



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
**MAUI SERVICE AREA BOARD ON MENTAL HEALTH AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE**
121 MAHALANI STREET
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

March 21, 2018

Dear House Committee on Health and Human Services,

The Maui Service Area Board on Mental Health and Substance Abuse **strongly supports** HR51 and HCR65. We legalized the medicinal use of cannabis in Hawaii Revised Statutes at part IX, Chapter 329, HRS and Hawaii Revised Statutes at Chapter 329D, HRS. In the analysis of this policy it only seems logical to reschedule cannabis as a Schedule III drug based on its current known affects and a discriminant history of associating cannabis to certain ethnic groups (i.e., marijuana vs. marihuana). These groups are now disproportionately incarcerated. Some of these individuals, our family. The inconsistencies in Federal perspective only serves to create further harm and break communities apart.

The Maui Service Area Board on Mental Health and Substance Abuse would also welcome the idea of recreational cannabis use to be considered. This would provide Hawaii with a stronger strategic position in both medicinal and recreational policy among other States. The Maui Service Area Board on Mental Health and Substance Abuse believes the taxation from these policies is an opportunity to improve our fragile mental health and substance abuse system. Thank you for allowing us to respond!

Sincerely,

Harold Ames, Ph.D.
Chairperson

HR-51

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 11:52:15 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/21/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: