

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

263

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2023

FEB 09

RE: H.B. No. 1217

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 1217 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to clarify and strengthen the State's medical use of cannabis laws by:

- (1) Prohibiting the cultivation, production, manufacturing, distribution, or dispensing of medical cannabis except by persons authorized under the State's Medical Cannabis Patient Registry Program or Medical Cannabis Dispensary Program;
- (2) Restricting the number of qualifying patients who may use the same grow site to cultivate cannabis to five individuals; and
- (3) Prohibiting a primary caregiver from receiving cannabis or cannabis products as compensation for acting as the primary caregiver to a qualifying patient.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement, Department of Public Safety, Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association, Aloha Green Holdings

2023-1404 HB1217 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Inc., Green Aloha, Cure Oahu, Noa Botanicals, and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and one individual.

Your Committee finds that there are gaps under existing law that allow controversial practices in Hawaii's medical cannabis industry. Your Committee further finds that it is in the best interest of public health to clarify and strengthen the State's medical use of cannabis laws. This measure will increase the legitimacy of the Medical Cannabis Patient Registry Program and better protect licensees of the Medical Cannabis Dispensary Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that inspections can be conducted of grow sites;
- (2) Changing the effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1217, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1217, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health &
Homelessness,



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



