PAZ MANAGEMENT, INC. 32 Pine Tree Drive Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (845) 462-4000

March 13, 2019

Dear Honorable Committee Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to inform you that I am in favor of having the state of Kansas develop a viable and innovative medical Cannabis program that will serve well the citizens of Kansas, as well as become a leadership model for other states to follow.

I have reviewed carefully the Senate's proposed bill #113 and was happy to find many positive aspects within.

However, it's my opinion that some of the provisions in the bill limit the state's ability to implement such a program without the need to create a very top heavy government composed of regulatory and monitoring organization. It would be beneficial to set up a system that is in large part self regulated by businesses that utilize innovative and well proven methods that ensures high compliance with all state and nationally accepted practices and norms within the health care industry.

My name is Azzy Reckess. I am a resident of New York State and an experienced owner/operator/manager of health-related operations in NYS, Kansas and abroad.

In recent years, I have diversified my interests into the Agro -Tech world in general and especially the Cannabis industry. I have had the opportunity to learn the following:

- 1. While it's commonly believed that the Cannabis properties are mostly valuable for recreational purposes, the reality is that the Cannabis plant is even more valuable to society, if/when its properties are used properly for medical purposes.
- 2. Since many states have already approved legislation that enables the growth and sale of Cannabis products in their state, such experience could serve well states that seek to avoid problems experienced in other states.

- 3. In doing so, Kansas can avoid problems while seeking legislation and practices that are based on principles that are rooted in successful and evidence-based systems and methods that promote the following:
 - A. Free market conditions mixed with the ability to maintain cost effective monitoring and verifiable products, derived from such industry while ensuring the safety to the public.
 - B. Reliability of product outcomes.
 - C. Ease of monitoring its production and sales.
 - D. Accessibility for consumption by the public.
 - E. Competitiveness (to other states) cost to the consumer.
 - F. Financially beneficial to the state (via its ability to collect revenue as the result of its commerce activities).

To accomplish all the above, it's my opinion that the state of Kansas is fortunate to not be the "first to market" in this area. The fact that all of its neighboring states are already ahead of the state may place Kansas at a disadvantage. Prompt action steps by the state to implement a viable and cost effective option for its citizens could place Kansas ahead of its neighboring states and become the innovative leader in the nation in this industry.

Since it's my understanding that I need to limit this presentation to a few minutes, I will be happy to share additional details of my vision and ideas at a later date.

Respectfully yours,

Azzy Reckess – President

Paz Management, Inc.