



**Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Testimony on Senate Bill 489
Submitted by Jody Reel, PharmD
Kansas Pharmacists Association, Topeka Kansas**

March 10, 2016

Chairman O'Donnell and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony to you today on Senate Bill 489. I am providing these remarks on behalf of the Kansas Pharmacists Association. The Kansas Pharmacists Association is a statewide professional Association in Kansas that represents Kansas pharmacists from all practice settings.

The Kansas Pharmacists Association is neutral with respect to Senate Bill 489 regarding the use of hemp oil for medical purposes. If it is the government's decision to reschedule controlled substances for medical purposes, The Kansas Pharmacists Association strongly believes that the dispensing of the newly scheduled drug must be controlled by licensed pharmacies within the state of Kansas. No other controlled substance is currently allowed to be dispensed without proper tracking of inventory. Tracking of the supply chain goes from manufacturer to wholesaler to pharmacy to the patient. It is imperative that hemp oil has the same high standards of tracking that only pharmacies are equipped to manage. This is particularly important in the hospital setting. States that have passed medical marijuana legislation without giving control to pharmacies in statute have had numerous difficulties in hospitals where outside medications used are closely regulated. This lack of regulation could potentially lead to adulterated product and patient harm.

Clinically, the medication needs to be reported to KTRACS, Kansas's prescription drug monitoring program for controlled substances for proper management of patient's therapy. If hemp oil is dispensed outside of the medical community via dispensaries, it is less likely to be properly reported in the patient's medical record.

While KPhA is neutral on the subject of legalizing hemp products for medical purpose, I ask for your consideration of this issue should this part of the bill move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jody K. Reel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jody K. Reel, PharmD
Government Affairs Committee Chair
Kansas Pharmacists Association
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