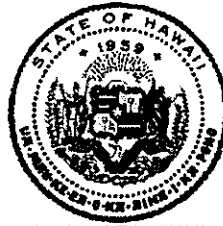


SB 113

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS RESEARCH.

Establishes a 3-year pilot medical cannabis research program in the State to provide a means by which a team of qualified researchers could undertake medical cannabis research involving local qualifying medical cannabis patients. Sunset 12/31/14.

NIEL AMBERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Blvd. 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JODIE MAESAKA-HIRATA
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Deputy Director of
Administration

Deputy Director
Corrections

KEITH KAMITA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 113
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS RESEARCH
by
Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Interim Director
Department of Public Safety

Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Friday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 PM
State Capitol, Room 224

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) does not support Senate Bill 113 that establishes a 3-year medical marijuana pilot program authorized by the PSD's Narcotics Enforcement Division, with the goal of providing a means by which a team of qualified researchers could undertake medical marijuana research on patients in Hawaii. If the primary goal of Senate Bill 113 is to lawfully allow research using the Schedule I controlled substance marijuana by qualified researchers in the State of Hawaii, Senate Bill 113 is not necessary. Section 329-32 (Registration Requirements) and Section 329-58 (Education and Research) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes already establishes laws, rules and procedures for individuals requesting to do research, using all controlled substances in the State of Hawaii. The existing procedures and laws are set up

to protect the researcher from arrest and licensing sanctions from both State and Federal law. Section 329-32(b) states: "(b) Persons registered by the department of public safety under this chapter to manufacture, distribute, prescribe, dispense, store, or conduct research with controlled substances may possess, manufacture, distribute, prescribe, dispense, store, or conduct research with those substances to the extent authorized by their registration and in conformity with this part."

Section 329-58(c) states: "329-58(c) The department of public safety may authorize persons engaged in research on the use and effects of controlled substances to withhold the names and other identifying characteristics of individuals who are the subjects of the research. Persons who obtain this authorization are not compelled in any civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceeding to identify the individuals who are subjects of research for which the authorization was obtained. 329-58(d) The department of public safety may authorize the possession and distribution of controlled substances by persons engaged in research. Persons who obtain this authorization are exempt from state prosecution for possession and distribution of controlled substances to the extent of the authorization."

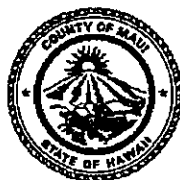
Title 23, Chapter 200, Section 21 of Hawaii's Administrative Rules relating to Production of Controlled Substances Bearing Plants: "§23-200-21(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in or be associated in any manner with or permit another to engage in the cultivation of controlled substance bearing plants or in the

production, manufacturing or processing of controlled substances unless such person holds a currently effective certificate of registration issued by the department.”

The existing procedures and requirements for conducting research with any controlled substances are already defined and accepted in both State and Federal law. Even if Senate Bill 113 were to pass as is, all researchers would still have to follow the existing Federal and State laws relating to controlled substances. For this reason, PSD requests that this bill be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor



JOHN D. KIM
Acting Prosecuting Attorney
ROBERT D. RIVERA
First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
150 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
PHONE (808) 270-7777 • FAX (808) 270-7625

CONTACT: RICHARD. K. MINATOYA
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Supervisor, Appellate, Asset Forfeiture and Administrative Services Division

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
ON SB 113 - RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS RESEARCH
FEBRUARY 8, 2011
3:15 P.M.

The Honorable Will Espero
Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani
Vice Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui opposes this measure.

SB 113 proposes a three-year pilot medical cannabis research program. This bill is unnecessary as education and research activities are already covered by HRS §§ 329-32 and 329-58, and are also governed by federal law.

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney requests that this measure be HELD. Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



the
**Drug Policy
Forum**
of hawaii

February 8, 2011

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Executive Director

RE: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m., Room 224

Position: Support

Good afternoon Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee. Thank you for hearing this measure. I am Jeanne Ohta, Executive Director of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i testifying in support of this measure.

This bill establishes a 3 year pilot medical cannabis research program in the State to provide a means by which a team of qualified researchers could undertake medical cannabis research involving local qualifying medical cannabis patients.

The state has already recognized the benefits of medical cannabis by the fact that it has legalized its medicinal use. The next step is to provide a platform on which the chemical properties and medicinal benefits of medical cannabis can be studied in a formal peer-reviewed manner. Since the program was established in 2000, aside from a questionnaire administered by the Marijuana Working Group earlier this year, there has been no formal research into the botanical and medical aspects of the plant based medicine that thousands of Hawai'i residents use every day.

From research results currently available, certain conditions respond better to particular strains of cannabis. Patients would benefit from this additional knowledge of which strain would provide them the best relief.

There is currently no legal means, either state or federal, by which researchers can conduct medical cannabis research in Hawai'i. Since cannabis is still a Schedule I substance, it is extremely difficult to get approval from the DEA to conduct research with medical cannabis. Even in the rare instance where such approval is granted, research can only be carried out with cannabis that is grown at the only federally contracted lab at the University of Mississippi. Studying the cannabis strains that are currently being used in Hawaii, not random strains that the DEA controls will most benefit patients in Hawaii.

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Institutions, such as UH Manoa, that depend upon federal grants, are unwilling to participate in medical cannabis studies for the unfounded fear that they will lose federal funding. In fact, California established the Center for Medical Cannabis Research at UC San Diego in 2000.

This bill would enable the legal research of medical cannabis at the state level, thereby providing protection for researchers from attack by the DEA or other federal agencies and establishes a mechanism whereby privately or publicly funded research corporations could become licensed to conduct state approved research projects that must comply with certain research guidelines.

It would enable licensed researchers to obtain cannabis plants so that:

- (1) the chemical properties of different strains can be analyzed under controlled laboratory conditions;
- (2) specific strains of cannabis can be grown to provide study medication for patients with particular illness and;
- (3) certified medical patients can be enrolled in controlled medical trials utilizing locally produced medicine.

Allowing research in Hawai'i would enable better patient care and increase our knowledge about cannabis. Please pass the measure. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to provide testimony.

Action the Drug Policy Group

A sister organization of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i
PO Box 61233, Honolulu, HI 96839 ~ (808) 988-4386

Dedicated to safe, responsible, and effective drug policies since 1993

TO: Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

FROM: Pamela Lichty, MPH
President

DATE: February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m., room 224

RE: **S.B. 113 RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS RESEARCH – IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committees. My name is Pam Lichty and I'm testifying in support of this measure on behalf of the Drug Policy Action Group and as Co-Chair of the Medical Cannabis Working Group which was convened last year by Senator Espero.

Today we wish to offer the support for SB 113 to set up a three year pilot program in the state to do research on medical cannabis.

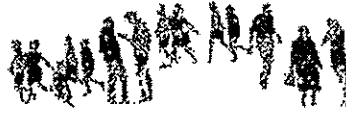
The safeguards in the program appear to be comprehensive and the research on Hawai'i-specific strains could prove very useful for patients and physicians participating in the state's medical cannabis program.

The University of California San Diego has had a free standing research institute similar to the project called for in this bill for ten years and produces a body of useful research that have added to our store of knowledge about this versatile and helpful plant.

You will no doubt hear an objection that this pilot project would conflict with Federal law, but I suggest that you research the California experience beginning with their website: www.cmcr.ucsd.edu/. Their home page says in part: "Welcome to the University of California's Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research (CMCR). The purpose of the Center is to coordinate rigorous scientific studies to assess the safety and efficacy of cannabis and cannabis compounds for treating medical conditions. The funding of the CMCR is the result of SB 847 (Vasconcellos), passed by the State Legislature and signed

into law by Governor Gray Davis. The legislation calls for...objective, high quality medical research that will "enhance understanding of the efficacy and adverse effects of marijuana as a pharmacological agent," stressing that the project "should not be construed as encouraging or sanctioning the social or recreational use of marijuana" (SB 847)."

In sum, we ask the Committee to pass this bill on to Judiciary with a strong recommendation for approval. Mahalo for hearing this measure and for the opportunity to testify.



Advocates For Consumer Rights

Working for Hawaii's consumers since 1994

George Fox, President

808- 447-9424 <afcr@hawaii.rr.com>

February 6, 2011

WHO: Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
WHAT: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
WHEN: Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 3:15pm
WHERE: Conference Room 224

Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair; Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and members of the committee, Advocates For Consumer Rights strongly supports SB 113, relating to Medical Cannabis Research for the following important reasons:

It makes sense to try and study the positive effects of cannabis, as opposed to only looking at the negative aspects, which is the current situation with NIDA and the DEA. For instance, the only positive research I could find was an article in the June 19, 2010 issue of Science News magazine on page 16 that reported components in marijuana show potential against pain, multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease and even cancer.

Since seeds and plants come from patients or caregivers in the program (and therefore within the state) it will help to study strains that are specific to this climate. Moreover, since nothing is crossing state lines there is no reason for federal agents to be involved!

The program is scheduled to end December 31, 2014...it is not clear what exactly this means. Such as, applicants can be approved until that date, or if all studies must end by that date (which mean that all research would have to be started by the end of this year, which seems difficult)?

Please pass SB 113!

Sincerely,
George Fox, President
447-942



Medicine Buddhas and Bodhisattvas
Natural Cancer Wellness Foundation
Dr. Myron Berney, ND LAC
808-392-3366



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 8, 2011

TIME: 3:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 224

SB113

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS RESEARCH.

Establishes a 3-year pilot medical cannabis research program in the State to provide a means by which a team of qualified researchers could undertake medical cannabis research involving local qualifying medical cannabis patients. Sunset 12/31/14.

In Support with considerations

Clinical Research projects involving Human Subjects are under federal control. It's very complicated and I don't know much about the process. Research on cannabis is even more controlled and regulated.

I don't know if Hawaii has any qualified physicians or research centers for this are of study.

Sorry and no offense meant to your Hawaiian Pride, Maui no ka ou, Go UH and All That Jazz but I not aware of any exceptional strains of Pakalolo hybridized in Hawaii.

Contrary to Law Enforcement there are no 35% strains, the best buds max out in the low twenties. Maui Wowie is good coming in at the mid teens.

Contrary to public misconception the average tropical environment in Hawaii is not that good for marijuana production. The pest problems in Hawaii are exceptional; the fungal problems in Hawaii are well known. Higher elevations with cooler environment would work better in Hawaii. Generally mountain top cannabis produces less weight but stronger potency buds.

Better buds are healthier and more medicinal.

With all due respect to the orginators of this bill, which I support, we, the State of Hawaii, would benefit from an Agricultural Out reach Program from the University of Hawaii. Do we have an AG school in Hawaii? Do we have a Federal home extension program in Hawaii?

We really need to develop strains in Hawaii that work well in Hawaii's tropical climate. Most of the strains are hybridized in the Northern Countries to meet their special needs, short growing seasons, colder temperatures and less pest problems.

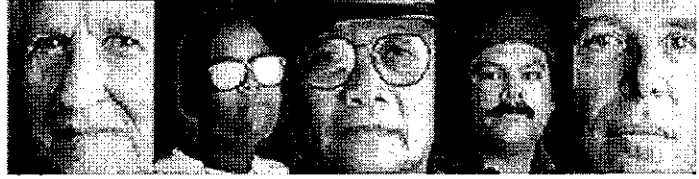
May I suggest that the UH help people grow Medical Cannabis through the ag school and home extension programs?

May I suggest a ongoing program to develop tropical strains of Medical Cannabis at the UH School of Tropical Agriculture.

The human research studies may take a long time to develop the expertise and facilities in Hawaii to receive the NIH grant and authorization to proceed.

Plant research is less restrictive than human experimentation.

May I suggest an additional section that would authorize and encourage the development and hybridization of medical cannabis strains for Hawaii's tropical environments.



475 Kinoole Street, PMB 167, HI 96720; bigislandsafeaccess@gmail.com ; 808-959-8091

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

RE: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m., Room 224

Position: **Strong Support**

The Big Island chapter of Americans for Safe Access advocates on behalf of patients residing in Hawai'i County, and we strongly support starting a pilot program to do research on medical cannabis. Despite the fact that cannabis is a schedule I drug, at the Federal level, 15 states have recognized cannabis as having medical properties. Until now, the DEA and NIDA have only granted permission to study the negative side effects of cannabis, and will not permit any study that might show cannabis in a positive light.

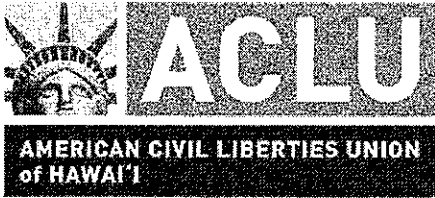
Countries like Israel, Canada and Holland have research on medical cannabis, and if we don't join in we will run the risk of falling behind in an important field. Research will lead to improved knowledge of the efficacy of cannabis, and could lead to jobs.

By having the law require the seeds and plants come from within the state for the research should mean the Federal government will not be allowed to interfere (the 10th Amendment). It would also mean that the research could be done with a variety of strains, which is not possible at the current Federal grow facility in Mississippi.

It is time for detailed research, which will help benefit patients in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Rifkin
Co-chair



Committee: Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m.
Place: Room 224
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of S.B. 113,
Relating to Medical Cannabis Research

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations and Military Affairs:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") writes in support of
S.B. 113, Relating to Medical Cannabis Research.

The ACLU of Hawaii encourages legislative actions that end punitive drug policies that
cause widespread violations of constitutional and human rights as well as unprecedented levels
of incarceration. In furtherance of that goal, we support legislation like S.B. 113 that seeks
research-based information that can better inform our state's drug policies.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in
the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation,
and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private
non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept
government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 45 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Gluck
Senior Staff Attorney
ACLU of Hawaii

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801
T: 808.522-5900
F: 808.522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

From: Jbrhawaii1@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 2:50 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: Sen. Josh Green; Sen. Will Espero; wespero@hotmail.com;
jbr@WestOahuHopeForACure.org; Jbrhawaii1@aol.com
Subject: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 113 & 175 @ 2:45 p.m. & 3:15 p.m.

Attn: Joint Committee Hearing of Health and Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

**To: Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs**

**To: Senator Josh Green M. D., Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Health Committee**

Representing both Myself: **Joseph B. Rattner, O. D., M.H.A. and CSAC**

As well as the Chronically Ill Clients of: **West O`ahu Hope For A Cure Foundation, Inc. (W.O.H.F.A.C.)**

**RE: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research & SB 175 Relating to Health
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 2:45 p.m. & 3:15 p.m., Respectively in Room 224**

Establishes a 3 year pilot medical cannabis research program in the State to provide a means by which a team of qualified researchers could undertake medical cannabis research involving local qualifying medical cannabis patients. Sunsets 12/31/14.

Transfers the jurisdiction over the medical (cannabis program) marijuana laws from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Health.

Position: Both Bills: In Strong Support

Aloha Distinguished Members of the Committee,

I am testifying today in strong support of enabling medical cannabis research in Hawaii. The state has already recognized the benefits of medical cannabis in 2000, by becoming the 1st and only State to have in fact legalized its medicinal use as a opinion of the Legislature and not from a request the Public necessarily desired. Next was to provide a platform on which the chemical properties and medicinal benefits of medical cannabis can be studied in a formal peer-reviewed manner. Since the program was established in 2000, aside from a questionnaire administered by the Medical Cannabis Working Group earlier this year, there has been no formal research, when it was the only real ways and means into the botanical and medical aspects of the plant based as a medicine & that thousands of Hawai'i residents use now every day.

Our Organization, West O`ahu Hope For A Cure Foundation, Inc., which began operating as a Hawai'i Not for Profit Agency in October of 2004, and had the formal backing and recommendations' for Federal Tax Exemption, as in I.R.S. code, 501(c) (3) recognition, as written in support from Public

Safety Chair, Senator Will C. Espero and then Senate Health Chair Senator Rosalyn Baker.

From research results, scarcely but currently available, are revealed certain environmental conditions which respond better to particular strains of cannabis. Our group Advisors, Scientists and Patients would benefit from this truly pertinent knowledge, of which strain would provide them the best relief. As an Agency making decisions for these chronically ill patients' on a daily basis, we feel confident in our ability to perform these blind cannabis studies which would fall in line with the State and Federal guidelines & permissions granted to us by the US & Hawai'i's Department of Public Safety.

During last year's 2010 Session, this very similar, almost identical request was offered to me personally, as the C.E.O. of W.O.H.F.A.C., by the then head of the Narcotics Enforcement Division and now the Deputy Head of the Department of Public Safety, Keith Kamita, which we agreed to apply for and then the Finance Committee did in fact prove and decide that Hawai'i should in fact revisit the law enacted in 2000. This was especially damaging in a sense due to the prior administration's adamant rejection to any reform of a law for people the Governor was quoted as being insignificant.

So regardless that the present law seemed to be unfinished and in fact hurtful to the disabled community, due to the lack of access or distribution available or offered to patients, along with no education to patients, physicians of law enforcement of the directions we should be providing, with every blue permission card the State dispenses, to help patients to self medicate, with a Physicians recommendation and the PSD's approval.

Organizations, specializing in the treatment both Socially and Medically for the Chronically Ill, such as the recently amended Mission of (I will enclose a copy from my web site's Mission page), West O'ahu Hope For A Cure Foundation, Inc., would be an appropriate, Not for Profit Agency, that are not bound yet bound by Federal Statute as is with some Institutions, such as UH Manoa, that depend upon federal grants & are unwilling to participate in medical cannabis studies for the unfounded fear that they will lose federal funding. In fact, California established the Center for Medical Cannabis Research at UC San Diego in 2000.

There is currently no legal means, either state or federal, by which researchers can conduct medical cannabis research in Hawai'i.

Since cannabis is still a Schedule I substance, it is extremely difficult to get approval from the DEA to conduct research with medical cannabis. Even in the rare instance where such approval is granted, research can only be carried out with cannabis that is grown at the only federally contracted lab at the University of Mississippi. Studying the cannabis strains that are currently being used in Hawaii, not random strains that the DEA controls will most benefit patients in Hawaii.

I am for the Research of Medicinal Cannabis, for all stakeholders, the risks of **not** doing so are clear. Instead of being at the cutting edge and highest revenue making state per patient from fees incurred during a chronically ill with a debilitating conditions Life, especially in these times and when the money made would be much better served in businesses of the citizens of our State and **NOT THE HANDS OF OUR DOWN THE STREET DRUG DEALER.**

This bill would enable the legal research of medical cannabis at the state level, thereby providing protection for researchers from attack by the DEA or other federal agencies.

Allowing the Research so important to the care of those with Cancer, HIV, Glaucoma and other Chronic and Debilitating Conditions, we would also establish a mechanism whereby privately or publicly funded research corporations could become licensed to conduct state approved research projects that must comply with certain research guidelines. It would enable licensed researchers to

obtain cannabis plants so that (1) the chemical properties of different strains can be analyzed under controlled laboratory conditions (2) specific strains of cannabis can be grown to provide study medication for patients with particular illness and (3) certified medical patients can be enrolled in controlled medical trials utilizing locally produced medicine.

Below my name and address I will cut and paste the amended Mission of West O`ahu Hope For Foundation, In, who also is in 100% favor of the Program being formally moved to the Department that should be responsible for the decisions of the Chronically Ill, the DOH or Department of Health.

I understand that there is another Bill that addresses that matter, so please if possible let this stand as testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT OF BOTH, SB 113 and SB 175 and hope that the Senate Committee of Health decide to officially move the Program to DOH and the Senate Public Safety, Military Affairs and Government Operations pass both these measures, with the knowledge that our Organization is ready as ever to get to work on Clinical Trials on the Efficacy's and the THC levels necessary to help patients with Multiple Sclerosis move in the morning and as well for the levels necessary to keep as chemo patient from the nausea often endured.

Mahalo, for the opportunity to testify and accept my apologies for it's' tardiness.

Peace and Aloha,

Joseph B. Rattner

91-211 Maka`ina Place

Ewa Beach, HI 96706-5101

(808) 685-6677

www.WOHFAC.org

Our Mission

TO HOST A CONSTANT CONTINUUM OF EDUCATIONAL AND PREVENTIVE, COMPASSIONATE CARE AND CLIENT SERVICES FOR THOSE AT RISK FOR OR AFFLICTED WITH ANY OF THESE CHRONIC ILLNESSES, THAT CAN DEBILITATE THE BODY TO SEVERE PROPORTIONS, AS IN HIV AND AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, STDs, SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR ALCOHOLISM.

PROMOTING A POSITIVELY EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY THAT ESTABLISHES THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF CARE FOR ALL HAWAI`I RESIDENTS, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, WHILE PROVIDING SUPERIOR HEALTH CARE AND WELLNESS SERVICES.

MAKING DETERMINATE RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR ANY PATIENT/CLIENT AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE OF HAWAI`I, WHO IS RECOMMENDED BY THEIR PHYSICIAN, TO USE THE BENEFITS OF MEDICAL CANNABIS, WHILE CREATING SAFE ACCESS FOR PATIENTS, CAREGIVERS AND CULTIVATORS TO GROW, POSSESS, TRANSPORT, DIGEST AND SMOKE, ANY APPROPRIATE STRAINS OF MEDICAL CANNABIS AS WELL AS PROVIDING FORMS OF COUNSELING AND REFERRAL SERVICES TO THESE PATIENTS. ENSURE THAT THE RECOMMENDING AND AUTHORIZING PHYSICIANS IN THE STATE OF HAWAI`I, ENCOURAGES COMPLETE AND THOROUGH EDUCATION ON THE DIFFERENT EFFICACIES OF MEDICAL CANNABIS TO QUALIFYING PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS, WITH THE MOST CUTTING EDGE AND STATE OF THE ART FORMS OF OUTDOOR AND INDOOR

CANNABIS GROWING.

THIS WILL PROVIDE US WITH THE 100%, HAWAII STATE GROWN, LEGAL, MEDICINAL AND ACCESSIBLE CANNABIS.

BY PRESENTING ZONED APPROPRIATE, AGRICULTURALLY SOUND PLANNING FOR THE EDUCATION & DISPENSING OF MEDICAL CANNABIS AND/OR DELIVERY SERVICES, TO ANY PATIENT OR CAREGIVER IN THE STATE OF HAWAII, AUTHORIZED BY A PHYSICIAN AND THE DEPARTMENT'S OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY OF THE STATE OF HAWAII, ALLOWING PATIENTS TO MEDICATE THEMSELVES & HAVE A CAREGIVER HELP IF DESIRED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATUTE 329-120 to 130, IN ALLEVIATING THE DIFFICULT AND UNIQUE DISCOMFORT'S OF THEIR SPECIFIC AILMENTS.

ALWAYS TRYING TO EMPOWER AND ENCOURAGE ALL INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES & AT RISK COMMUNITIES, IN GATHERING TOGETHER WITH US, TO HELP PREVENT AND STOP THE SPREAD OF THESE CHRONIC AND DEBILITATING ILLNESSES, AND LASTLY, CREATING A BETTER SENSE OF SELF AND 'OHANA (FAMILY), FOR ALL OF OUR LOCALLY AFFECTED, SUFFERING CITIZENS.

Our Vision

Our Vision is to PREVENT the spread of HIV/AIDS in the State of Hawai'i. CARE for all Individuals at Risk for or already Afflicted with HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, STD's, Alcoholism or ADDICTION. By continuously developing structured and newly integrated Programs, such as our Innovative Preventive and Compassionate Care Specializing in Client Services (P.C.C.C.S.), we are dedicated to protecting all of our Communities, by ensuring the Highest Standard of Care.

Through Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention, Youth, Adult and Senior Citizen Education, HIV/STD Testing, Medicinal Cannabis Distribution and Therapeutics, and a Uniquely Productive Case Management Program, with the Appropriate Medical Referrals, *we can all:*

"Hope for a better tomorrow ..."

Peace and Aloha,
Joseph B. Rattner, O. D., MHA, CSAC
Founder & President:
West O'ahu Hope For A Cure Foundation, Inc.
WOHFAC
Community Planning Group Member (CPG)
SEAT: Consumer~Member At-Large 2008-2010

West O'ahu Hope For A Cure Foundation, Inc.
Specializing in Preventative Care and Client Services
Serving the HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B & C, STD & Alcoholism/Addition Communities
Certified in Education, Testing, Counseling and Medical Referrals
Our life saving Substance Abuse Program "Living Recovery In Paradise" are Rehabilitating
Crystal Meth-Amphetamine Addiction using Harm Reduction if necessary.
(12 Step Based)

91-211 Maka`ina Place
PO Box 2117 (**NOTE NEW BOX #**)
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Fax: 1.808.685.6840
24-hour Hotline: 1.808.781.3663
Foundation Email: info@WestOahuHopeForACure.org
Foundation Web Sites: www.WestOahuHopeForACure.org & www.WOHFAC.org
Director's Email: JBR@WestOahuHopeForACure.org
Fundraising Web Site: www.RecoveryRideInParadise.com

"Hope for a Better Tomorrow!"
"Recovery Ride In Paradise" (Fall of 2011)

"When It Comes To Change, Our Voices Speak In Numbers; Once Change is Implemented, Positive Results Prosper!" JBR

Confidentiality Notice

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Dear Committee Members,

Please consider passing SB113. If for no other reason than it should be our first priority to research and utilize natural medicines. Certainly synthetics may have their place but not until sufficient research is done on the natural substances first.

For those that believe in God, he has given us our sustenance through nature. That which he has given us, whether sunshine or sunchokes, is part of a natural plan that often proves superior to human synthetics. Natural knows best.

Should we not look to and expect a sufficient answer from the Lord's design? He provides for us constantly. Let us honor him by acknowledging the value of his handywork. SB113 will.

thank you

Antonio Rodriguez

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2011 12:14 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: jonahroberts@mac.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jonah Roberts
Organization: Individual
Address: 3433 Akala Dr HI
Phone: (808) 283-7604
E-mail: jonahroberts@mac.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments:

I am a medical marijuana patient/card holder in Hawaii.
I broke my back in 1997 and I became addicted to pain pills. I have been able to manage my ongoing pain with out addiction by the use of medical marijuana. But I am still vary skeptical about law enforcement and the government's outlook on honoring legal medical marijuana in our state.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 9:53 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: cheryl@solights.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cheryl Nelson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cheryl@solights.com
Submitted on: 2/5/2011

Comments:

As a medical cannabis patient, I support SB113 as it makes sense to try and study the positive effects of cannabis, as opposed to only looking at the negative aspects, which is the current situation with NIDA and the DEA.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 8:55 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: forecharlee@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Charles Webb, MD
Organization: Individual
Address: 73-993 Ahikawa St Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Phone: 8083256274
E-mail: forecharlee@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/5/2011

Comments:

There is no reason to vote against this measure. Everyone agrees that we need more research into the benefits of medical cannabis. So far many scientific studies in Europe and Canada have been strongly positive, but NIDA has held cannabis research hostage in the US. As a scientific and humanitarian physician, I have the strongest support possible.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 8:35 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: buzzzed@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sandy Webb
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: buzzzed@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/5/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 12:52 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: jacobwr@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jacob Reynolds
Organization: Individual
Address: po box 805 anahola,hi 96703
Phone: 8086342015
E-mail: jacobwr@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/5/2011

Comments:

Hawaii was the first state to pass a medical marijuana bill through legislation(6/14/2000). Since then little has been done to help patients get the care they need. Please listen to this testimony and help end the pain for those who are suffering. As student of Botny I understand the importance of doing laboratory research on plants helping pin pin point the cannabinoids found in Marijuana.

A medical marijuana research program will increase our understanding of the medicinal benefits of whole plant marijuana, allowing scientists to discover exactly how marijuana provides the therapeutic relief that certain patients experience.

Allowing Hawaii researchers to work with marijuana legally under state law will give Hawaiian research institutions an advantage over many of their state counterparts.

Science is only now breaking open the mystery of the naturally occurring endocannabinoid system(system of glands that produce chemicals in the body to stimulate the brain in different ways.) found in the human body. It is important to research exactly how the cannabinoids found in marijuana interact with that system.

From: Robert Bacher [bacher.robert@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 6:03 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: Strong Support for SB 113

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

From: Robert Bacher

RE: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m., Room 224

Position: Strong Support

I am testifying today in strong support of enabling medical cannabis research in Hawaii. In addition to being an emerging industry with huge economic and employment potential, the research of Cannabis and development of newer medicines and treatments is very important. A Hawaiian version of Sativex, with varying ratios of cannabinoids, would be a good start. Without laboratories and research we cannot make progress that sick and dying people need so badly.

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair,
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

From: Clifton S. Otto, M.D.

Re: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m.

Position: Support

I am testifying today in support of SB 113.

With nearly 9000 registered medical cannabis patients in the State of Hawaii, there exists a significant need to investigate the effects that medical cannabis is having on our patients who are using this botanical medicine on a daily basis. There is currently no means for assessing how these patients are obtaining their medication, what is the potency and purity of the medicine they are using, which strains are the most helpful for certain conditions, and how this medicine is being administered. Formal research with medical cannabis in Hawaii would allow these and other human toxicological questions to be further explored.

Historically, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the agency tasked with regulating cannabis at the federal level, has effectively prohibited medical cannabis research by monopolizing the production of this plant. This has been accomplished by allowing only one research facility in the US, the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Mississippi, to legally produce cannabis for research purposes. Not only is the cannabis produced by this facility of variable potency and unknown botanical origin, but because of the DEA's position that cannabis has no medical benefit makes it nearly impossible to gain federal approval for conducting cannabis research in this country.

With the number of individual strains of cannabis that have made their way to the Hawaiian islands over the years, it is important that research be conducted here in Hawaii on locally available varieties of medical cannabis that patients are using legally for a variety of medical conditions. These strains have been bred to become sustainable in a tropical climate, and likely demonstrate unique chemical compositions that attribute to their range of clinical effects. Such research is also well suited for Hawaii, where there is a rich heritage of utilizing indigenous medicinal plants.

Research with cannabis is not something new to Hawaii. Dr. Marcus Tius' chemistry lab at the University of Hawaii, where cannabinoid ligands for drug development are being synthesized, and Dr. Linda Chang's functional-MRI lab at the John Burns School of Medicine, where brain function in recreational cannabis users is being investigated, are two examples of such ongoing research. What is lacking, however, is the ability to study locally produced medical cannabis in the laboratory and clinical setting, without the fear of federal or state persecution. Such research would provide valuable information on the medical benefits of cannabis, and would make it easier for Hawaii's registered medical cannabis patients to decide which type of cannabis is best for their medical disease and how much they should be taking. Our task is to provide the necessary medical supervision, security measures, and administrative provisions to insure proper regulation of this controlled medicine.

Thank you for your time.

SB 113

I am a licensed Caregiver on the Big Island.

What an excellent bill, to study the use of Cannabis as a medicine. Hawaii, with its excellent growing climate will be a perfect venue to study strains that grow well here and what conditions they work best for. There is a dearth of information in this area and MUCH research needs to be done for patients and caregivers looking for the best medicine for their illness, disease or condition. The current situation with NIDA and the DEA tends to fall into the tired and worn out "Reefer Madness" meme and it is long overdue to look into the current valid research being done on the cannabis plant.

Seeds and plants come will come from patients or caregivers in the program and it will help study strains that are specific to this climate. Since nothing is crossing state lines, the FEDS have no reason to get involved.

Victoria Latenser
Mountain View, Hawaii
Register Voter and licensed caregiver

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 2:16 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: mary@mauivortex.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary Overbay
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mary@mauivortex.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:

SB 113

I am a licensed Medical MJ patient on the Big Island.

I fully support the study for the use of Cannabis as a medicine. Hawaii, with its year round growing climate will be a perfect place to study various medical strains. There is so little information in this area and MUCH research needs to be done for patients and caregivers looking for the best medicine for their illness, disease or condition. It can be a big worry knowing which strain is appropriate for certain conditions and then added worries trying to figure out how, when, and where to grow this.

The current situation with NIDA and the DEA tends to fall into the same old negative "Reefer Madness" propaganda and it is way beyond overdue to look into some valid research.

Sherryanne St. Cyr
Pahoa, Hawaii
Register Voter and blue card holder

From: Teri Heede [lady.flach@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 12:26 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: SB 113 - Relating to Medical Cannabis Research

Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 3:15pm
Conference Room 224, State Capitol

SB 113 - Relating to Medical Cannabis Research

Establishes a three year pilot medical cannabis research program, to provide a means by which a team of qualified researchers could undertake research involving local qualifying patients.

Strong Support

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

I strongly support medical research into the use of cannabis. It makes sense to try and study the positive effects of cannabis, as opposed to only looking at the negative aspects, which is the current situation with NIDA and the DEA.

As a patient I have been to 3 different countries accumulating my own data. I can tell you that for Multiple Sclerosis, Sativa has given me the most relief from my symptoms. I can only imagine how hard it is for patients to find the right strain for them because they probably do not have my resources and haven't spent the past dozen or so years trying to figure out what works best. We need research so that we can find out exactly what strains benefit which patients.

This research bill would also be using strains that are available in Hawai'i. We won't be bringing cannabis across state lines. I believe that this methodology will result in preserving specific strains that have been developed here in Hawai'i that will work brilliantly for medical purposes.

Patients, caregivers and medical professionals need this type of research to manage illness and symptoms of disease. Please pass this important legislation.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Teri Heede
92-994 Kanehoa Loop
Kapolei, HI 96707
808-672-6312

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

From: David J. Barton, MD, Physician, Board Certified in Pain and Palliative Care, Owner of
Hawaiian-Pacific Pain and Palliative Care, Ewa Beach, Oahu, Hawaii

RE: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m., Room 224

Position: Strong Support

I am testifying today in strong support of enabling medical cannabis research in Hawaii. Worldwide, there is a large body of research being carried out by top notch scientist and physicians. Without this basic science and advanced medical research, we would have little knowledge of the benefits and possible therapeutic modalities of cannabis. The science is not limited to the plant itself, but involves the full spectrum of human science research. We know that the human body has cannabinoid receptors due to researchers in Israel and Europe. We know that the human body makes cannabinoids to interact with these receptors, and around eight of these endo-cannabinoids have been chemically determined. Currently, a few medical products have made it past the FDA regulatory process and into the physicians' hands. This all required research. I don't think anyone will disavow the need for medical research in the area of cannabinoid medicine. We need to know what are in the species and genetic blends, and how these interact with certain conditions, all in order to improve health and reduce suffering.

The state has already recognized the benefits of medical cannabis by the fact that it has legalized its medicinal use. The next step is to provide a platform on which the chemical properties and medicinal benefits of medical cannabis can be studied in a formal peer-reviewed manner. Since the program was established in 2000, aside from a questionnaire administered by the Marijuana Working Group earlier this year, there has been no formal research into the botanical and medical aspects of the plant based medicine that thousands of Hawai'i residents use every day. Hawaii is in a position to lead this effort by establishing world class research entities.

From research results currently available, certain conditions respond better to particular strains of cannabis. Patients would benefit from this additional knowledge of which strain would provide them the best relief. There is currently no legal means, either state or federal, by which researchers can conduct medical cannabis research in Hawai'i. Since cannabis is still a Schedule I substance, it is extremely difficult to get approval from the DEA to conduct research with medical cannabis. Even in the rare instance where such approval is granted, research can only be carried out with cannabis that is grown at the only federally contracted lab at the University of Mississippi. Studying the cannabis strains that are currently being used in Hawaii, not random strains that the DEA controls will most benefit patients in

Hawaii.

Institutions, such as UH Manoa, that depend upon federal grants, are unwilling to participate in medical cannabis studies for the unfounded fear that they will lose federal funding. In fact, California established the Center for Medical Cannabis Research at UC San Diego in 2000. In a similar fashion, this bill would enable the legal research of medical cannabis at the state level, thereby providing protection for researchers from attack by the DEA or other federal agencies. It would also establish mechanism whereby privately or publicly funded research corporations could become licensed to conduct state approved research projects that must comply with certain research guidelines. It would enable licensed researchers to obtain cannabis plants so that (1) the chemical properties of different strains can be analyzed under controlled laboratory conditions (2) specific strains of cannabis can be grown to provide study medication for patients with particular illness and (3) certified medical patients can be enrolled in controlled medical trials utilizing locally produced medicine.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 7:52 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: bmurphy420@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Brian Murphy
Organization: MCCDFIA
Address: 777 Hana Hwy. Suite 108 Paia, HI 96779
Phone: 8083442991
E-mail: bmurphy420@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:
Position: Strong Support

I am testifying today in strong support of enabling medical cannabis research in Hawaii. (add a few of the talking points from below or your own comments as to why research in Hawaii should be encouraged.)

-The state has already recognized the benefits of medical cannabis by the fact that it has legalized its medicinal use. The next step is to provide a platform on which the chemical properties and medicinal benefits of medical cannabis can be studied in a formal peer-reviewed manner. Since the program was established in 2000, aside from a questionnaire administered by the Marijuana Working Group earlier this year, there has been no formal research into the botanical and medical aspects of the plant based medicine that thousands of Hawai'i residents use every day.

-From research results currently available, certain conditions respond better to particular strains of cannabis. Patients would benefit from this additional knowledge of which strain would provide them the best relief.

-There is currently no legal means, either state or federal, by which researchers can conduct medical cannabis research in Hawai'i.

-Since cannabis is still a Schedule I substance, it is extremely difficult to get approval from the DEA to conduct research with medical cannabis. Even in the rare instance where such approval is granted, research can only be carried out with cannabis that is grown at the only federally contracted lab at the University of Mississippi. Studying the cannabis strains that are currently being used in Hawaii, not random strains that the DEA controls will most benefit patients in Hawaii.

-Institutions, such as UH Manoa, that depend upon federal grants, are unwilling to participate in medical cannabis studies for the unfounded fear that they will lose federal funding. In fact, California established the Center for Medical Cannabis Research at UC San Diego in 2000.

-This bill would enable the legal research of medical cannabis at the state level, thereby providing protection for researchers from attack by the DEA or other federal agencies.

-It would also establish mechanism whereby privately or publicly funded research corporations could become licensed to conduct state approved research projects that must comply with certain research guidelines.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 11:00 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: robertms@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: M. Stuart
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: robertms@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/6/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 10:44 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: jgroberts@cryptoheaven.com
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeff Roberts
Organization: Individual
Address: 88-2443 Milolii Rd. Capt. Cook, Hi
Phone: 510-301-9538
E-mail: jgroberts@cryptoheaven.com
Submitted on: 2/6/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 9:37 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: lafrance@pacific.net
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeff LaFrance
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lafrance@pacific.net
Submitted on: 2/6/2011

Comments:
I urge you to support the following measure:
sb113

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 9:33 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: jeffray@pacific.net
Subject: Testimony for SB113 on 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/8/2011 3:15:00 PM SB113

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeff Ray
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jeffray@pacific.net
Submitted on: 2/6/2011

Comments:

I urge you to support the following measures:

sb175

sb113

sb58

From: Andrea Tischler [andreatischler@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 10:19 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: SB 113 Strong Support

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

From: Andrea Tischler

RE: SB 113 Relating to Medical Cannabis Research
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 3:15 p.m., Room 224

Position: Strong Support

Cannabis is classified as a Schedule I drug making research extremely difficult to conduct. Since Hawai'i has recognized the benefits of cannabis we need to be able to study its efficacious properties by enabling research in the state.

Please vote to support medical research of cannabis. Mahalo.