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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB189 on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:01:07 AM  
**Attachments:** [SB189 150218 HTH-PSM remove marij sched 1.doc](#)

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon Riki Karamatsu	Department of the Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney	Oppose	Yes

**Comments:**

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**Date:** Sunday, February 15, 2015 3:53:53 PM

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/15/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Yoshimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Cannabis is medicine, which directly conflicts with the premise of schedule 1 status drugs. Medical doctors prescribe cannabis for treatment of pain, glaucoma, cancer, multiple sclerosis, and other serious diseases. The U.S. Government holds a patent for the active molecule, THC. We can and should right this conflict of interest on a state level by passing this sensible bill.

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**Date:** Monday, February 16, 2015 12:51:07 PM

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Turner	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brent Neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 189. Rescheduling cannabis has been overdue since 2000 when Hawai'i implemented its medical use of marijuana program and officially took a stand, recognizing that cannabis has medical value and its use is safe under a physician's supervision.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brittany Neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 189. Rescheduling cannabis has been overdue since 2000 when Hawai'i implemented its medical use of marijuana program and officially took a stand, recognizing that cannabis has medical value and its use is safe under a physician's supervision.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CAROL BAIN	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Senator Josh Green, Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair RE: – SB189 – Relating to the Medical Use of Marijuana Hearing: DATE: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 TIME: 3:30PM PLACE: Conference Room 414, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street Position: Support SB189 This bill removes marijuana from the state schedule of controlled substances and requires the Department of Public Safety to consult with the Dept. of Health in the process of finding a new, more appropriate place for it in the schedule of controlled substances. This does not effect a change in the federal scheduling of marijuana.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Susott, MD, MPH	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support removing cannabis from Schedule 1 of the DEA's list of dangerous drugs with no medical use. The fraudulent scheduling of cannabis has negatively impacted many lives and this is widely recognized now. We should be removing all criminal penalties involving cannabis. The criminalization of cannabis has cost many lives and enforcement is much more costly and dangerous than the plant itself. Cannabis has been with people for thousands of years, since the dawn of agriculture, and NO deaths have been attributed to it. Hawaii suffers under more layers of organized crime than many places and it is time to remove criminal penalties for cannabis. If you're on the wrong side of this if due, you are either uninformed, which is scary in government, or you're a crook, which is scarier.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Ruggles	Alternative Pain Management Pu`uhonua LLC	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 189. Rescheduling cannabis has been overdue since 2000 when Hawai`i implemented its medical use of marijuana program and officially took a stand, recognizing that cannabis has medical value and its use is safe under a physician's supervision.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Barton MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this Bill. I second the submitted opinion and testimony of Dr Clif Otto, MD. When we condone the mis-scheduling of cannabis, as a Schedule I drug, then we enable and condone the pathological dishonesty of a fully sick narcissistic system, that refuses to show any consciousness of truth, and disrespects the integrity of its citizenry that demands the truth in ALL things.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Coll	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill removes marijuana from the state schedule of controlled substances and requires the Department of Public Safety to consult with the Dept. of Health in the process of finding a new, more appropriate place for it in the schedule of controlled substances. This does not effect a change in the federal scheduling of marijuana.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Vuong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Georgina Mckinley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB189, a bill which would remove cannabis from the current inaccurate classification as a schedule 1 drug. Science has already proven that cannabis can be used safely as an effective treatment for a growing number of medical conditions. It is legal in nearly half of the states in this country for medicinal and/or recreational use. The Department of Justice has already issued a statement, with guidelines, saying they will not interfere with states marijuana policies. Now is the time to act to de-schedule, or at the very least re-schedule, here in the state of Hawaii. I strongly support SB189, as well as ongoing measures and petitions to reschedule cannabis on a Federal level.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB189 on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM  
Date: Saturday, February 14, 2015 9:16:19 PM

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/14/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jari S.K. Sugano	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SB189 Chair Green, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the Senate Health Committee, I thank you for this opportunity to provide my personal testimony in strong support of SB 189. Many recommend that medical marijuana be dispensed at a licensed pharmacy. Yes, while the community may feel more at ease with cannabis being dispensed at the neighborhood pharmacies, the truth remains that cannabis remains a wrongfully categorized schedule 1 drug. It is currently placed in the same group as heroine, LSD, and ecstasy and is said to have no medicinal value. As such, until cannabis is rescheduled, moving Hawaii's medical marijuana program forward is nearly impossible. Simply put, the Schedule 1 status of cannabis restricts the advancement of Hawaii's medical marijuana program as opposition constantly uses it's Schedule 1 category to halt any forward movement. A review of the 1999 National Academy of Science report, Marijuana and Medicine, verifies that there is therapeutic value in cannabis and called for more advanced research. In 2014, the Epilepsy Foundation of America called for an end to DEA restrictions. Enter 2015, the American Academy of Pediatrics recently called for the rescheduling of marijuana to increase research based information. Increased research may help many obtain a better understanding about cannabis and it's medicinal benefits. These improvements in knowledge, understanding and attitudes is necessary to bring about much needed change in Hawaii. In Feb 2015, Vivek Murthy, the new Surgeon General, stated that marijuana likely has some medical benefits. "We have some preliminary data showing that for certain medical conditions and symptoms that marijuana can be helpful," He also stated, "We have to use that data to drive policy making." Rescheduling cannabis would enable an increase in highly sought after, science based data, increase access, benefit the lives of those with serious medical needs and finally acknowledge the medicinal benefits of this plant to policy / decision makers here in the State of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for SB189.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalawai'a Goo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalawai'a Goo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Alohilani Hue Sing	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please vote YES to support SB189. This bill removes marijuana from the state schedule of controlled substances and requires the Department of Public Safety to consult with the Dept. of Health in the process of finding a new, more appropriate place for it in the schedule of controlled substances.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathleen Luiten	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB189 and allow a responsible and accurate re-categorization of this substance. The great majority of studies, experts and historical evidence shows cannabis when used in moderation is a relatively mild intoxicant and FAR LESS DANGEROUS THAN ALCOHOL. Recent studies of driving under the influence of marijuana surprised the experts by showing absolutely no greater incident of accidents than driving sober. Clearly this substance should be granted a status equal to the current control for alcohol use. And perhaps alcohol should be upgraded and more restricted given its terrible cost in lives on our highways and violence in our families. But that's another subject, and rife with the same crime-promoting pattern that prohibition of marijuana has generated. Please regulate rather than prohibit the use of this substance that is now a common and well accepted drug in our society.

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## **HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
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TO: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

DATE: Wednesday, February 18, 2015  
TIME: 3:30 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 414

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association  
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director  
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

### **Re: SB 189 RELATING TO SCHEDULING OF MARIJUANA**

#### **Position: SUPPORT**

Chairs & Committee Members:

The HMA strongly supports this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

#### *Officers*

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Immediate Past President – Walton Shim, MD, Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD  
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO*

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leah M. Koonce	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am submitting testimony in support of this bill because science and medical evidence will show that cannabis does not belong as a Schedule I drug. There have been studies for decades showing the medicinal properties of this plant. Our federal government owns the patent on cannabis and our federal government also has been growing cannabis at the University of Mississippi and distributing this government grown cannabis to a few select patients from a program that no longer accepts new patients. Based on this and all other available studies showing the beneficial medical qualities of cannabis, the current schedule status must be adjusted to the correct schedule. Thank You. Leah M Koonce (808)561-9521 85-638 Farrington hwy Waianae, Hawaii 96792

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Landes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB 189. Marijuana has been shown to have medical value, and as such, should not be classified as a Schedule 1 drug. Medical marijuana patients are using medication prescribed by their doctors for their individual medical conditions. By removing it from Schedule 1, these patients will be better able to access their medicine.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Park	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/15/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Bacher	Green Futures	Support	No

Comments: Rescheduling is a very important technical step towards treating medical cannabis the way the FDA would if it were doing its job. It will help labs, banks, and insurance companies to get involved if they are interested.

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roger Christie	The Hawai'i Cannabis (THC) Ministry	Support	No

Comments: @@@ Dear Senators, Aloha. Please be advised that my wife Share and I strongly SUPPORT SB 189 to remove marijuana from Schedule 1. We recommend that it be DE-scheduled and left UN-scheduled as the Founders of the USA had it and as the Constitution demands. Cannabis hemp, or marijuana has been wrongly classified as a Schedule 1 substance in state or federal law. It's removal from the restrictions of Schedule 1 is long overdue. It's high time that we revalue Cannabis hemp from illegal to essential and use it to its full capacity to provide as much health, wealth and happiness to "We the people" of Hawai'i as possible. My wife and I testifying for The Hawai'i Cannabis (THC) Ministry recommend that Cannabis hemp, or marijuana be DE-scheduled and left UN-scheduled. We recommend that it's allowed to be grown, possessed, transported, used and sold freely throughout the state for all of its known and unknown benefits. Please join us in supporting SB 189. Thank you. All the very best to everyone, Roger and Share Christie [www.thc-ministry.org](http://www.thc-ministry.org) [www.the-last-marijuana-trial.com](http://www.the-last-marijuana-trial.com) @ @ @

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [shannonkona@gmail.com](mailto:shannonkona@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB189 on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 14, 2015 8:05:48 AM

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/14/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ninja01@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:ninja01@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB189 on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 15, 2015 12:06:24 AM

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**SB189**

Submitted on: 2/15/2015

Testimony for HTH/PSM on Feb 18, 2015 15:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stuart saito	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It should be removed from schedule one classification, as it does have its medical uses and is proven beneficial, and medically viable.

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February 17, 2015

**To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

**To: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Senator Will Espero, Chair, Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

**From:** Wendy Gibson R.N.

**RE Hearing:** Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 3:30PM

**Conference Room 414** State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

**Support – SB189 – Relating to the Scheduling of Marijuana**

Dear Senate Chairs Green and Espero and Vice Chairs Wakai and Baker and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB 189. In order to qualify as a Schedule I controlled substance, the substance must have **no accepted medical use**, and must have the highest potential for abuse. Marijuana does not meet these criteria.

Because marijuana has been inappropriately (and unscientifically) classified as a Schedule I substance, I believe that a review should be done to establish which classification is the proper one.

As you know, marijuana has been recognized as a medicine in the State of Hawaii since 2000. This is inconsistent with the current scheduling on both a State and Federal level.

Please support SB189 which requests a review (at the state level) and provides an acknowledgment that Hawaii's legislators sanctioned the medical use of marijuana in the State of Hawaii, nearly 15 years ago.

Thank you,

Wendy Gibson R.N.

P.S. On a Federal Level rescheduling is endorsed by **many** professional organizations including The **American Academy of Neurology**, a **professional** organization of over **28,000 practicing neurologists and neuroscientists**, as well as The **American Academy of Pediatricians** (with **60,000 Pediatrician members**).