15 with help maintain compliance, protect public health, and address emerging challenges,
16 supporting the industry's long-term stability and integrity.

17

18 We appreciate and thank you for incorporating the critical provisions outlined above.

1

2 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

OFCA opposes SB1429 SD2 HD1. If the state truly believes that the intent of the legislature as expressed in Act 241 was, and continues to be, to expand qualifying patients' access to cannabis rather than to replace existing access routes then the state must move forward with a medical cannabis program that allows licensing and more access to cannabis outside of the already over-regulated and monopolized current dispensary system. This dispensary model was a failure in its introduction. The Dispensary system is not what the citizens of Hawaii agreed to, but rather a rush, law enforcement heavy top-down decision, to get a dispensary program in place.

"The Hawaii Medical Cannabis Act of 2025" HB602/SB1595 are bills that have a defined medical system and can no longer be ignored as recreational cannabis continues to fail. Now, this bill, SB1429, introduced by Gov. Green, guides the DOH to engage in cease-and-desist orders, civil fines, and law enforcement to pursue class C felony charges. This is not how you treat the medical patients of Hawaii.

OFCA also would like to express our members' concern with Andrew Goff's recent hiring as the lead of the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation. Mr. Goff's previous position, Deputy Attorney General Deputy, State of Hawaii 2014 - Mar 2025, does not allow open-minded conversation outside of law enforcement capacity and should be considered a conflict of interest.

In regards to the rapid survey of Hawaii medical cannabis patients and providers conducted by the Department of Health in 2022, "55% of patients indicated that they obtained their cannabis exclusively from a licensed medical cannabis dispensary" is not an accurate benchmark and the survey technique clearly states the shortcomings and should not be used to influence policy decisions. Legislators should not be using bad data in bill writing and this data should be removed.

The surveys applied convenience sampling with opt-in participation, so the results do not represent the medical use program patient and provider populations. Because survey participation invitations and data collection were conducted online, only those patients and providers with internet access within the week of the survey could

participate, potentially biasing the estimates towards a segment of the patient and provider population. The number of questions was intentionally short and focused on rapidly collecting information on patient and provider perspectives and concerns. Demographic data were not collected, so it was impossible to determine the extent to which the survey participant characteristics represent the medical use program patient demographics.

Lastly, a note on the caregiver program, which was the intent of this bill, but has been diminished with all of the enforcement add ins. HLT changing the 1:5 caregiver language back to 1:1 at the request of the attorney general because "Allowing a primary caregiver to care for up to five patients would allow a caregiver to grow up to fifty cannabis plants, create unregulated, untested, untracked cannabis products (e.g., edibles and concentrates), and purchase up to twenty ounces of cannabis and cannabis products. Such a significant increase— enabling the procurement and distribution of over a pound of cannabis with minimal oversight—poses a risk of facilitating illegal commercial cannabis operations, thereby creating challenges for law enforcement." is unfounded information and the attorney general has no data to make this statement. Currently, the law allows 5 patients per site or 50 plants which is an identical situation. So 5 patient sites are also a diversion risk?

The continued banter of diversion and unregulated cannabis has no data attached to these claims which makes the statements invalid. The medical program, established over 25 years ago promised people hope and allowed patients access to medicine without continued law enforcement pressure. These hopes seem to be diminishing with these types of statements by the attorney general and Andrew Goff, which clearly shows that their office has not done thorough research and is out of touch with the Hawaii cannabis space. If there is a diversion or "bad medicine" out there then prove it. The DOH or the attorney general has no such information. Legacy growers and cannabis businesses pride themselves on access and safe medicine and have been operating for over 60 years. Introduce the "Medical Cannabis Act" and free the people

with clear rules and fairness. Stop treating cannabis users like criminals and give law enforcement direction to focus on non-cannabis issues.

I can be reached by text at 8082240510. Anybody out there, both legislators and citizens, who believe in the medical program and want to have conversations with their communities, please reach out. OCFA does not support adult use recreational cannabis. We are on the peoples' side and want to form healthy communities with medical cannabis.

Jason Hanley

President, OFCA



Akamai Cannabis Consulting

3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304
Honolulu, HI 96816

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1429 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS
Clifton Otto, MD

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair
Rep. Cory M. Chun, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Room 329 & Videoconference

This bill is critical for qualifying patients on islands with a dispensary who need assistance with cultivation and is supported by Executive Order No. [24-06](#) and the Governor's request that the Legislature correct this situation.

Please note that [HLT](#) removed an important amendment that was added by HHS and kept by JDC in the Senate, which would expand the number of patients per primary caregiver from 1 to 5.

This is an important provision for patients who have difficulty finding someone who can assist them with cultivation, and this would also help patients who are unable to travel to a dispensary.

DAG and DOH are both saying that we can't have 5 patients per caregiver because that would mean 50 plants on one property. However, the law already allows five patients to cultivate together on one property, which means that 50 plants on one property is already allowed.

DAG and DOH are also saying that if a caregiver could shop for 5 patients at a time, a caregiver would be transporting 20 ounces of cannabis, since one patient is allowed to possess 4 ounces of cannabis flower, which would lead to diversion. But patients do not often purchase more than an ounce of cannabis flower at one time, which can last a few months, so even if a primary caregiver were purchasing for 5 patients at one time, it would be very unlikely that the caregiver would be transporting more than 4 ounces.

DAG and DOH are also saying that allowing a primary caregiver to cultivate for 5 patients would cause illegal commercialization of cultivation. However, 5 patients can already share in the costs of cultivation on one property without having to engage in illegal commercialization.

In addition, the enforcement provisions added to this bill during the past few committee hearings will make illegal activity much less attractive and much easier to enforce.

If this committee wishes to restore the 5-to-1 amendment to this bill, then please consider the following language:

SECTION 6. [Section 329-123](#), Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) Primary caregivers shall register with the department of health. [Every] Each primary caregiver shall be responsible for the care of [only one] not more than five qualifying [patient] patients at any given time, unless the primary caregiver is the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of more than one minor qualifying patient, in which case the primary caregiver may be responsible for the care of more than one minor qualifying patient at any given time; provided that the primary caregiver is the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of all of the primary caregiver's qualifying patients. The department of health may permit registration of up to two primary caregivers for a minor qualifying patient; provided that both primary caregivers are the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of the minor qualifying patient."

DATE: March 18, 2025

TO: Representative Scot Matayoshi
Chair, Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Representative Cory Chun
Vice Chair, Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Mihoko Ito

RE: **S.B. 1429, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Medical Cannabis**

Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room: 329

Dear Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

We submit this testimony on behalf of Cure Oahu providing **comments** on **S.B. 1429, SD2, HD1** which: 1) authorizes the Department of Health to impose penalties and take enforcement actions for violations of the medical cannabis laws, 2) retroactively repeals the prohibition against primary caregivers cultivating medical cannabis for their qualifying patients, 3) authorizes primary caregivers to cultivate cannabis in an amount not to exceed an adequate supply for the qualifying patient, 4) extends for two years the effective date of certain interim rules adopted by the Department of Health, and 5) extends for four years the sunset date for the exemption from civil service of personnel hired by, or contracts entered into by, the Department of Health.

We support the provisions of Section 2 of this bill that seek to provide Department of Health with clear enforcement tools to address cannabis operations that do not comply with the medical cannabis laws.

However, we oppose Section 4 of the bill which extends for 2 years the ability of Department of Health to have interim rulemaking powers over the medical cannabis system. The department's interim rulemaking authority was always intended to help the industry get established in the early years. Given that the medical cannabis dispensary law was enacted in 2015, we believe that the industry has matured enough that the department's interim rulemaking power is no longer needed.

We respectfully ask that Section 4 of the bill be removed from the bill in its entirety.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure.

LATE



Members of the Committee:

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii is in strong **opposition** to the recent cannabis reform efforts proposed in our state. These initiatives, touted as steps towards legalization, are in reality a complex regulatory framework that criminalizes consumers, handicaps small operators, and perpetuates a system of control rather than liberation.

The bills in question fail to dismantle prohibition; they overlay it with layers of bureaucracy. These measures endow the state with broad authority. They substantially deviate from true legalization and present government grip disguised as reform. Such provisions suggest that the state would determine who can partake, rather than empowering the populace.

Persistent punitive measures contradict any semblance of true legalization. The threat of jail time for minor offenses related to loose cannabis in vehicles and arbitrarily imposed THC limits for drivers directly contradict the principles of genuine liberty.

The bills disproportionately benefit corporate interests over local agricultural stakeholders. Testimonials from local growers have underlined these disparities, with firm apprehensions that the system teeters towards enriching the few while sidelining grassroots and small-business operators.

The new proposals worsen existing gaps in the cannabis industry, reinforcing old restrictive practices and hindering progress. As residents of Hawaii, we seek genuine reform that prioritizes liberty to the fullest extent—not superficial changes that preserve the current system under the guise of freedom.

We urge all involved to push back against these laws: understand their rules, talk about them, and speak up. Hawaii's journey toward freedom depends on everyone working together to fight these control measures and support changes that truly honor personal freedoms and real progress.

In unwavering pursuit of liberty,

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii
LPHIsecretary@gmail.com

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:43:06 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorraine Martinez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill its crazy this is my medicine!!! How dare you tell me?

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:45:17 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dolores Martinez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I will never support a dispensary system or be manipulated to do so!!!! Farm to table people!! Get it right

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 11:42:28 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Adric	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HI, this bill i oppose, there should never be any laws that would put a user or grower in jail unless an other law was broken. This is a big mistake or big corruption, The people who would like to grow and use there own medicine should not be limited by heavy law enforcement and forced to only buy from licensed despensaries. Thank you

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:12:01 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Jones	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

T

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:15:49 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff Seitel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

t

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:19:36 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoki Peralta	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

t

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:32:44 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kurvon battle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

T

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:38:00 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kellie Meheula	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 3:18:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carie Lunsford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose law enforcement involved with cannabis the plant medicine and also can be clothing and many added businesses.

Remember cannabis was crucified and told to us as lies that it was a "bad thing". A "gateway" drug. Which is a implemented term... you can look up who created that word if your interested in education.

Cannabis doesn't belong in the criminal justice system 100% of the time.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 3:34:50 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
RUSSELL D BAILY	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 3:59:23 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Francine Hennemann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi,

I am opposing this bill SB1429, I do not feel anyone should be locked up or charged for the use or cultivation of marijuana. I also feel care givers should be allow to continue to help grow and assist others who has disabilities and or cannot afford to buy.

Thank you.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 4:21:08 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephaen Delor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

0

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 4:26:18 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ed Ho	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is way too complicated for very simple issue, weed is not nearly as damaging as alcohol therefore the regulations should be less. Stop making a simple issue complicated, follow mainland examples of legalization because the corruption in Hawaii is over the top way too much, we need those for Hawaii in all departments and all agencies and all politicians. DOGE Hawaii is coming for you.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 4:32:34 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taryn Murray mccaig	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose it

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 5:37:03 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kellie mizusawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, i oppose this bill, i do not want any users or grower of marijuana to have any sort of arrest, record or jail time. thank you

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:42:10 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Franklin Manuel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I do not want there to be any fines, violations, arrests, or jail time for using or growing marijuana.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 8:44:12 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brynn Manuel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I do not want there to be any fines, violations, arrests, or jail time for using or growing marijuana.

To: Chair Representative Matayoshi, Vice-Chair Representative Chun, and CPC Committee Members

From: Robert Lawrence Bence

RE: Opposition to SB 1429 SD2, HD1, **Recommend returning to the original bill** without the SD and HD changes that will destroy the program for patients that require cannabis to survive.

Date: 3/16/2025

Aloha e Representatives,

I am a severely disabled medicinal cannabis patient. A random birth defect caused a stroke, then brain surgery that led to learning to walk and talk again as well as a seizure disorder. Growing my own cannabis is the only option to treat my condition. It's ability to reduce the damage of stroke when administered quickly, it's Neuro-protectant and anti-epileptic properties have saved my life in over 4 separate documented occasions.

As a generational, certified organic, farmer from Kula, with a hemp license from the USDA and as a member of the state hemp task force, I know how difficult it is for the state OMCCR to regulate cannabis or hemp or food or water or any of their many duties. The excessive fines, fees and unrealistic regulations are why the HDOH policy has killed the hemp industry here and the biggest remaining producers have to process Hawai'i grown hemp in other states.

If every single county, state and federal law enforcement officer were to work full time on nothing but cannabis enforcement...the state could still never reduce the use of cannabis here. We all know we have much more important criminal issues to deal with here than medical cannabis patients and caregivers.

The failure of the, federally illegal schedule 1 drug selling, dispensaries, that support the destruction of the caregiver program, are their own and that of OMCCR. Dispensaries that do not support the rights of the patients to grow our own because they believe it will increase their profits. They will lose customers because less will risk the high fines and not have a 329 card.

The low quality high prices of the dispensaries are the reason only tourists and transplants visit them. The state should not support low quality, federally illegal, cannabis sales from a handful of for-profit companies by adding fines and fees for the patients who dispensaries consider their competitors for growing our own medicine for our own use.

The patient growing and caregiver system were the basis of the entire program of medicinal cannabis that was working great until the greedy dispensaries tried to monopolize the market. The dispensaries have failed miserably. The vast majority of medicinal cannabis patients like myself would never buy the overpriced low quality cannabis sold at the dispensaries. A dispensary owner now says that at \$200 an ounce they are competitive with the black market; however, the local cannabis sells for half that and black market cannabis imported from states like California and Oregon sells here at a price of only \$100 to \$300 per pound (over 16 times less expensive than the lowest price from a dispensary!) for a similar quality as the dispensaries. The cost of growing one's own or a caregiver can be almost nothing and the patient isn't subjected to chemical pesticides allowed by the state on dispensary flower. This economic fact will ensure that even if the dispensaries were magically able to get rid of all growing within the state (impossible), they would still lose to the imports, which are also clearly impossible to stop as seen with fireworks.

The state of Hawai'i was a leader in cannabis when it was just for patients growing our own medicine and caregivers. Once the corporate greed of dispensaries started to work with professional regulating agencies that need to paint cannabis as a danger, unique from other age gated substances to keep their jobs (such as CANNRA), they have been attacking the rights of patients to grow.

The local, national and even international news were all righteously outraged to hear last year that the state of Hawai'i removed the rights of a patient to have a caregiver grow. This bill was originally designed to simply right that wrong and return the bill to its original form.

The dispensaries wanted to reduce the number of patients to 5 per site, then advocates wanted to let one person grow for five patients and then the AG/HDOH wanted fines. All of these changes are not at all what the legislature said this bill would be a simple fix to a supposed oversight, that ended the caregivers system.

The addition of incredibly high fines and fees for unspecified behavior, that would be impossible to regulate, would only scare away more patients from the rapidly shrinking number of registered patients. It would be easier to just grow illegally or buy from the import market then to grow under a 329 card and face fines, which would undermine the entire program.

Please revert this bill to its original SB1429 version to keep it simple and support thousands of patients in all of your districts that require growing our own for quality, expense and the therapeutic experience of growing.

The original bill will support commerce and consumers better than this convoluted version with the right to have a caretaker or to caretake for love instead of for profit.

The consumer has a better experience and the future ability of commerce in this space won't be negatively impacted by the state government working with for-profit sellers of a schedule 1 federally illegal drug, sold by a handful of companies that have proven to be bad at business. The couple of dispensaries that don't support the anti-caregiver bills and don't belong to HCIA are the only ones that have the respect of the original growers as well as patients who made medical cannabis possible here decades ago.

Next year we will have the opportunity to craft a federally legal cannabis bill that will uplift patients, farmers and the state as a whole; however, for now we should just keep this bill simple and revert to its original language as introduced.

I am available for any questions.

Mahalo Nui
Rob

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:35:14 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carlos Trahan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I don't support this bill and ask to vote no on it. We do not need to criminalize an act of providing healing. That we the people seek for our health and well being. Please do not support this bill...

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 4:45:02 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wailua Brandman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:44:12 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Koree Bruce	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I opposes SB1429 SD2 HD1.If the state truly believes that the intent of the legislature as expressed in Act 241 was, and continues to be, to expand qualifying patients' access rather than to replace existing access routes then the state must move forward with a medical cannabis program that allows licensing and more access to cannabis outside of the already over-regulated and monopolized current dispensary system. This dispensary model was a failure in its introduction. The dispensary system is not what the citizens of Hawaii agreed to, but rather a rush, law enforcement heavy top-down decision, to get a dispensary program in place.

"The Hawaii Medical Cannabis Act of 2025" HB602/SB1595 are bills that have a defined medical system and can no longer be ignored as recreational cannabis continues to fail. Now, this bill,SB1429, introduced by Gov. Green, guides the DOH to engage in cease-and-desist orders, civil fines, and law enforcement to pursue class C felony charges. This is not how you treat the medical patients of Hawaii.

OFCA also would like to express our members' concern with Andrew Goff's recent hiring as the lead of the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation. Mr. Goff's previous position, Deputy Attorney General Deputy, State of Hawaii 2014 - Mar 2025, does not allow open-minded conversation outside of law enforcement capacity and should be considered a conflict of interest.

In regards to the rapid survey of Hawaii medical cannabis patients and providers conducted by the Department of Health in 2022, "55% of patients indicated that they obtained their cannabis exclusively from a licensed medical cannabis dispensary is not an accurate benchmark and the survey technique clearly states the shortcomings and should not be used to influence policy decisions. Legislators should not be using bad data in bill writing and this data should be removed.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:49:13 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Asuncion	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The dispensaries are extremely expensive. I have chronic pain with both knees, lower back pain, chronic neck pain. I also suffer from depression and have ptsd.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 7:57:10 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hanna G	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose this bill, it is not for the people. Please don't allow more greed to control our medicine.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:18:46 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gary Hofheimer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:55:12 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Curtis Camacho	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 9:30:06 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Zehr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

As a concerned citizen and advocate for individual rights, I respectfully oppose SB1429 in its current form. While the intent of the bill is to expand access to medical cannabis, it introduces provisions that unnecessarily overregulate the process and infringe on personal freedoms. I believe that individuals should have the autonomy to make their own healthcare decisions, and that government intervention should be minimal and only applied when necessary to protect public safety.

SB1429 imposes severe penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation for non-compliance with regulations, as well as administrative penalties for actions deemed in violation of the law. While I understand that penalties are intended to prevent illegal activity, **the scale of these fines and the administrative measures seem disproportionate for individuals simply attempting to grow or distribute medical cannabis in ways that do not pose harm to others.**

Regulations are necessary to ensure safety, but penalties should be graduated based on the severity of the violation. For instance, minor infractions, such as an unintentional overage of cannabis plants or paperwork errors, should not lead to such extreme penalties. **The focus should be on ensuring safety** without unnecessarily punishing patients or caregivers who are working within the spirit of the law. **The state should not wield punitive measures against individuals who are not putting others at risk or who are acting in good faith.**

SB1429 also places a limit on the number of patients a caregiver can support, restricting caregivers to serving no more than five qualifying patients, unless they are a parent or guardian of a minor. While I understand the intent to ensure that caregivers can properly assist patients, this limit on the number of patients they can support **unnecessarily restricts caregivers' ability to help others**, even when they are capable of providing proper care.

Caregiving should be a personal, voluntary arrangement between patients and caregivers, and the **state should not impose arbitrary limits on how many individuals a caregiver can assist**, so long as no harm is being caused. Instead of arbitrary caps, caregivers should be allowed to demonstrate their ability to care for more patients if they can do so safely. This would maintain public safety while respecting the autonomy of both caregivers and patients.

One of the most concerning aspects of SB1429 is the restriction on the ability of patients to cultivate their own cannabis for medical use. The bill limits the ability of patients and caregivers to grow cannabis for medical use, with the requirement that cannabis must be obtained from a licensed dispensary or registered caregiver. While I understand the desire to ensure safety and consistency in the product, the state should not prohibit individuals from growing cannabis for their own medical use.

Cannabis is a plant, and individuals should have the right to grow it for personal use without the interference of government regulations. A truly free society should allow individuals to cultivate cannabis for medical use, particularly in cases where they may prefer to avoid the costs and restrictions imposed by dispensaries. This right should not be limited to patients who are unable to grow for themselves due to disability or lack of space but should extend to all qualifying patients who wish to self-cultivate.

That said, while I strongly support the right of individuals to grow their own cannabis, I acknowledge that there may be some reasonable restrictions. For example, the cultivation of cannabis should not take place in highly populated residential areas without proper security measures in place to prevent theft or misuse. However, these **restrictions should not be overly burdensome** or prevent individuals from cultivating cannabis at home for medical use.

SB1429's restrictions on the ability to cultivate cannabis and the requirement to obtain it from licensed dispensaries are also problematic from a market competition perspective. By limiting the sources from which medical cannabis can be obtained, the bill limits the ability of patients to access more affordable cannabis options. A regulated dispensary system can provide safe access to cannabis, but it should not be the sole option for patients who wish to cultivate it themselves or obtain it from a trusted caregiver.

Furthermore, **the costs associated with obtaining cannabis from a dispensary may be prohibitively high for some patients, particularly those who are on fixed incomes.** Allowing individuals to grow their own cannabis can alleviate some of these financial burdens, creating a more equitable system for those who cannot afford dispensary prices. The state should encourage a competitive and accessible market that allows patients to choose how they wish to obtain their medicine.

While I strongly advocate for the rights of patients to cultivate their own cannabis, I also understand the need to ensure that vulnerable populations, such as minors and those with significant medical conditions, are protected. However, the state's involvement should focus on ensuring safe, regulated access to cannabis for those who cannot grow it themselves, rather than imposing strict regulations that limit access for others.

The government's role should be to ensure that vulnerable individuals have access to safe and effective medicine, but it should not unnecessarily restrict the ability of capable adults to grow and use cannabis for medical purposes.

In conclusion, while I appreciate the intention behind SB1429, I believe that it oversteps the bounds of personal freedom and imposes unnecessary regulations on individuals seeking access to medical cannabis.

I urge the legislature to consider a more balanced approach that respects the rights of individuals to make their own healthcare decisions and access cannabis in a way that best suits their needs, without excessive state interference.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Zehr

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 10:19:25 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert C. Anderson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this legislation. Legacy growers and cannabis businesses pride themselves on access and safe medicine and have been operating for over 60 years. Introduce the "Medical Cannabis Act" and free the people with clear rules and fairness. Stop treating cannabis users like criminals and give law enforcement direction to focus on non-cannabis issues.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 4:53:13 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
chris	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a reside in NJ and Hawaii and it is Legal in NJ. There are so many medical conditions thc and CBD is used for and has helped with (resarch proof) many people with a variety of medical conditions. I don't k now why the gr4eat state of hawaii is slow to undrstand this. The economic incr4eased for those sstates that legalized it can also be evident to you as well. The state of Florida will be hoping on board soon and many other states so come on Hawaii, the beautiful natural state of many things, join this movement and increase your state revenue as well and make those with medical condions more comfortable in their tiime of pain and need. Thank you. C. Meehan.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 5:22:59 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael plumhoff	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: 18 Mach 2025

TO:

Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair
Rep. Cory M. Chun, Vice Chair

Rep. Greggor Ilagan Rep. Nicole E. Lowen
Rep. Linda Ichiyama Rep. Lisa Marten
Rep. Kim Coco Iwamoto Rep. Adrian K. Tam
Rep. Sam Satoru Kong Rep. Elijah Pierick

FROM: Michael Plumhoff , Deschedule.earth AUDIT Dept.

REGARDS : SB 1429

FOR THE RECORD : This Bill from the hands of KING Governor J Green , past Rockefeller physician conflict out how this piece of legislature made it to this committee is suspect and needs it's own AUDIT before you vote on it to pass through.

Power play power move happening now and needs to be addressed

CONFLICT OUT

Blake Oshiro - Public to Private

Andrew Geoff - Law Enforcement to Medical Cannabis - make this make sense ADUIT this hiring staffing placement

The people are seeing what the elite few our doing and we are doc and clock your activity and demand you C & D yourself on this opposed bill due to the abuse of power abuse of process and several FEDERAL VIOLATIONS

Why do we have to sue all the time vs open letter complaints of your back door deals you are making. # do better

witness to this abuse of power

Michael Plumhoff

Introducer(s): KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party)

Introducer(s): NAKAMURA (Introduced by request of another party)

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:07:33 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ashley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB1429 SD2 HD1.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:32:53 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marlin Ouverson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PLEASE do not act quickly on this. It is very possible Legislators are being influenced by bad data: the method to gather some data for this purpose, we're told, was an opt-in survey to a sampling of convenience. Ask *any* statistician or knowledgeable reader of such data how statistically significant that is!

Additionally, how many lawmakers have spoken with cancer patients? These are not people looking for a sideways path to getting high; many may have no other equally effective treatment.

This has profound healthcare implications. Please deny or delay this bill, it affects so many whose voices already are muffled by illness, pain, and social stigma.

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 10:26:39 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Betty L. Bodlak	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 10:52:36 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
john d snelgrove	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why do government bureaucrats and politicians waste so much time and money worrying about who is growing or smoking marijuana? Isn't there really something better you could do for the public with your time. We've been paying people to kick the same can around for so many decades. Lets try something else. Thank you. John

LATE

SB-1429-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2025 8:08:17 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
parsha l oliva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why must I be subjected to fines, penalties or arrest for providing myself with medicinal marijuana.

I oppose