

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1886 HD1
RELATING TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Hearing Date: [3/16/2022](#)

Room Number: CR229/Videoconference

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will impact the priorities identified in the Governor’s
- 2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health’s (Department) appropriations and
- 3 personnel priorities.

- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports this measure since it bans hemp products
- 5 containing Delta 8 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which are not approved by the U.S. Food and
- 6 Drug Administration (FDA) and may put consumers at risk. On September 21, 2021, the
- 7 Department issued “CDC Health Alert Network Health Advisory 451: Increases in Availability
- 8 of Cannabis Products Containing Delta-8 THC and Reported Cases of Adverse Events” to
- 9 Emergency Departments and Primary Care providers statewide of the increased availability of
- 10 cannabis products containing delta-8 THC and the potential for adverse events due to insufficient
- 11 labeling of products containing THC and cannabidiol (CBD).

- 12 In 2021, The American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) introduced a product
- 13 code specific to delta-8 THC into its National Poison Data System (NPDS), allowing for the
- 14 monitoring of delta-8 THC adverse events. From January 1 to July 31, 2021, 660 delta-8 THC
- 15 exposures were recorded with the new product code, and one additional case was recoded as a
- 16 delta-8 THC exposure from October 2020. Eighteen percent of exposures (119 of 661 cases)
- 17 required hospitalization, and 39% (258 of 661 cases) involved pediatric patients less than 18
- 18 years of age.

1 On September 14, 2021, FDA issued a Consumer Update “5 Things to Know about Delta-8
2 Tetrahydrocannabinol – Delta-8 THC”, alerting consumers to be aware that delta-8 THC products
3 have not been evaluated or approved by the FDA for safe use in any context. Delta-8 THC
4 products may be marketed in ways that put the public health at risk and should especially be kept
5 out of reach of children and pets.

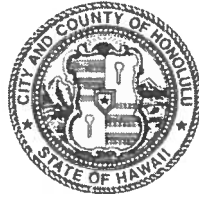
6 **Offered Amendments:** None.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF

GUR REFERENCE PJ-GK

March 16, 2022

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
and Members
Committee on Commerce and
Consumer Protection
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1886, H.D. 1, Relating to Controlled Substances

I am Major Phillip Johnson of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill 1886, H.D. 1, Relating to Controlled Substances.

Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol has not been evaluated or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA reports that products containing Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol are marketed in ways that put the public's health at risk. When ingested, Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol has been known to cause vomiting, hallucinations, difficulty breathing, loss of consciousness, and even coma. The FDA and poison control centers have reported an uptick in adverse events related to products containing Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 1886, H.D. 1, Relating to Controlled Substances, and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature of Rade K. Vanic in black ink.

For

Rade K. Vanic
Interim Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Phillip Johnson in black ink.

Phillip Johnson, Major
Narcotics/Vice Division



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
745 Fort Street, Suite 303
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone (808) 532-6232
hi.state@madd.org

March 16, 2022

To: Senator Roslyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,
and members of the Committee

From: Kurt Kendro, Chair, Public Policy Committee; Mothers Against Drunk Driving
(MADD) Hawaii

Re: HOUSE BILL 1886 HD1- RELATING TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

I am Kurt Kendro, Chair of MADD Hawaii's Public Policy Committee and retired Major from the Honolulu Police Department speaking on behalf of the members of MADD Hawaii Advisory Board in SUPPORT of House Bill 1886 HD1- Relating to Controlled Substances.

Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol has not been approved by the US FOOD AND Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA reports that when products containing Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol are ingested, has been known to cause vomiting, hallucinations, difficulty in breathing, loss of consciousness, and even coma.

MADD is greatly concerned if someone ingests any products that contain Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol that could then operate a vehicle and result in tragedy. It is essential that this drug be added to the list of schedule I controlled substances.

MADD Hawaii SUPPORTS House Bill 1886, HD1 and asks that this bill be passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.