



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

**Testimony in OPPOSITION to H.B. 2633 H.D. 1
RELATING TO CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL USE**

REPRESENTATIVE ROY M. TAKUMI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unable to determine at this time.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) appreciates the intent of this
3 measure to improve patient access by amending the State’s medical cannabis dispensary system
4 to authorize licensed dispensaries to distribute cannabis propagules and cuttings, however, DOH
5 OPPOSES HB2633 for following reasons:

6 (1) **Does not appear to comport with the Legislature’s intent in establishing the regulated**
7 **statewide dispensary system.** In 2015, the Hawaii Legislature established a statewide
8 dispensary system for qualifying patients who lacked the ability to grow their own supply of
9 cannabis. Authorizing licensed dispensaries to distribute propagules or cuttings to allow
10 patients to grow cannabis plants appears to be a departure from the Legislature’s intent of
11 establishing a dispensary system for patients who are unable to grow cannabis plants.

12 (2) **Potential for patients to exceed their statutory limit of medical cannabis.** “Adequate
13 supply” is defined in section 329-121, HRS, as an amount not to exceed “ten cannabis plants,

1 whether immature or mature, and four ounces of usable cannabis at any given time.”

2 Although a patient or caregiver’s home grown plants are required to be tagged with the
3 patient’s registration number, home grow plant counts are not tracked within the state’s
4 electronic seed-to-sale tracking system. HB2633 would allow a patient to acquire up to ten
5 propagules or cuttings every thirty days, in addition to any home grow plants, creating the
6 potential for patients to exceed their statutory plant count limits.

7 (3) **Risk for encouraging the illegal cannabis market.** Allowing the sale of propagules and
8 cuttings with no means to track these could tempt the diversion of legally obtained cannabis
9 intended for medical use to other than registered patients. This could significantly jeopardize
10 public health and safety.

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

HB-2633-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 1:59:41 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2020 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:



To: Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair
Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary

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

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2633

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.

Authorizes medical cannabis dispensaries to distribute cannabis propagules and cuttings to individuals authorized to cultivate cannabis plants for medical use, subject to quantity limits and quality requirements. s

Big Island Grown Dispensaries is one of eight dispensary licensees in the State. We operate a production facility and 3 retail locations on the Big Island of Hawaii. We submit testimony today **in support of HB2633** which provides a legal channel for patients to obtain clean, lab tested clones through a licensed dispensary.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Aloha,

Jaclyn L. Moore, Pharm.D.

CEO Big Island Grown Dispensaries



February 11, 2020

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Representative Chris Lee, Chair
Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

From: Chris Cole, Director of Product Development, Maui Grown Therapies

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2633 HD1

HB 2633 RELATING TO CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL USE

Authorizes dispensaries to distribute cannabis propagules and cuttings to individuals authorized to cultivate cannabis plants for medical use, subject to quantity limits and quality requirements.

Maui Grown Therapies is one of eight companies licensed by the Department of Health under Hawai'i Revised Statutes 329D to cultivate, manufacture and dispense medical cannabis and medical cannabis manufactured products to qualifying patients.

Maui Grown Therapies **supports** House Bill 2633 HD1, which would improve patient access to affordable, quality assured medical cannabis by allowing dispensaries licensed under HRS 329D to manufacture and dispense the starting genetic material needed for successful home cannabis cultivation.

Though licensed dispensaries are now open and serving patients in Hawaii, Maui, Honolulu and Kauai counties, many 329 cardholders continue to take advantage of our state's mild climate and subtropical photoperiod by cultivating up to ten of their own medical cannabis plants at home under the Department of Health's longstanding registry program.

Maui Grown Therapies strongly supports the right of registered patients to cultivate their own medical cannabis at home in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Indeed, **the medical dispensary system created by the legislature in 2015 did not intend to sunset the ability for qualified patients to cultivate a limited number of cannabis plants for their personal use** (although the law clearly established sunset provisions for individual caregivers in anticipation of licensed dispensaries ultimately meeting the needs of qualified patients with independently tested, quality-assured products).

We regularly organize and lead workshops for the benefit of those seeking to learn how to maintain a healthy garden at home; how to identify and control common pests; and how to avoid microbial contamination when processing and storing harvested cannabis. And we generally make our production

Maui Grown Therapies
44 Pa'a St., Kahului, HI 96732
(808) 866 7576



staff available to answer questions or provide advice whenever registered patients growing at home reach out to us for support.

Patients frequently ask if they can purchase cuttings, seeds or other propagative material from our dispensary. Unfortunately, because propagative material is not included on the list of products licensed dispensaries may manufacture and distribute, we're forced to tell these patients that we're unable to meet their needs – leaving them with no alternative other than to turn to the illicit market, where products are often mislabeled or contaminated, to obtain the genetics needed to propagate and maintain their gardens.

By allowing dispensaries licensed under HRS 329D to dispense cuttings and other propagative material to registered medical cannabis patients, House Bill 2633 HD1 would establish a legal, transparent channel for the distribution of such products. Furthermore, because propagative material dispensed by licensed dispensaries would be subject to mandatory testing by an independent laboratory for the presence of contaminants, House Bill 2633 HD1 ensure 329 cardholders who wish to cultivate their medical cannabis at home have a source of safe, quality-assured genetics.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Maui Grown Therapies
44 Pa'a St., Kahului, HI 96732
(808) 866 7576

HB-2633-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 6:01:04 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2020 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dain retzlaff	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME

— helping cannabis patients in Hawaii since 2014.

Testimony in **SUPPORT** of H.B. 2633,

LATE

PROPOSED HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hearing Date: Wednesday, 02-12-20

Aloha Committee Chair, and committee members,

PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME begrudgingly **SUPPORT**s H.B. 2633, with reservations, because cannabis patients deserve to have “legal” access to cannabis plants, but we remind lawmakers that this bill continues the Prejudice and Inequality of the marijuana prohibition, disregarding the fact that there is an alcohol crisis in Hawaii. Hawaii’s emergency hospitals are filled every night with victims of alcohol abuse. Yet alcohol is legal and cannabis is illegal. How do you justify such prejudice?

Hawaii State is operating a mafia-style protection racket. Selling “Protection from Prosecution” to anyone with the money to buy certifications, regardless of their “actual” medical condition, rendering any medical research, and the entire “Medical” cannabis program completely bogus.

Please **SUPPORT** this bill, H.B. 2633, with amendments to legalize cannabis for the thousands of small cannabis entrepreneurs that have created a billion-dollar-a-year cannabis industry, that has been world-famous since the 1960s, and do **NOT** hand it over to big corporations.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

Brian Murphy, Director

PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME



PWTmaui.org

For more info email: info@PWTmaui.org

LATE

HB-2633-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 6:44:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2020 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 2633

PROPOSED HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hearing Date: Wednesday, 02-12-20

Aloha Committee Chair, and committee members,

I SUPPORT H.B. 2633, with reservations, because cannabis patients deserve to have “legal” access to cannabis plants, but we remind lawmakers that this bill continues the Prejudice and Inequality of the marijuana prohibition, disregarding the fact that there is an alcohol crisis in Hawaii. Hawaii’s emergency hospitals are filled every night with victims of alcohol abuse. Yet alcohol is legal and cannabis is illegal. How do you justify such prejudice?

Hawaii State is operating a mafia-style protection racket. Selling “Protection from Prosecution” to anyone with the money to buy certifications, regardless of their “actual” medical condition, rendering any medical research, and the entire “Medical” cannabis program completely bogus.

Please SUPPORT this bill, H.B. 2633, with amendments to legalize cannabis for the thousands of small cannabis entrepreneurs that have created a billion-dollar-a-year cannabis industry, that has been world-famous since the 1960s, and do NOT hand it over to big corporations.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

Mary Whispering Wind