

Date: March 15, 2022
SB560 - Senate Federal/State - medical marijuana
Presenter: Clay Bullard

Prepared statement:

Committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide this statement.

As you consider the multitude of issues surrounding the legalization of medical marijuana for the State of Kansas, I would like to highlight one area that I think this committee should consider on behalf of all the citizens of Kansas, as it can and will affect all citizens at some level. I am for the utilization of marijuana for medicinal purposes, when it can truly be proven safe and effective - as a medical product.

The medical marijuana industry is one that is still in infancy with very little standardized of processes, testing or punitive damages from one state to the next. When compared to any other medical product - pharmaceutical, device or lab test, the regulations by most states are waning, to say the least. A lack of standards, or inventing the standards "from scratch", is not in the best interests of anyone who uses, prescribes or tests cannabis in the state of Kansas.

Kansas has the opportunity to be out in front of any such issues by establishing their QA laboratory prior to issuing licenses and avoid the problems Oklahoma and other states have encountered, and are still encountering, due to their lack of early implementation. I urge Kansas to consider early implementation of controls, mirroring more of a "medical process" for quality assurance and protection of commerce reasons.

I would ask the committee to adopt similar language from HB2708(2021) into SB560, SEC 23, (b), (2) that states: "The QA laboratory must have a minimum of one year of medical marijuana testing licensure in another state and be contracted as a quality assurance testing laboratory by another state"

In conclusion I would ask that you adopt the language above, matching the House and ensuring the best Quality Assurance lab. I want to thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony and finally ask that this committee pass SB560 favorably, upon ammendment.