

SB: 155

Enacting the Kansas Cannabis
Compassion and Care Act

Proponent Testimony By Nick Reinecker

Senate Federal and State Affairs Sen. Jacob LaTurner Chairman

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Kansas Cares

- SB 155 would end the neglect that the state of Kansas has imposed on the suffering and vulnerable populations that have spent personal and taxpayer money on potentially deadly and/or non-effective pharmaceuticals and who desire a safer alternative in the form of a non-lethal botanical

Kansas Thrives

- The Kansas Cannabis Compassion and Care Act would also generate tax revenue and another option for non-profit agricultural production

Definitions

- Deception

- (of a person) cause (someone) to believe something that is not true, typically in order to gain some personal advantage
 - Reefer Madness

- Terror

- Extremely unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain, or a threat
 - Reefer Madness

- Cannabis

- the hemp plant, *Cannabis sativa*. a tall plant with a stiff upright stem, divided serrated leaves, and glandular hairs. It is used to produce hemp fiber and as a psychotropic drug

- Compassion

- sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others

Why?

- We have been deceived
 - DEA removes “alternative facts” pdf from website
 - “Dangers and Consequences of Marijuana”
 - Cannabis is not a gateway
 - Except for LE
 - Detention, Investigation
 - Asset seizure/forfeiture
 - Therapeutic Value
 - Schedule I
 - Hindered Research
 - New Data from sovereign states
 - Profit
 - Companies that make synthetic pharmaceuticals and campaign contributions
- *JAMA Intern Med.* Published online August 18, 2014 (2+ YEARS AGO)
 - States with medical marijuana laws had a 24.8 percent lower average annual opioid overdose death rate compared to states without such laws. In 2010, that translated to about 1,729 fewer deaths than expected. The years after implementation of medical marijuana laws also were associated with lower overdose death rates that generally got stronger over time: year 1 (-19.9 percent), year 2 (-25.2 percent), year 3 (-23.6 percent), year 4 (-20.2 percent), year 5 (-33.7 percent)...
 - Marcus A. Bachhuber, M.D., of the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Hypocrisy

- FDA approved non-scheduled substances

- Cigarettes

- Tobacco-Nicotine

- Flavor Enhancing Synthetic Chems.

- 480,000 deaths per year (CDC)

- Alcohol

- 88,000 Deaths per year (CDC)

- Prescriptions

- 15,000 Deaths per year (CDC)

- Side effects

- Coffee/Sugar/MSG etc.

- Cannabis

- Zero overdose deaths

- Easy to produce

- Limited side effects

- Affordable

- No comparison

- A note on Children and seizures

- 15 meds, depleted bank accounts stagnant or worsening conditions

- If possess or use cannabis; accused

- Mentally Ill, unfit, criminal parents?

- DCF involvement

Liberty

- Kansas allows citizens to homebrew beer and wine
- Kansas allows the growing of tobacco for personal use and general gardening for nutrition*
- Kansas promotes state's rights in guns, elections etc.
- Kansas entered into the union as a free state showing that slavery was a cause to fight
- This committee has the opportunity to continue these traditions of allowing true local control in the decisions of individual citizen to make concerning their health and welfare
- You are the Kansas government and we, your constituents, are asking for your help
 - Pass SB 155

Thank you Mr. Chairman for graciously allowing this bill to be heard in committee and providing exactly what this specific bill would do: The showing and implementation of compassion. Thank you committee members for being here to listen to us speak. My name is Nick Reinecker and I am a native Kansan, husband, and father of two. I believe in individual liberty, limited government, state's rights, fair trade, and a Doctor-patient relationship that is unfettered. The past four years I have listened and watched, both in person and online, to the plethora of debate in committee hearings, on the floor of the House and Senate chambers, in the halls of the Kansas Statehouse, on social media, and during coffee hour at the local cafe my family runs in central Kansas, and I can't think of a single reason not to pass this bill. Considerable time has been spent in the current and past legislative session talking about alcohol, tobacco, gaming, tax increases, and other questionable policy trajectories that were and could be implemented for the purposes of a balanced budget. Still more time has been spent discussing proper regulation for the care and protection of the vulnerable and suffering, economic growth, and of course the still small voice of another pending election cycle. For those here speaking in opposition to this bill, they too I believe, care about proper government roles and responsibilities, constitutional public safety, and health strategies, and of course, the rule of law. However when those in opposition of cannabis reform become dependent on laws that conflict with basic human needs and the principals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness that are described in the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, it becomes necessary to return to the basics of government which is the protection of inalienable rights that are not the government's to give or take away. I contend that knocking doors down, seizing property and the interrogation, detainment, arrest, confinement, and monitoring of our citizenry should be confined to those activities that are violent in nature or in this case, involve synthetic substances such as methamphetamine, crack cocaine and heroin and not naturally occurring substances, such as cannabis, that have proven to have industrial and therapeutic value.

The state of Kansas is currently in an agricultural crisis. We are losing population to other states and people are going out of state to buy their consumables. We have food deserts where convenience stores sell alcohol, tobacco, unhealthy snacks, lottery, and gas all taxed, regulated, and condoned by the Kansas Legislature. The fear of the proliferation of THC is unwarranted as it pales in comparison to the social costs and damage that is caused by these other "legal" substances, not to mention the black market of unregulated street thugs who prey on our children. Neglect of the suffering is not acceptable and must stop. The time is now to end this prohibition of compassion and I ask that you please pass SB 155, the Kansas Cannabis Compassion and Care Act, if for no other reason, it is the right thing to do.

Thank You

Questions?

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