

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
300 S.W. TENTH AVENUE
TOPEKA, KS 66612
(785) 296-7652
john.wilson@house.ks.gov



DISTRICT OFFICE
1923 OHIO ST.
LAWRENCE, KS 66046

JOHN WILSON
10TH DISTRICT

Chairman Hawkins and Members of the Health & Human Services Committee:

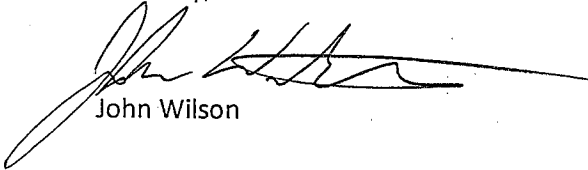
On behalf of my constituents and thousands of Kansans seeking care for their friends and loved ones living with incapacitating seizures and other debilitating conditions, **I stand in strong support of HB 2152**. This bill is a continuation of efforts that began in 2014. A prior version of this bill passed the House and the Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee, but ultimately died below the line last session.

Today you will hear stories from families whose lives have been forever changed, and whose lives could be improved with the passage of HB 2152. If these families were the only ones to benefit from this bill, I wholeheartedly believe that it's still worth our time, effort and political reputations.

I've attached a simple one-pager that summarizes the bill, as well as an FAQ that might clarify any questions you have about marijuana and marijuana policy.

I hope you will join me in supporting the passage of HB 2152 and sharing the stories you've heard today with our colleagues in the House and Senate.

Sincerely,



John Wilson

HB 2152 – SUMMARY

Representative John Wilson, 10th District

Otis' Law is a limited high-CBD, low-THC medical hemp bill designed to allow regulated access to products which contain the active ingredient cannabidiol, or CBD. CBD is one of over 60 compounds found in the plant *Cannabis Sativa L.* It belongs to a class of molecules called cannabinoids. **CBD has no intoxicating effects.** THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects. CBD and THC levels tend to vary among different plants. Marijuana grown for recreational purposes often contains more THC than CBD. **However, by using selective breeding techniques, growers have created varieties with high levels of CBD and almost no THC.**

HB 2152 differs significantly from the "medical marijuana" bills that have been introduced over the past few years in the Kansas Legislature, including SB 155, which was introduced this session. This bill represents a Kansas solution—a solution that is designed for very specific medical conditions and with very limited forms of consumption and access.

With that in mind, I think it's important and helpful to understand what this bill doesn't do.

HB 2152...

- Does not allow the growing or consumption of marijuana with any intoxicating or psychoactive effects
- Does not allow for recreational use of marijuana
- Does not allow people to grow marijuana at home
- Does not allow all (or even most) medical conditions to be treated with marijuana
- Does not allow for new conditions or types of marijuana to be added without legislative approval
- Does not legalize "industrial" hemp
- Does not decriminalize marijuana possession
- Does not allow for shipping or sending marijuana by mail or other shipping service

So if that's what the bill doesn't do, what does it do?

Under HB 2152...

- A patient with a qualifying condition would have legal access to hemp products with no more than 3% THC (not enough for impairment)
- A patient must have doctor-issued certification in order to be eligible
- A patient could have one designated caregiver, who must register with the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE).
- Licensed producers would cultivate state-compliant varieties of hemp, perform extraction processes, and meet packaging and labeling requirements established by KDHE
- KDHE would register, regulate and inspect private producers of medical hemp and hemp products
- KDHE would license and regulate independent testing labs

There are 29 states that permit the production, possession, and distribution of medical cannabis and 18 states with some statutory language regarding CBD oil. Of the states that passed CBD-only laws, very few are considered functional state programs for patients due to the type and number of restrictions. **The carefully crafted components of Otis' law balance the need for positive health outcomes with the need to protect public and patient safety.** Furthermore, Otis' Law provides a regulatory framework for any forthcoming changes that may occur as a result of changes at the federal level. Until that time, I think we should be doing all we can for Kansans searching for help.