



Good morning members of the state and federal committee. My name is Juanita Ramos, future resident of Kansas and current resident of Austin Texas representing CBIRD (Center for Botanical, Innovation, Research and Development) and executive team member of Green Healthcare Solutions Kansas, both located out of Parsons.

I am pleased and blessed to join you today after a very interesting and catastrophic journey over the last week in Texas.

I'm addressing House Bill 2184 known as the medical cannabis bill. Working over the last few years with Representative Willie Dove and a number of other lawmakers, the focus has been to bring the best of the industrial hemp and medical cannabis industries to your state. The goal is to create a Kansas-centric hub for industrial hemp that will service not only the United States, but countries overseas, including a huge market in Japan and the rest of Asia. I have been working with a number of farmers and other agricultural concerns in early discussions to supply, for instance, the largest dairy chain in China. This is a new export market for the USA, and specifically, Kansas that will also create economic development and increased job opportunities.

In addition to hemp, I have also been directly involved in the development of a Public Private Partnership Pilot for medical cannabis in Kansas. I have had the pleasure of discussing the many benefits of medical cannabis with many of you, with State universities, and local business community. Everyone is excited about the possibilities medical cannabis brings to Kansas, including significant tax revenue, research and development at the university level, revenue for schools and colleges, and lots of good-paying jobs. More importantly, there is hope among farmers, rural communities, greenhouse growers, and communities to have an opportunity to be intimately involved in a unique model for economic revitalization.

My extensive experience has allowed me to witness what works and what does not work with these industries.

A wealth of government investment is necessary in the FY2022 Budget to maintain current funding levels. The need to pass Bill 2184 will help alleviate the State's budget deficit, trigger economic development, job creation, community revitalization, and certainly boost the agribusiness in your state which will lead to other States following a Kansas model.



One of the priorities that Representative Dove consistently shared with me, “was bring the best of the best to Kansas to give Kansas the opportunity to do things correct - so that you don't have to go and undo any wrongs.”

*Kansas now has that opportunity.*

CBIRD has been working to recruit specific medical cannabis resources and talent into Kansas. Examples of verticals currently include:

- A unique pilot program or public private partnership in a position to immediately commence resources once licenses are granted. Developed relationships would bring capital, experts, and knowledge to assist in the initial creation of this model. Within 12 to 16 months after passage of Bill 2184 we project 12-16 new companies to emerge.
- Cutting-edge technology offering an identity preservation and authenticity platform is available. The program integrates DNA Fingerprinting at the genetics level throughout the entire supply chain to eradicate counterfeiting and achieve intellectual property protection. Government and stakeholders must ensure the safety, be able to collect taxes, and protect the consumer in the most profitable crop in agribusiness, globally.
- Access to a global genetic bank
- New “biomimicry lighting” technology removing the threat of mold, mildew, pests
- Industrial hemp product R& D and export opportunities with building materials, automotive and aerospace components, cement and asphalt products, bioplastics, and more (though a “pending” R&D MOU with Kansas schools).

In closing, public safety concerns are paramount. Regulation is safer than illicit market. Regulated sales also allow the medical cannabis sold to be lab tested, safe to consume, and safe to purchase. Marijuana is being sold statewide right now - but no one is saying who can sell it, where it can be sold, no one is collecting taxes on the transaction, and no one is checking ID to ensure it is not sold to minors. You, the lawmakers have the power to protect your communities and reduce if not eliminate Black Market transactions.

I thank each and every one of you for caring enough to come every day and serve the people of your communities; people who voted for you; people that trust you; and obviously people who support you.