

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 6:35:25 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha lawmakers,

I SUPPORT HB1843, which Authorizes the manufacture and distribution of cannabis seeds and cannabis clones by medical cannabis dispensary licensees, because **after TWENTY YEARS of WAITING** - cannabis Patients need legal access to seeds, and clones!

However, cannabis needs to be legalized!

For the last two decades, Hawaii has been enforcing laws UNEQUALLY upon cannabis consumers, sending some to jail for cannabis crimes, while selling other citizens, (and visiting tourists), a "stay out of jail" card, from the "criminal activity" of consuming cannabis!

THIS VIOLATES HAWAII'S CITIZENS RIGHT TO EQUAL JUSTICE!

Cannabis consumers have been persecuted and prosecuted for generations, now Hawaii's cannabis patients are being abused for profits. Meanwhile, the opioid crisis and alcohol crisis in Hawaii continues to worsen, while citizens die.

Hawaii's PAY-TO-PAY, vertically-integrated, seed-to-sale, medical cannabis monopoly, is operated like a mafia "protection from prosecution" racket, instead of a compassionate health care program.

Poor patients are priced out of the system. While anyone with money can buy a certification, no matter what their actual physical condition, rendering any medical research completely unreliable

Hawaii needs a real medical cannabis program, AND an adult use program; two separate programs, not the "DUAL-Use" closed-program, as discussed in legislative meetings, and outlined in SB 686 SD1, which would give the entire adult-use market to the dispensary monopoly.

Hawaii's adult-use market should be legalized just as it has been operating for generations; which is thousands of small cannabis entrepreneurs, growing, processing, packaging and delivering world-famous brands of Hawaiian cannabis, and **the cannabis industry should be regulated like any other Hawaii businesses.**

Hawaii's cannabis industry should legalize the thousands of local growers that support their families, and communities by growing cannabis. Not handed over to a small group of big corporations, under the "plantation-mentality" that has destroyed Hawaii sustainability.

Brian Murphy, Director
PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME



To: Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of the Health Committee

Fr: Jaclyn L. Moore, Pharm D., CEO Big Island Grown Dispensaries

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1843

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.

Authorizes the manufacture and distribution of cannabis seeds and clones by a medical cannabis dispensary licensee.

Big Island Grown Dispensaries is one of eight dispensary licensees in the State. We operate a production facility and 3 retail locations on the Big Island of Hawaii. We submit testimony today **in support of HB1843** which provides a legal channel for patients to obtain seeds and clones through a licensed dispensary **with a requested amendment to the definition of lozenge.**

Seeds and Clones:

Big Island Grown Dispensaries respects a patient's right to grow for themselves. The passage of this bill helps patients that will ultimately choose to grow for themselves because of a number of reasons including geographical distance, financial, or cultural. We seek the ability to provide safe and proven genetics to this group of 329 cardholders by dispensing proven phenotyped clones that are clean and tested. This enables a patient to obtain strains with the medicinal properties for which they are seeking while minimizing the risk of unwanted pests and pathogens, such as powdery mildew, from being introduced into a homegrown environment.

Lozenge definition:

A widely accepted definition of **lozenge**, as used in pharmacy, is a solid preparation that are intended to dissolve or disintegrate slowly in the mouth which may contain one or more medicaments usually in a flavored, sweetened base. Lozenges can be used for both localized effects in the mouth, and for systemic effect if the drug is well absorbed through the buccal lining or is swallowed. Lozenges may hard, soft, or chewy in consistency, and can be made by molding or by compression.

<https://pharmlabs.unc.edu/labs/lozenge/lozenges.htm>

We appreciate the committee for hearing this bill today.

Aloha,

Jaclyn L. Moore, Pharm.D.

CEO Big Island Grown Dispensaries

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Submitted on: 2/3/2020 5:53:34 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Miles W. Tuttle	Kush Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1843

Submitted on: 1/31/2020 9:07:30 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Stacy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Patients NEED this, in order to grow the medicine they cannot afford. A lot of patients are truly disabled, and the prices in the dispensaries are simply too high for someone on a fixed budget. Many older, poorer, patients are forced to enlist the help of caretakers, simply because it's impossible for them to obtain seeds or cuttings. Conversely- when caretakers ARE truly necessary, for someone physically and financially unable to grow or use dispensaries, it matters even MORE that the caretaker have access to quality plants. Having female cuttings available eliminates the need for a lot of plants that will simply be discarded in the production of a suitable female plant to produce cuttings from. Making cuttings available reduces the likelihood of overplanting, by patients worried they won't have 10 desert plants, after plants identify sex and characteristics. SEED IS VITAL! Not all varieties of cannabis will thrive in Hawaii, and the ones that are exceptionally adapted, do not thrive in every location. As an agricultural professional, I assure you that genetic variability in an agricultural crop is extremely desirable! I've lost 2 cannabis crops in a row to a pathogen called HLVD, or Hops Latent Viroid. All cannabis is vulnerable. It's vitally important to be able to obtain cannabis varieties to meet changing conditions, and restart clean plants to replace infected ones. The local seed industry exists, in the grey area of the law, and 100% of the parties I've interviewed [I am a writer] wish to enter the legal economy and become constructive tax paying, legally compliant businesses. Limiting seed sales to the seeds produced by dispensaries would be a serious ERROR. The genetic variability available from these parties is the result of decades of breeding in a great many cases, and the efforts will not be reliably reproduced in the indoor growing conditions of the dispensaries. Bring the seed and cutting industry into legal existence BY ALLOWING THE DISPENSARIES TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH LEGALLY COMPLIANT GROWERS IN THE COMMUNITY! As someone who spent a decade in prison for a closet full of pot sprouts, at the height of the war on cannabis, and who had his SKULL SHATTERED against a cinderblock wall by corrections officers, I implore you to think with a merciful heart when considering this bill. Prisons are factories where monsters are made, and it's simply inappropriate to send someone into that kind of HELL for growing flowers.. even IF they smoke them. If you vote against this bill, or legalization in the larger picture, be quite certain- your vote against this simple freedom, is a vote in support of persecution and torture, in the name of unjust laws. The individuals who grow plants for the sick and those in true NEED, are at the greatest risk of the harshest prosecution, based on plant counts. There are many people like myself, crippled by prison. I did not let them break my soul, and I remain a kind and decent human being. I did not allow prison to change

that. I have dedicated my life to the cultivation and breeding of rare and desirable cannabis cultivars. I grow the same strains that I once came close to being MURDERED by authorities for growing. I win. Join me, on the right side of history, and vote for a legal seed and cuttings industry in Hawaii. Place the dispensary in control of the program, and you will have LEGAL COMPLIANCE from everyone currently outside the circle of the law, and the licenses. An industry, and a global community, will applaud you. It is a choice in favor of kindness, and healing. The healing is on many levels. You have it within your power to improve many lives, in PROFOUND WAYS today. PLEASE vote in favor of this bill, and the mercy it represents. Thank you!

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/2/2020 4:08:03 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Support

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/2/2020 5:17:26 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nicholas mesce	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Nicholas mesce I am a medical cannabis card holder in the state of Hawaii and I support the bill. Not having seeds or clones available is a disservice to medical patients, it forces them to seek abnormal and unsafe ways to acquire this medicine.

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 6:29:40 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha lawmakers,

I SUPPORT HB1843, which Authorizes the manufacture and distribution of cannabis seeds and cannabis clones by medical cannabis dispensary licensees, because after TWENTY YEARS of WAITING - cannabis Patients need legal access to seeds, and clones!

However, cannabis needs to be legalized!

For the last two decades, Hawaii has been enforcing laws UNEQUALLY upon cannabis consumers, sending some to jail for cannabis crimes, while selling other citizens, (and visiting tourists), a "stay out of jail" card, from the "criminal activity" of consuming cannabis!

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meetings, and outlined in SB 686 SD1, which would give the entire adult-use market to the dispensary monopoly.

Hawaii's adult-use market should be legalized just as it has been operating for generations; which is thousands of small cannabis entrepreneurs, growing, processing, packaging and delivering world-famous brands of Hawaiian cannabis, and should be regulated like any other Hawaii businesses.

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HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 11:09:53 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Siefman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1843, addressing lines 14-21 on Page 3 talking about clones & seeds, this will open up a new market and work area/ new jobs for the dispensaries.

Cloning/propagation can have a steep and unforgiving learning curve, so only experienced farmers/growers should be hired for these positions. This also offers a huge chance to patients that want to grow & cultivate their own medicine at home. A lot of patients want to grow their own medicine, it not only gives them a chance to see where their medicine comes from but deepens their understanding and relationship with the plant, which is critical for progress and healing. Cultivating medicine at home is a fun, rewarding challenge and every medical patient should be able to have access to clones and seeds so they can be responsible for their own medicine and how they want to grow their medicine. This will give dispensaries a chance to make money selling clones as a product, along with their other products

LATE

HB-1843

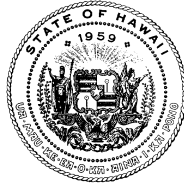
Submitted on: 2/3/2020 6:52:45 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Honda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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BRUCE S. ANDERSON, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

LATE

**Testimony in OPPOSITION to H.B. 1843
RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS PRODUCTS**

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Room Number: 329

Fiscal Implications: Unable to determine at this time.

Department Testimony: The Department of Health (DOH) appreciates the intent of this measure to improve patient access by amending the State's medical cannabis dispensary system to allow licensed dispensaries to distribute cannabis seeds and cannabis clones, however, DOH OPPOSES HB1843 for the following reasons:

(1) **Does not appear to comport with the Legislature's intent in establishing the regulated statewide dispensary system.** In 2015, the Hawaii Legislature established a statewide dispensary system for qualifying patients who lacked the ability to grow their own supply of cannabis. Authorizing the licensed dispensaries to distribute cannabis seeds and clones to allow patients to grow cannabis plants appears to be a departure from the Legislature's intent of establishing a dispensary system for patients unable to grow cannabis plants.

(2) **Allows the purchase of unlimited numbers of cannabis seeds and clones.** Section 329D-13, HRS, specifies that a qualifying patient, primary caregiver, qualifying out-of-state patient, or caregiver of a qualifying out-of-state patient "shall be allowed to purchase no more than four ounces of cannabis within a consecutive period of fifteen days, or no more

1 than eight ounces of cannabis within a consecutive period of thirty days." However, because
2 purchase limits for seeds and clones are not specified, HB1843 would allow for purchase of
3 an unlimited amount of cannabis seeds and clones.

4 **(3) Potential for patients to exceed their statutory limit of medical cannabis.** "Adequate
5 supply" is defined in section 329-121, HRS, as an amount not to exceed "ten cannabis plants,
6 whether immature or mature, and four ounces of usable cannabis at any given time."
7 Although a patient or caregiver's home grown plants are required to be tagged with the
8 patient's registration number, home grow plant counts are not tracked within the state's
9 electronic seed-to-sale tracking system. HB1843 would allow a patient to acquire an
10 unlimited number of cannabis clones, in addition to any home grow plants, as well as an
11 unlimited amount of seeds from which many plants could be grown, creating the potential for
12 patients to exceed their statutory plant count limits.

13 **(4) Allows out-of-state patients to purchase cannabis clones in violation state law.**

14 "Adequate supply for a qualifying out-of-state patient" prohibits live plants. Since HB1843
15 defines a "cannabis clone" as a cutting or other specimen of a cannabis plant and does not
16 prohibit an out-of-state patient from purchasing cannabis clones, this measure would allow
17 out-of-state patients to violate section 329-121, HRS.

18 **(5) Risk for encouraging the illegal cannabis market.** Allowing the sale of cannabis seeds and
19 clones could tempt the diversion of legally obtained cannabis intended for medical use to
20 other than registered patients. This could significantly jeopardize public health and safety.

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

LATE

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 9:39:52 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nikos Leverenz	Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii	Support	No

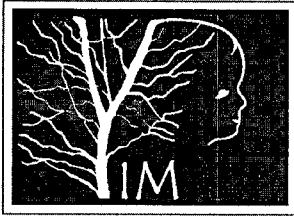
Comments:

Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i (DPFH) strongly supports HB 1843, which authorizes the manufacture and distribution of cannabis seeds and cannabis clones by medical cannabis dispensary licensees.

The provision of seeds and clones has been an established practice of patient collectives and medical cannabis dispensaries in other jurisdictions for almost two decades.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

LATE



Gregory K. Yim, M.D. LLC
Pediatric Neurology

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February 3, 2020

TO: Representative John Mizuno, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Health

FROM: Gregory Yim, M.D.

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2096 HD1

Aloha members of the House Health committee, I testify today in support of House Bill 2096 HD1, which would mandate much needed regulation of hemp-derived cannabidiol under the Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH).

As a pediatric neurologist, I care for some of our state's most vulnerable patients, children with neurological disorders. My lifelong interest in integrative medicine led me to explore the safety and efficacy of cannabinoid-based treatments for pediatric patients.. This resulted in my position as chief medical officer (CMO) for one of Hawai'i's licensed medical cannabis dispensaries. As CMO, my focus is on research and education in support of safe, evidence-based use of cannabinoids as part of an integrative therapeutic program.

My support for this bill comes from my grave concerns about the abundance of unregulated hemp-derived CBD products sold over-the-counter throughout Hawai'i. Aside from the unfounded health claims regularly made by many of these retailers, I am disturbed by the lack of regulatory oversight applied to verifying product safety and purity. In many cases, CBD products claim to be tested by independent labs outside of Hawai'i, but consumers have no way of verifying the standards, analytical rigor, legitimacy or timeliness of these remote laboratories. On the other hand, licensed labs regulated and inspected by DOH and NED are held to the high standards established by our medical cannabis regulations for independent lab testing program. Few, if any other states rise to Hawai'i's standards.

Market-driven publicity has led many to mistakenly believe that CBD is a benign compound like multivitamins. This is not true. The FDA recently updated its public advisory¹ to say there are many unknown aspects about CBD usage, including the effect of CBD on a child's developing brain, on a developing fetus, or on a breastfed infant.

¹ United States Food & Drug Administration, *Consumer Update, November 21, 2019*
<https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/what-you-need-know-and-what-were-working-find-out-about-products-containing-cannabis-or-cannabis>

In September 2019, Hawaii News Now commissioned independent lab testing of seven CBD products purchased from Hawaii retailers.² Results showed that, *in every single case*, the cannabidiol potency *did not match* the information on the label. Tests also showed potentially dangerous undisclosed additives in some products, and that some contained traces of fungus and bacteria. *One product even contained an illegal amount of THC*. This is an unacceptable risk for anyone who wants to try CBD for therapeutic reasons, but it becomes a genuine danger to any young, vulnerable pediatric patient.

For these reasons, I urge to pass HB2096 HD1 as a needed and reasonable health protection for Hawai'i's citizens, especially those who are too young to speak on their own behalf. Thank you for your consideration.

² Hawaii News Now, *HNN investigation finds bacteria, inaccurate potency in popular CBD products*
<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2019/09/12/hnn-investigation-finds-bacteria-inaccurate-potency-popular-cbd-products/>

LATE

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/1/2020 4:29:49 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariner Revell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2096. All Cannabidiol products should be tested and clearly labeled.

LATE

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 12:07:46 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chase Peneku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-1843

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 1:03:09 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donald Thomas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Now that patients can buy cannabis, it is only logical that they should be able to buy seeds and clones from the dispensaries. This will increase sales of growing materials from non-cannabis related businesses which in turn will be good for the economy.