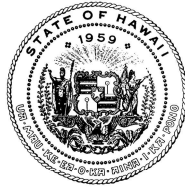


# HB673 HD2

Measure Title:	RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.
Report Title:	Department of Health; Cannabis; Cannabidiol Products; License; Dispensary
Description:	<p>Allows physician assistants to provide written certification for qualifying patients. Allows licensed dispensaries to have up to two additional manufacturing or processing facilities separate from their production facilities. Provides a process for the voluntary or involuntary sale or transfer of an individual dispensary license. Allows retail dispensaries to operate on state and federal holidays. Allows a licensed dispensary to purchase medical cannabis or manufactured cannabis products from another licensed dispensary, with department approval, in the event of a crop failure. Allows licensed retail dispensaries to sell edible cannabis and cannabidiol products. (HB673 HD2)</p>
Companion:	<a href="#">SB1430</a>
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH, JDC/WAM
Introducer(s):	MIZUNO, San Buenaventura, Say, Tokioka





**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB0673 SD1 PROPOSED  
RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: Thursday, March 21, 2019      Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** None identified.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department is in STRONG SUPPORT of this measure which
- 3 amends section 329D, HRS, to allow for the transfer of ownership of a dispensary license in
- 4 specified circumstances. This amendment is essential to the continued functioning of the
- 5 existing licensed medical cannabis dispensaries. As written, Chapter 329D, HRS, does not allow
- 6 for the sale or transfer of a dispensary license under any circumstance. In the event of the death,
- 7 legal incapacity, permanent disability, voluntary resignation, or termination of the individual
- 8 licensee, the department would have no recourse other than to revoke the dispensary's license.
- 9 Doing so would be highly detrimental to patients as well as the dispensaries. The Department
- 10 urges the legislature to move this measure forward.
- 11 **Offered Amendments:** None.
- 12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

TO: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
FROM: Carl Bergquist, Executive Director  
HEARING DATE: March 21, 2019, 9:20AM  
RE: HB673 HD2 SD1 Proposed, Relating to Medical Cannabis, **COMMENTS**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i (DPFH) **offers the following comments and suggested amendments** to the SD1 Proposed version of this measure. In general, we support the types of reforms in the original bill and the HD1/HD2 versions, which will facilitate the operation of the medical cannabis dispensary system to ensure that the needs of Hawaii's nearly 25,000 medical cannabis patients are met. Recently, out-of-state visitors, who are also registered patients in their home states, also became authorized to enter the dispensaries and buy medical cannabis during their business or holiday visit to the islands. Accordingly, **we object to the removal of various provisions of the bill, request their reinsertion and also respectfully ask for the inclusion of the content of two other bills (SB1524 SD1 & HB37 Proposed HD1) heard by their subject matter committees in the Senate and House respectively.**

1) **The edibles provisions** of the underlying bill are particularly important. Edibles have been discussed in two separate working groups formed pursuant to Act 230 of 2016 & Act 116 of 2018. They are available in numerous other states including in Oklahoma, which got its entire program up and running in a matter of months. In fact, only 5 other of the 33 states that have legalized medical cannabis prohibit edibles as Hawai'i does. With Maryland poised to end its ban, that list will narrow to four. Most with a strong anti-smoking stance like Hawaii's allow them.

(a) Edibles are often **the only form of medicine that can help patients who do not want, or cannot, inhale.** In addition, as many of our local resident patients are renters, they often cannot smoke their medicine. Under current law, they have to prepare edibles themselves, putting them at risk of getting the dosage wrong. They may also turn to the black market, which carries numerous risks of its own. Moreover, soon our **out of state patients**, who mostly stay in hotels that prohibit smoking, will visit dispensaries. Imagine their surprise when they have gone through the process to register with our Department of Health, only to find out that there is no form of medicine that they can consume in public or in their hotel accommodation.

(b) Secondly, I wish to point out that any suggested connection between the availability of tested, regulated **edibles and impaired driving** is not based on any evidence. As the local study that is cited by the Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HIDOT) itself states, "the data is insufficient to demonstrate causality between cannabis use and crashes, nor does it prove that cannabis is an independent risk factor for injury or death. . ."<sup>1</sup>. Research by RTI International actually studied edibles specifically, and found the following:

The study, published in Drug and Alcohol Dependence, found that in the context of legalization, many marijuana users will try new marijuana products and use edibles, and that doing so markedly increases the odds of experiencing an unexpected high. *The research shows that most people who experienced an unexpected high slept it off, and others engaged in protective behaviors such as deciding not to drive or changing or cancelling plans.*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Susan Steinemann, Daniel Galanis, Tiffany Nguyen and Walter Biffel, "Motor vehicle crash fatalities and undercompensated care associated with legalization of marijuana," Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery 85, Number 3 (Honolulu, HI, May 2018): 566-571.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.rti.org/news/study-trying-new-marijuana-products-and-edibles-associated-unexpected-highs>.

(c) Alaska's Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health has a great public education page about edibles that speaks to science rather than stigma.<sup>3</sup> Please see Appendix 1 for useful graphics to consider.

(d) Similarly, a recently released study on the effects of a public education campaign targeting targeting Colorado teens found it to have been very effective and that teen use in Colorado remains below the national average five years after the onset of adult use legalization and with a wide availability of edibles.<sup>4</sup> Please see Appendix 2 for some results from this study and graphics from the campaign.

CONCLUSION: These kinds of campaigns can address real concerns and still allow for the sale of medical cannabis edibles to long-suffering patients, both local and visitors.

#### ADDITIONAL REFORMS

2) As with edibles, **employment protections for medical cannabis patients** have been the subject of both working groups and bills. Most recently, an Arizona federal court, situated in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit like Hawai'i, ruled that Wal-Mart violated the state medical cannabis law when it terminated an employee who was not impaired on the job.<sup>5</sup> This and other court rulings highlight the need for an *affirmative* employment protection under state law for medical cannabis patients.. The joint committee conference report ([SSCR336](#)) found that:

*that thirty-one states allow for the medical use of cannabis by qualifying patients, with a growing number of states establishing employment protections for qualifying medical cannabis patients. . . there are no corresponding employment protections for qualifying patients. **A qualifying patient can be discriminated against in the hiring process, merely because of the patient's status as a qualifying patient, or fired at an employer's discretion for failing a drug test, even if the qualifying patient is not exhibiting any symptoms of being impaired.** This measure therefore prohibits employers from discriminating against an employee based on the employee's status as a qualifying patient. This will*

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<sup>3</sup> <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Director/Pages/marijuana/edibles.aspx>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.thehighcosts.com/>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=ed8fda2b-7ee7-4b97-ae2d-4828421ca2d8>.

*allow qualifying patients to use their medication without fear of being disciplined.*

CONCLUSION: We agree with the committee report and request that [SB1524 SD1](#) be incorporated into this bill.

3) **Medical cannabis**, among other uses, can in certain circumstances serve as an alternative or complement to **opioids/prescription painkillers**. As Hawai'i stakeholders work together to proactively address the opioid epidemic here before, we are missing an opportunity by not as much as mentioning the role that medical cannabis could play. *The stigma is palpable*. In the summer of 2018, Governor Ige vetoed a bill that could begin to address this discrepancy. That bill was reintroduced this year as HB37, and ahead of its hearing a proposed HD1 version was released by the House Committee on Health. Commenting on the proposed version, the Department of Health expressed its preference for the Proposed HD1 and wrote:

[T]he department recognizes and respects the legislature's authority to act as an alternative route to the department's standardized review process. . . . There is evidence that chronic debilitating pain related conditions have made positive results by the use of medical cannabis for many individuals who have access to it as an alternative to long-term use of opioid pain medications . . . . There is also substantial evidence that medical cannabis when used for pain that was either caused or exacerbated by opioid and other substance use disorders has decreased prevalence of opioid use and overdose.<sup>6</sup>

CONCLUSION: We agree with DOH, and request that HB37 HD1 Proposed be inserted into this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>6</sup> [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2019/Testimony/HB37\\_TESTIMONY\\_HLT\\_02-05-19\\_PDF](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2019/Testimony/HB37_TESTIMONY_HLT_02-05-19_PDF).

## APPENDIX 1: Alaska's Public Education Campaign & Edibles



**Be Careful When You Eat and Drink Marijuana.**

**THESE AREN'T YOUR GRANDMA'S BROWNIES.**

Learn more about marijuana edibles.



### Be Careful When Eating and Drinking Marijuana

**Start low...** Start with a single serving of 5 mg of THC or even less. THC is the chemical in marijuana that makes a person high.

**And go slow.** You may feel fine for several hours after consuming a marijuana edible, and then suddenly feel very high. Don't eat or drink more of a marijuana product until you have waited at least 2-4 hours.

**First-time using? Be cautious.** Eating too much of a marijuana edible too soon may lead to unwanted effects.

**Driving while high is a DUI.**

If you've consumed marijuana edibles, do not get behind the wheel.



**Don't give marijuana to children or anyone under 21 years old.**

**Steer clear if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.**

Using marijuana while pregnant or breastfeeding may harm your baby.



**Store your marijuana and edibles safely.**

Lock it up, out of reach from children and pets.



If you consumed too much, call for help. Call the Poison Control Hotline at 1-800-222-1222 for free, fast, expert help anytime.

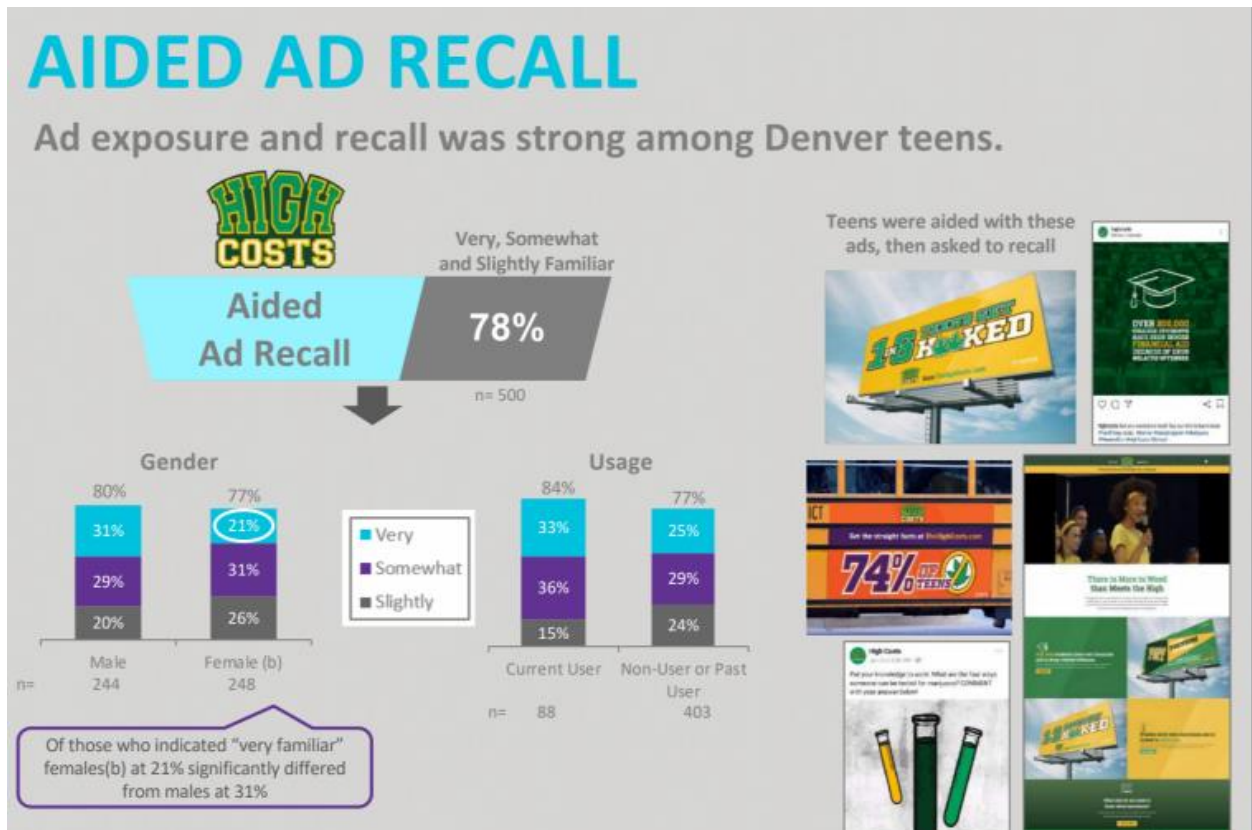
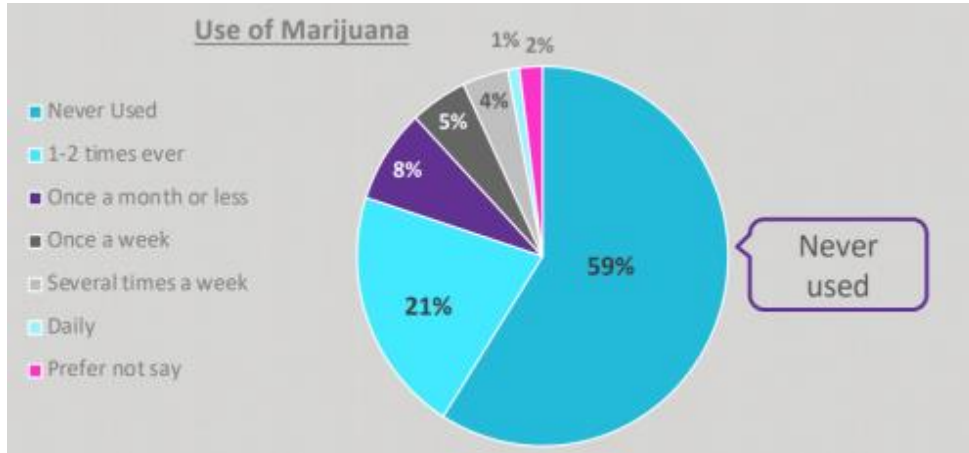
For more information visit [marijuana.dhss.alaska.gov](http://marijuana.dhss.alaska.gov)



SOURCE: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Director/Pages/marijuana/edibles.aspx>.



## APPENDIX 2: Denver's "High Costs" Campaign Targeted at Teens



**HIGH  
COSTS**

THE FACTS ABOUT

# Hit me with the facts.

We want to be straight with you.  
Here's what we know about marijuana.



# 79%

of Denver high school  
students *do not* use  
marijuana regularly.

**SOURCES:** <https://www.thehighcosts.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/High-Costs-Post-Campaign-Survey-Results.pdf>; <https://www.thehighcosts.com/>.



**Akamai Cannabis Clinic**

3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304  
Honolulu, HI 96816

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 673 HD2 SD1 Proposed  
RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS

By  
Clifton Otto, MD

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 21, 2019; 9:20 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure. Please consider the following comments related to this bill. There are still several critical issues that have yet to be addressed:

**Comment #1** – A controlled substance with medical use cannot have the “highest degree of danger”. Therefore, the following amendment needs to be made in order to harmonize Hawaii’s Uniform Controlled Substances Act (UCSA) with the accepted medical use of cannabis in Hawaii.

Section 329-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding the following subsection:

(f) The enumeration of cannabis, tetrahydrocannabinols or chemical derivatives of these as Schedule I controlled substances does not apply to the medical use of cannabis pursuant to Section 329, Part IX, and Section 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

**Comment #2** – The inter-island transportation of cannabis for personal medical use continues to be an issue that is requiring significant amounts of local law enforcement time due to the processing of patients who have been referred by TSA, which is distracting our officers from other duties and threatening the safety of our airports.

Testimony on HB673 HD2 SD1 Proposed  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
March 21, 2019  
Page 2

Local law enforcement officers are also telling patients that they cannot travel with their medicine because it is against federal law, which is beyond the authority of a state law enforcement agency, and not entirely true because of the [federal aviation regulation](#) that specifically exempts the carriage of cannabis aboard aircraft if authorized by state law or state agency.

Therefore, in order to clarify the existing provisions for inter-island transport within Hawaii's Medical Use of Cannabis Act and to protect the right of patients to transport legal amounts of cannabis for personal medical use to other islands under state law and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the following amendment needs to be made to the Medical Use of Cannabis section of Hawaii's Uniform Controlled Substances Act:

[HRS 329-122\(f\)](#):

"For purposes of interisland transportation, "transport" of cannabis, usable cannabis, or any manufactured cannabis product, by any means is allowable only by a qualifying patient or qualifying out-of-state patient for their personal medical use, or between a production center or retail dispensing location and a certified laboratory for the sole purpose of laboratory testing pursuant to section 329D-8, as permitted under section 329D-6(m) and subject to section 329D-6(j), and with the understanding that state law and its protections do not apply outside of the jurisdictional limits of the State. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety shall adopt rules to provide compliance with this section.

Please do not allow this bill to pass out of your committee until these issues have been fully addressed.

**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

HB673, HD2, RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS

**BEFORE THE:**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2019 TIME: 9:20AM

LOCATION: Conference Room 229

TESTIFIER: Brian Goldstein, Founder & CEO, Noa Botanicals

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT WITH COMMENTS

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Chair Baker, Vice Chair Change and Members of the Committee:

Noa Botanicals is a licensed medical marijuana dispensary in the City and County of Honolulu.

HB673, HD2 bill has several important measures that Noa strongly supports

- Allow licensed dispensaries to have manufacturing or processing facilities separate from production facilities, which do not count towards the two Product Center limit
- Allow dispensaries to operate on state and federal holidays
- Allow dispensaries to purchase cannabis or manufactured cannabis products from another licensed dispensary in the event of a crop failure
- Clarifies the rules around testing of final products
- Allows licensed dispensaries to sell hemp-derived CBD products

The original version of the bill, HB673, contained the following language that Noa requests be added back in.

- Allows for the possession and use of medical cannabis in private rooms or residences located in a state-licensed assisted living facility

**Access on State and Federal holidays improve patient access.**

1. The requirement that dispensaries be closed on state and federal holidays creates a hardship for many patients, limits patient access and increases costs.

**Allow for sale of cannabis in the event of crop failure reduces market access risk.**

2. Growing cannabis indoors without the use of any pesticides is a complex and challenging process. Running a licensed dispensary is very expensive with high fixed operating costs. A catastrophic crop failure would likely cause the dispensary to go out of business due to the extended period of time it would take to recover from the failure. This emergency backup

process is a prudent measure that will mitigate the risk of significantly reducing patient access to medicine.

**Clarifying rules on testing of final products improves patient access and reduces patient costs.**

3. Currently, there is a lack of clarity in 11-850 HAR regarding the remediation of product and the requirements regarding testing products. This language will clarify the rules and ensure continued patient access to lab tested, quality products.

**Hemp derived CBD products are sold in many stores. The best place to purchase lab-tested, hemp derived CBD products are dispensaries.**

4. Currently, there is a lack of clarity as to whether state licensed dispensaries can sell third-party, hemp-derived CBD products. Given the recent change in Federal law and de-scheduling of hemp-derived CBD products, state licensed dispensaries are the natural place that patients will go to learn about, and shop for, these products. This change allows state licensed dispensaries to sell any hemp-derived CBD products and increases patient access to these products.

**The fast growing demographic of medical cannabis patients are over 65. Currently DOH takes the position that residents of state licensed assisted care facilities may not possess cannabis in their private rooms.**

5. Current DOH position is that “Medical marijuana cannot be used in a state licensed facility or care home” and that “Other place open to the public” in 329-122(c)(2) to include any state licensed health care facility or home.<sup>1</sup> This interpretation puts medical cannabis out of reach for the thousands of elderly Hawaii residents that live in state licensed assisted care facilities and homes. It is critical that this be clarified by allowing our senior citizens living in assisted care facilities or homes access to this important and vital medicine.

**Updating background check requirements will maintain current risk management, decrease costs and increase industry benefits small business owners who want to service dispensaries.**

6. Hawaii’s background check requirements are burdensome, costly and unnecessary. No other state in the country requires every person entering a dispensary facility to pass a background check. Current law and rule require, say an HVAC technician who may be needed to fix the AC system in an office to be fingerprinted and background checked. Even if this person never enters a room in which cannabis is located! This requirement requires that each dispensary have hundreds of people fingerprinted and background checked; plumbers, electricians, HVAC

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<sup>1</sup> Email from Keith Ridley, Chief of Office of Health Care Assurance, June 6, 2017

repair, etc. This requirement simply increases operating costs, increases patient costs and does nothing to reduce risk of diversion. A much simpler process would be to require that the only people that must be background checked are “*registered employees of the dispensary licensee, registered employees of a subcontracted production center or retail dispensing location, employees of a certified laboratory for testing purposes*” who are allowed to touch or handle cannabis or manufactured cannabis products §329D-6(g).

**We suggest the following changes to §329D HRS.**

§329D-15 (4) Previously included on a current ~~department approved~~ list provided to the department by the licensee of those persons who are allowed into that dispensary's facilities for a specific purpose for that dispensary, including but not limited to construction, maintenance, repairs, legal counsel, providers of paratransit or other assistive services required by a qualifying patient to access a retail dispensary location, or investors; provided that:

- (A) ~~The person has been individually approved by the department to be included on the list;~~
- (B) The person is at least twenty-one years of age, as verified by a valid government issued identification card;
- (C) ~~The department has confirmed that the person has no felony convictions;~~
- (D) The person is escorted by an individual licensee or registered employee of the dispensary at all times while in the dispensary facility;
- (E) The person is only permitted within those portions of the dispensary facility as necessary to fulfill the person's purpose for entering;
- (F) The person is only permitted within the dispensary facility during the times and for the duration necessary to fulfill the person's purpose for entering;
- (G) The dispensary shall keep an accurate record of each person's first and last name, date and times upon entering and exiting the dispensary facility, purpose for entering, and the identity of the escort; and
- (H) The approved list shall be effective for one year ~~from the date of the department approval.~~

**And**

§329D-16 (3) Previously included on a current ~~department approved~~ list provided to the department by the licensee of those persons who are allowed into that dispensary's facilities for a specific purpose for that dispensary, including but not limited to construction, maintenance, repairs, legal counsel, or investors; provided that:

(A) ~~The person has been individually approved by the department to be included on the list;~~

(B) The person is at least twenty-one years of age, as verified by a valid government issued identification card;

(C) ~~The department has confirmed that the person has no felony convictions;~~

(D) The person is escorted by an individual licensee or registered employee of the dispensary at all times while in the dispensary facility;

(E) The person is only permitted within those portions of the dispensary facility as necessary to fulfill the person's purpose for entering;

(F) The person is only permitted within the dispensary facility during the times and for the duration necessary to fulfill the person's purpose for entering;

(G) The dispensary shall keep an accurate record of each person's identity, date and times upon entering and exiting the dispensary facility, purpose for entering, and the identity of the escort; and

(H) The approved list shall be effective for one year ~~from the date of department approval.~~

Thank you.





HAWAII EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
FOR LICENSED THERAPEUTIC HEALTHCARE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Senate Consumer Protection and Health Committee

Fr: Blake Oshiro, Esq. on behalf of the HEALTH Assn.

Re: Testimony **Support - House Bill (HB) 673 PROPOSED Senate Draft 1**  
RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS

Dear Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

HEALTH is the trade association made up of the eight (8) licensed medical cannabis dispensaries under Haw. Rev. Stat. (HRS) Chapter 329D. We **support HB673 as the proposed SD1**. We appreciate the committee's willingness to move this measure forward even though it is amended to deal with just one of the six proposed issues as it came over from the House.

We are hopeful that the Committee may be open to looking at the additional provisions at a later time. However, we understand that to meet the internal legislative deadlines, it is important for this bill to move forward. Thus, while we are hopeful, we are also pragmatic and support this proposal in its current form.

SALE OR TRANSFER OF LICENSE

While licensed medical cannabis dispensaries are still a new and emerging industry since their establishment in 2015, most production centers and retail facilities have only been operating for several months and less than 2 years.

However, there are already instances of the leadership within a licensed dispensary having changed. The current law does not provide for a process for a transfer or sale of any significant interest in the licensed dispensary entities and applicants. As such, SECTION 3 of the bill proposes to create a process for the individual who applied for and is the recognized initial "applicant," to transfer their interest if it is an involuntary circumstance (death, disability, incapacity), or to notify the Department of Health (DOH) of an intention to sell or transfer voluntarily, all of which is subject to the DOH's approval to ensure that any new individual would meet the qualifications required under the law for the initial applicant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Hawai'i Educational Association for Licensed Therapeutic Healthcare (HEALTH)  
220 S King St #1600, Honolulu, HI 96813



*Dedicated to safe, responsible, humane and effective drug policies*

***Testimony in Support of HB 673, HD 2 SD 1, with Comments***

TO: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health  
FROM: Nikos Leverenz, Board President  
DATE: March 21, 2019 (9:20 AM)

---

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang & Committee Members:

Drug Policy Action Group **supports** this measure, which would enact many reforms that strengthen Hawaii's medical cannabis program through currently licensed dispensaries. Hawaii's medical cannabis dispensaries currently serve over 24,000 patients and now have the authorization to provide cannabis to out-of-state medical cannabis patients—at least those whose recommendations under their state laws also comport with Hawaii's unduly restrictive list of qualifying conditions.

The current draft of this measure should be amended to (1) authorize the provision of cannabis-infused edible products by currently licensed dispensaries, (2) provide basic employment protections for medical cannabis patients in the hiring and retention process, and (3) authorize the use of medical cannabis as an alternative or complement to the prescription of opioids and other pharmacotherapies that manage pain.

***Provision & Regulation of Cannabis-Infused Edibles.*** In accord with the recommendations of two prior legislative working groups, this Legislature should afford currently licensed dispensaries the latitude to provide edible cannabis-infused products to consumers who do not

wish to, or cannot, smoke whole plant cannabis flower. Given the current lack of explicit statutory protection for cannabis patients who are tenants, smoking cannabis is not a practicable alternative for those who do not own their own homes. Edible cannabis-infused products will also strengthen the new reciprocity program as hotels and other public accommodations prohibit smoking on their premises pursuant to state law.

Edibles that have been tested for safety and potency is a functionally superior method for consumers to regulate the amount of THC and CBD that they consume. In states where medical cannabis has been available for over a decade, edible products have been a mainstay for consumers. States where medical cannabis has been a recent development, like Oklahoma, recognize that cannabis-infused edible products are a preferred method of delivery for many consumers, even those who are not averse to smoking or vaping.

With respect to expressed ongoing concerns over accurate labeling and packaging that is not attractive to adolescents and juveniles, other states have enacted administrative rules and regulations that could readily be imported into Hawaii's regulatory framework.

***Statutory Employment Protections for Workers.*** In accord with the recommendations of two prior legislative working groups, this Legislature should provide explicit statutory protections for medical cannabis patients in the hiring and retention process. Last month, [an Arizona Walmart employee who was terminated solely on the basis of her use of medical cannabis under state law won a judgement in federal court.](#)

Protecting retail workers and other service workers, many of making minimum wage or close to it, from undue workplace discrimination is precisely the kind of policy that is urgently needed to protect those who do not have the financial resources to hire an attorney or are covered by a collective bargaining unit like public school teachers and other state employees.

As a general matter, random drug testing in the workplace is an overbroad, untoward use of a medical diagnostic and treatment tool that bears little, if any, factual relation to impairment, performance, or workplace safety.

***Medical Cannabis as a Compliment or Alternative to Opioids.*** The Department of Health recognizes that the Legislature retains to prerogative to add to the list of qualifying conditions or designate those circumstances that qualify a person to become a medical cannabis patient.

On this front, the Legislature should facilitate access to medical cannabis by those who have been prescribed opioids or pharmaceutical medications to manage pain. [Illinois recently implemented a program where any person who receives an opioid prescription is afforded access to medical cannabis.](#) Illinois also has a long list of qualifying conditions that includes Parkinson's disease, among others, and this Legislature should expand the list of qualifying conditions to match those of other states.

The best approach to facilitate needed relief for persons was recently enacted, and now implemented, in Oklahoma's medical cannabis statute. That state broadly empowers medical professionals to determine if cannabis is appropriate for a given patient before them. This policy would strengthen Hawaii's nascent reciprocity program.

The Oklahoma approach would also alleviate the Department of Health of the current burden of its review process—one that begins with the receipt of a petition from a prospective patient and hampered by research that is not as robust as it could be because cannabis remains a Schedule I substance under the federal Controlled Substances Act.

In short, there is no rational justification for a person now living with Parkinson's, for example, to have to wait months for an evaluation or to avail themselves of the illicit market for needed relief of their condition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / [kat.caphi@gmail.com](mailto:kat.caphi@gmail.com)



## COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 21, 2019

9:20 am

Room 229

### COMMENTS - HB 673 HD2, SD1 - MEDICAL CANNABIS AND RESTORING EDIBLES

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chairs Chang and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the families of **ASHLEY GREY, DAISY KASITATI, JOEY O'MALLEY, JESSICA FORTSON AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED UNDER THE "CARE AND CUSTODY" OF THE STATE** as well as the approximately 5,500 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that more than 1,600 of Hawai'i's imprisoned people are serving their sentences abroad thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

Community Alliance on Prisons is disappointed that this bill has been stripped of the use of edibles as a way of ingesting medical cannabis.

As a caregiver to three patients, I have witnessed their suffering and the side effects of the narcotics they were prescribed. I cared for loved ones and friends who were unable to use cannabis flowers ingested by smoking and who would have benefitted from edible products to relieve their suffering. It was so painful to watch people I loved waste away.

Medical cannabis in the form of edibles is a way to help relieve suffering when a patient has lost so much weight, that they could not receive their pain relief by injection.

Watching my Mom die at 45 pounds, has convinced me that medication should be available in any form that is ingestible to provide relief from suffering. These memories of my Mom and two other friends who suffered has prompted my strong support for edible forms of cannabis. I know it would have relieved their nausea and suffering. With proper education, patients can learn the proper dosage for their diagnosis. Please don't fall prey to the disinformation that surrounds cannabis and instead, practice aloha and restore edibles as a viable way to ingest medical cannabis.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 7:24:08 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019  
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 673 HD2

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, February 21, 2019  
TIME: 11:00 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 308  
State Capitol

RE: HB 673 HD2

Honorable committee chairs and committee members:

Physician Assistants in the state of Hawaii strongly support passage of this bill.

Thank you for the committee's consideration of this recommendation.

Fielding Mercer, PA-C

Previous president and legislative liaison 2008 - 2016 for the Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 8:31:30 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify



**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 8:19:08 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Denny	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.

Provides a process for the voluntary or involuntary sale or transfer of an individual dispensary license.

CPH, JDC/WAM

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2019

TIME: 9:20 AM

Conference Room 229

PLACE:

RE: HB 673 HD2

Honorable committee chairs and committee members:

Physician Assistants in the state of Hawaii strongly support passage of this bill. Thank you for the committee's consideration of this recommendation.

Scott Denny MSPA, PA-C  
Medical Director, HIV Services  
Medical Director, Transgender Services  
Kaiser Permanente Hawaii

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019  
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 673 HD2

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS

NOTICE OF HEARING

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.  
Provides a process for the voluntary or involuntary sale or  
transfer of an individual dispensary license.

CPH, JDC/WAM

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2019  
TIME: 9:20 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 229

RE: HB 673 HD2

Honorable committee chairs and committee members:

Physician Assistants in the state of Hawaii strongly support passage of this bill.  
Thank you for the committee's consideration of this recommendation.

Fielding Mercer, PA-C

Previous president and legislative liaison 2008 - 2016 for the Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019  
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 673 HD2

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, February 21, 2019  
TIME: 11:00 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 308  
State Capitol

RE: HB 673 HD2

Honorable committee chairs and committee members:

Physician Assistants in the state of Hawaii strongly support passage of this bill.

Thank you for the committee's consideration of this recommendation.

Fielding Mercer, PA-C

Previous president and legislative liaison 2008 - 2016 for the Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 8:04:22 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patrick Katahara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Physician Assistant in Hawaii and I support this measure to improve access and quality of healthcare.

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 9:04:27 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Logue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I feel it is vital that medical marijuana patients be able to have access to a variety of forms of medicine. That is why I am in strong support of ensuring patients have access to the edible forms of medical marijuana. Not everyone should have to inhale flower to receive their medicine. Many people do not smoke and would much prefer to take it in an edible form.

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 9:20:33 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jaclyn L. Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Big Island Grown Dispensaries, Lau Ola LLC, is in strong support of the measure in HB0673 HD2 SD1 to provide a process for the sale or transfer of a dispensary license. This amendment is critical to ensure the continuity of dispensary operations and continued patient access to lab tested cannabis medicine. The circumstances of an individual, voluntary or involuntary, should not expunge the merit and ability of the entity to operate in their absence. Individuals should have the ability to retire and not be required to hold a life position.

Big Island Grown Dispensaries strongly urges the legislature to move this measure forward.

Aloha, and thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Jaclyn L. Moore, Pharm.D.

Chief Compliance Officer

**From:** [Ryan Sueoka](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1 - Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:34:08 AM

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Aloha e Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I am writing to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo nui!  
Ryan I. Kaha'i'olelo Sueoka

**From:** [Jeanine Williams](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:50:52 AM

---

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Wayne Miller](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:00:32 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

The coalition provide the nice words below and they are very true but in my humble opinion any testimony the public submits is ignored and likely not even read. The state of Hawaii wants to lay claim to being the first state to enact medical marijuana laws but the reality is 20 years of falsehood and deception. The economics of the cannabis industry could lead to so many changes the entire state needs but those numbers and consequently the citizens who would be helped by the creation of a new agricultural and scientific economy will be ignored.

How do you folks who make these decision plan to meet the billions of dollars in unfunded benefits for our state and county employees?

What is your plan to raise the standard of living for many local families who now receive public assistance?

The two questions above certainly could be viewed as very important areas....how to increase revenue and actually help the people.

A truly progressive approach to cannabis might upset the status quo.....but.....

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawaii is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawaii's residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify  
Wayne Miller

**From:** [bradford lum](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:33:41 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Al Yos](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:49:36 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify  
Alan Yoshimoto

**From:** [Marsha Nager](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:37:57 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

**Edibles are safe and much healthier than smoking!!**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Bryon Lee](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:48:51 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,  
Bryon Lee

**From:** [Chef Christopher Jacob](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:30:25 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

I have been a chef for more than 20 years in Hawaii. I know the value of food as medicine, as comfort, as love. That is my art form. Crafting edible works of art for many years. Our culture of cooking is celebrated with shows on Netflix, a entire cooking channel, we make celebrities out of chefs, but for what? because they can cook? Of course, it takes a skill a talent to craft, to control, to design, to create. It would provide opportunity to use my skills in this field to continue to help the my fellow man, and help with food.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. My grandfather left us in the early part of 2000. He was a smoker, and needed relief during his hospice days, and smoking isn't allowed. So we created oils, cookies, small snacks that he was able to consume in according to his diet.

Its not just pot brownies or cookies. One can create 5 course meals, one can create bread, scones, infused fried chicken. This plat is used as a spice, as a herb, as a flavor component. This is food. Food is used to nourish. The possibilities are endless.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Where the dosage is unpredictable, or wrong, or make without the proper equipment, and sanitation guidelines.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. ITS A SMOKING ALTERNATIVE! Cleaner air, for everyone.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Lets give them a opportunity to taste the islands, with local creations. We are a culture of food. Don't deny the community this opportunity, and those who visit us.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

My name is Christopher Jacob  
I am The Hawaiian Alchemist,  
A chef, a advocate, and a member of the medical cannabis ohana.

**From:** [Allison Bishop](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:32:10 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

-Allison Bishop  
329 Card Holder

**From:** [Pam](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:31:19 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify



**From:** [Sue Kilp](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:25:05 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

The sale of edibles at dispensaries is critical in ensuring alternative options for those patients were inhaling is not an option.

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Sue Kilp, APRN-RX

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Alfred Wylie](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:26:23 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 9:26:32 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Coco Iwamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB673 HD2 with AMENDMENTS returning HB673 language

Please amend the bill to its original language: as follows:

Regarding edibles: Please re-insert the language from the original version, stating " Allow licensed retail dispensaries to sell edible cannabis and cannabidiol products."

Edibles have been discussed in two separate working groups formed pursuant to Act 230 of 2016 & Act 116 of 2018. They are available in numerous other states including in Oklahoma, which got its entire program up and running in a matter of months. Edibles are often the only form of medicine that can help patients who do not want, or cannot, inhale. In addition, so many of our residents are renters, and our out of state visitors also do not stay in private residences mostly, so they cannot smoke their medicine. These are some of the most vulnerable patients in our state and this would give their loved ones and they a sense of security if they need to use medical cannabis to relieve pain and suffering.

**HB673 was supposed to be an omnibus bill.**

During the legislative session, several other medical cannabis reforms have been considered. Those that have had a hearing are eligible for consideration to be included in this bill:

- Employment protections for medical cannabis patients. Employers should not be allowed to fire someone just for being a patient or for testing positive in a drug test. Nor should employees be denied promotion for this reason.
- Promoting medical cannabis instead of opioids should be a priority. [HB37 Proposed HD1](#) had some good language that could help with this.
- The inclusion of medical cannabis in workers compensation schemes.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kim Coco Iwamoto

**From:** [David O'Quinn](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:10:43 AM

---

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

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Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

David O'Quinn  
Medical 329 card holder  
County of Kauai

**From:** [Georgina M](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 10:10:33 AM

---

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Astra Druker-Michaels](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:12:49 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [KK](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:12:52 AM

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Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [Melissa Lisa Anne Porter Cordovana](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:42:17 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Mahalo and Aloha,  
Melissa Cordovana, RN BSN



**From:** [Molly Bell](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:24:36 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Roger Nakanishi](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:42:53 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Henry Bennett](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:45:37 AM

---

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Henry Bennett



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Cindy Greenwell](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 10:07:03 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

Removing the edible cannabis portion of this bill would be a hugely detrimental to the good this bill is trying to accomplish. Forcing patients to smoke their cannabis seems counter intuitive to what you have accomplished so far with the medical cannabis program. The last thing a patient needs, especially children, is to take this natural medicine in an unhealthy way. It makes no sense.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [kiana Kali](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 10:27:22 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Gail Smith](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 10:35:56 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify  
Greg Smith  
Earth Matters Hemp  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Chris Martell](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 10:25:40 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 1:12:33 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dave Kisor	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Leave the edibles in the bill. Ok? Many can't smoke and if someone needs a proper dosage, this may be the only way they can receive it. And then there's the tourist aspect. You wouldn't want to poop on them, would you? As a Hawai'i resident, it sure looks like the state government cares a lot more about tourists and their money than then ever could about us. If I ever had to break down and use cannabis for an injury the Veterans Abyss claims isn't because soft tissue damage doesn't x-ray, I can't smoke as a result of medical quackery. If it's the psychoactive aspect that bothers you, I'm told the cold pressed liquid doesn't have that property, as it only gets that way after it's been heated. I don't need to get high, hell I'm nuts enough as it stands.



**From:** [Marilyn Mick](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 12:26:52 PM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify  
Marilyn Mick, Honolulu

Sent from my mobile

**From:** [Tatiana Labore](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 12:44:37 PM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Susan Kaintz Murphy](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 11:56:41 AM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify  
Susan Kaintz

Sent from my iPad

**HB-673-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 5:47:02 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/21/2019 9:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan L Howery	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

Aloha Committee Members,

My name is Jonathan Howery and I support HB673 HD2 as submitted.

The only form of consumption that medical patients, such as myself, have right now at the dispensaries is limited to smoking. There are many other ways in which patients can receive the benefits of cannabis other than smoking, and that is through edibles. I have seen and partaken of edibles where it is legal in Washington, Oregon, and California and it is the best alternative to smoking cannabis.

Edibles are the only suitable form of medicine for many patients. Those who already have a hard time breathing or have very irritable lungs need alternative forms to be able to receive the pain relieving benefits of cannabis. Having them produced professionally allows for proper dosage and elimination of contaminants which is better than trying to figure it out in the home.

In regards to the children viewpoint, aside from registered patients, children will not have any more access to these products than other ones that responsible adults safeguard. It is the adults responsibility to keep their children away from any substances which may alter their child's state.

Tourists are now able to visit dispensaries and cannot smoke in their hotels, I'm sure that officials would rather tourists not openly find spaces to partake, thus edibles is the only practical solution for them in this instance.

Public education can successfully address concerns regarding impaired driving or diversion to children. There is enough stigma against cannabis and we need to be educating the public about the benefits and use national/worldwide statistics to enforce facts. I believe we are making progress in these areas and responsible use through public education is how the point gets across.

My name is Jonathan Howery and I support HB673 HD2 as submitted. Mahalo for allowing me to submit testimony.

**From:** [Kerry Porter](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 7:38:41 PM



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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

As a registered nurse, 40+ years, I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Kerry Porter

**From:** [Tatiana Labore](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 3:01:55 PM

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**LATE**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market.

Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Zachary Stoddard](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:16:57 PM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Zack Stoddard

**From:** [Myron Berney](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:48:46 PM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify



**From:** [JL How](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 5:32:27 PM

**LATE**

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes.

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Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative.

Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [Sharissa Andreas](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:27:34 PM

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill.

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Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**From:** [Al](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:10:35 PM

**LATE**

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Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members: I write to urge you to preserve the end to edibles prohibition in the current version of this bill. Edibles are often the only form of medicine for certain patients, and due to Hawaii's strong anti-smoking laws it is often the most practical form for many patients who spend countless hours away from their homes. Patients who cannot buy edibles must either make them, rely on a registered caregiver or put themselves at great risk by relying on the black market. Hawai'i is one of the few medical cannabis states with this kind of edibles ban, and one of very few that take such a strong stand against smoking without providing this alternative. Please keep edibles in the bill, for the sake of Hawai'i residents as well as for the out-of-state patients who are now registering to visit dispensaries during their vacations or business trips to the islands. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

**LATE**



Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and committee members,

YPDA Hawaii is a youth organization dedicated to issues that effect the younger generations that will have to live through the policies put in place or not, in the coming years.

YPDA is **OPPOSED** to the new proposed SD 1. We are taking this stance because the new SD 1 is insulting to patients by removing all of the actual substance of the former language in SB673 that benefits patients. We find it insulting that the legislature is still holding 329 patients back from being able to purchase their medication in edible form. Many patients can only use edible forms of medicine and the burden is on them to make their own products, which can be extremely time consuming, cumbersome, and expensive. Each state that allows edibles has measures in place to ensure they are sold with protections in so that children cannot get into the packaging. It seems that this session's medical cannabis bills move the discussion away from patients and considerations for 'what-if's' take over. This is a logical fallacy at best and only hurts individuals with legitimate health conditions.

Furthermore, patient protections should be the focus and language should be inserted as previous that protects the 329 cardholder from negative action from their employer. The medical use of medicine should be seen as private and sacred to which the doctor and the patient are in the driver's seat of the individual's care. Instead we are allowing organizations, companies, and other entities decide what they deem is 'right and wrong' about someone's personal care. Again, this is an insult to the thousands of patients who in our state who are performing their jobs, raising children, and contributing to society each

and every day in Hawai'i.

We will only support this measure if the HD 1 language is inserted back in or stronger language from HD 1 is inserted. Do not let suffering patients wait any longer for concerns that have yet to produce actual evidence more than 1 offs or anecdotal. Our state is better than this and should be leading the way in patient centered cannabis care.

Mahalo for your time.

Randy Gonce

YPDA Executive Committee Member

Dr. Myron Berney, N.D., L.Ac.  
*Karma Jurme Damcho*  
808-392-3366



HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Committee Members:

HB673 HD2 Proposed SD1- Support

**Marijuana is well accepted as a safe and effective medicine, even by Law Enforcement in their public testimony nationally.**

**Prescription medicines that are found to be safe and effective often become "Over the Counter" instead of "Prescription only".**

**Recreational Marijuana is OTC Marijuana is GOOD FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY reducing violent crime up to 25%. Drug substitution using OTC Medical Marijuana to replace Hard Drugs and Alcohol resulted in a 59% complete cessation for prescription opioid medicine and a 45% decrease in alcohol abuse.**

**Medicines may be taken by mouth or parenterally, by injection or by topical application. The rate of absorption for injection and smoking or snorting drugs are about the same, very rapid compared to by mouth administration.**

**The problem with oral administration of any drug is the dosage needs to be accurately labeled as to the exact amount of drug in each standard dose.**

**Without a standardized dose, oral administration may be either inadequate or too much. Labeling as to the dose contained in the product is essential and will minimize both too little and too much.**

**Oral Administration of Medical Marijuana is preferred, if both the dose is known and the drug tolerance of the individual patient is also known.**

**Smoking is clearly bad for your health. Oral Administration of Medical Marijuana is safe if the dose is known. That is true with all medicines, marijuana is not an exception.**

**Point of fact, FDA approved THC is administered orally not smoked.**