

DATE: March 14, 2023

Bill number: SB 135, Opponent

Name of Conferee: Sherry Williams

Chairman Thompson, Vice Chairman Rick Kloos,
Ranking Minority Oletha Faust-Goodeau

Text of Testimony and Closing

My family and I oppose the legalization of marijuana as a result of experience over the last 30 plus years watching a member of our extended family, whose life deteriorated by use of marijuana. This person claims to find pain relief and help to deal with stresses of life. We see that this dear individual skirts around problems, and repeatedly blames others rather than facing up to facts. Use of marijuana, has caused separation in family relationships. Children and grandchildren are estranged from this user and it is the user's choice to keep on using the substance and morn/complain over the situation. The user openly has advocated for legalization of marijuana, and it is evident that it is an addiction that controls the one that uses it.

From personal family experience, I know how regular marijuana use has produced very compromised lives in past times, in my family and in a multitude of others. I understand that the marijuana of today is becoming increasingly more addictive. I strongly oppose the people of Kansas putting their stamp of approval on free and uncontrolled distribution and production of a highly dangerous substance. After viewing results of legalization of marijuana in Colorado and now Oklahoma, legalization in Kansas would be a road with broken bridges where we could never go back and regain accountability and responsible citizenship!