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SB560

Proponent

Written Testimony

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To whom it may concern....

My name is Clayton Stallings, and I helped launch Missouri's first educational and informational medical cannabis publication called The EVOLUTION Magazine published monthly by native Kansas City, MO advocates to educate and inform medical marijuana patients and provide businesses within the Missouri Cannabis Industry an economical forum to tell their story. We launched our first issue in June of 2019, and have expanded state wide with our free pick up locations since.

Being the marketing director and content developer of the publication, I am in a unique position to not only get to meet daily with MO MMJ patients and hear their stories, but also get to tour all the MMJ licensed facilities and meet the teams associated with them.

I have heard thousands upon thousands of stories of the lives of MO MMJ patients being changed for the better with access to medical cannabis, as well as hear the lives changed through the economical impact of jobs created with this new industry. Our state is set to receive millions of dollars in additional tax revenue, and the Missouri Veterans Commission has already received 14 million in tax revenue from the MO MMJ program.

Although our publication is statewide, our office is based out of Kansas City, and we have friends, family, and co-workers that live and/or work on a state line divided. On the Missouri side, we are certified patients, but if we take our medicine a few blocks west, we are criminals. This **MUST STOP!**

SB560 is not the perfect MMJ legislation. The cost of entry to gain a MMJ license is higher than any where else in our nation and banning cannabis flower is illogical. What is more absurd though, is locking up our friends and family members in a divided Kansas City. I support any MMJ legislation that solves this ongoing crisis.

Kansas is currently a state that people move out of to save their lives and avoid driving through to prevent jailtime, and if you're a KC resident your business stays on the Missouri side. Its up to Kansas lawmakers to change this.

