

Tiffany Coleman 816.210.7076

HB 5300, HB5301, HB5302 – Opposed in whole by The Botanical Co, Franklin Fields, and Una Labs
With Specific objection to HB5301 Section 7 part B subparts 6 and 7.

From:

Separate plant resin from a marijuana plant by butane extraction in any public place or motor vehicle, or inside or within the curtilage of any residential structure.

Separate plant resin from a marijuana plant by butane extraction in a manner that demonstrates a failure to exercise reasonable care or reckless disregard for the safety of others.

To:

Separate plant resin from marijuana using a hydrocarbon solvent or any other flammable substance.

Prevents patients from making their own medicinal extracts and tinctures in the normal methods for these activities – including oil extraction, alcohol extraction, hydrocarbon extraction – regardless of location and safety of the process. And depending on the definition of flammable substances, also limits other normal methods for these activities which include substances that may be category 3 and category 4 flammable substances under NFPA 2021. Indeed, cannabis plant material is a combustible fiber which is classified as a flammable substance. This section would wholly limit patients ability to receive any medicine other than smokable flower.

Molly Wingrove

From: Gmail User <nicholasgeuther@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 5:10 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: Hb 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am writing to oppose HBs 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5ths regulatory reform committee hearing.

I have been a caregiver since 2015 and this bill would make it very difficult to provide my patients with the products they need to live a better and more pain free life.

Sincerely
Nicholas Geuther
11159 red arrow highway lot 193
Bridgman Mi 49106
7089805443

Sent from my iPhone

Molly Wingrove

From: Michael Komorn <michael@komornlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 2:21 PM
To: Molly Wingrove; jeffmirwin@gmail.com; Steve Miller; Alyssa McCormick; Jennifer St. Amant
Subject: Testimony regarding amendment to the MMMA 5301 et al..

My name is Michael Komorn, I am an attorney and president of the MMMA, an online community of patients and caregivers with 40k members.

We oppose the amendment to the MMMA. There are no legitimate concerns that would warrant a change or amendments. There are many problems with the proposed amendments: One concern is that the amendments propose to require and identify where the caregiver is growing his or her plants. This is a major concern especially because the dissemination of this information has always been protected, and guarded with the penalty of a criminal misdemeanor for doing so. There would be real concerns for the caregivers should the location of their cultivating cannabis is disclosed, and their safety from not just the government, but theft or robbery.

Over the last 12 years I have represented many patients and caregivers. In fact the last 12 years of the MMMA is an example of the terrible treatment of patients and caregivers. In 2015 the state of Michigan took in over 25 million dollars in forfeiture proceeds, most of which was directly seized from caregivers and patients. These horrific stories in fact lead to the current amendment and changes in forfeiture law (abuse) now requiring a conviction before the government can forfeit property.

My experience with patients and caregivers has been a remarkable experience. I saw people putting their neck on the line, growing plants and cultivating medical cannabis for their patients. I have witness cancer, HIV and epilepsy patients who have been turned away buy their treating physicians with nowhere to go, be taken in by caregivers based upon compassion. I have witnessed these caregivers devote their lives to try to help the sick, the weak and the dying. I have witnessed currently the reality that the cost of cannabis in the licensed retail stores unattainable to purchase because the price is too much. The amount of cannabis these sick patients need, particularly cannabis oil, requires a lot of plant material to produce. It is from these caregivers, these bills intend to vitiate, that is the sole and remaining source for these sick people. They should not be left without a source or method of obtaining their medicine. The current market albeit hitting over 110 million a month, does not contemplate and never has the end user, the price for patients and ultimately is not accessible for the sick. Further and often overlooked, is the reality that when the legislature created the MMFLA, specifically cutting out caregivers as the source for cannabis for the patient community (2017 300 k patients 45k caregivers) the state had real concerns of how the existing facilitates would source their cannabis. In an effort to address this issue, and to 'prevent a state of emergency for patients to get their medical cannabis, the governor created an emergency rule allowing caregivers to sell their medical cannabis to the licensed market. The caregivers saved the MMFLA, and prevented a state of emergency for patients who would have otherwise been cut off from their medicine. Once the state started issuing. Medical Cultivations licenses to source medical cannabis for the patients, this emergency rule was deleted. The MMMA, a ballot initiative which was passed by a vote count that was higher than other election in the history of Michigan Elections, and since its inception has been attacked by the legislature the former Attorney General, the Courts and Law Enforcement. I can attest to the number of cases that were brought against caregivers and patients for minor technical violations, such as a dead plant in a garbage being considered a 13 plant, or unrooted clones being considered "plants' and exceeding the volume limitations. The entire process of determining the compliance of the caregivers was determined by the Law enforcement as they stood in the room of the caregiver. However, no actually formal training has ever been afforded to Law Enforcement

regarding actual patients and caregivers. I have had the unfortunate experience of cross examine drug task officers who when asked 1. Have you ever had any training regarding the MMMA, they answer NO, When asked if they have ever read the MMMA, they would respond- you mean the entire law? In fact it was in their best interest to not know the law, because perceiving a violation would allow the tearing down of the caregiver grow, and seizing their guitar and baseball card collection pursuant to forfeiture law.

Other than the industry leaders, who are truly monopolizing the cannabis market, there is not identifiable issue that would create a concern for law makers or community leaders. This is unfortunately an attempt to capitalize on their resources and to lobby the legislature for more control over the market. But this is a false narrative, and while being part of the 110 million dollars a month produced by the industry, the caregivers have obviously not impacted those earnings. They are not a threat and do not interfere in any way with the existing industry.

I cant help but to comment on the Shelly E, comment that children are being poisoned. This is the most ridiculous statement I have ever heard. This is the same rhetoric tha the former Attorney General used as propaganda, while opposing the MMMA. You will find the use the " the children, we need to protect the children" is nothing but propaganda, intended to inflame. I recall not too long ago, that my law firm petitioned the state of Michigan to add autism to the list of qualifying conditions for the MMMA. It was one of the most meaningful matters I have worked on in my professional career of 30 years. I was moved by the parents and their loss of solutions or answers in treating their kids, and even adult children afflicted with autism. Despite that board voting in favor, the director at the time of LARA, rejected adding to the list of conditions. Only later and new a petition was filed, a few years later were we able to get autism added to the list. My point is the state has disregard the treatment of these children and their access to medicine time and time again. It is laughable that Shelly E now suggests that there are concerns for children. She did not site an example and stated same as if it was a fact. It is not.

On behalf of the MMMA, and hundreds of patients and caregivers I have represented since 2008, I would urge the committee to vote against these bills. To do so would be a bad decision for the state of Michigan. I would add that the premise that the government is going to control the economy of cannabis is a failed proposition. I would urge and warn against making this new " tax and regulate" world we are living in, the new prohibition. The real solution would be to open up the market and make it easier for caregivers to get into the market, but this is not about economics, and never has been. The messaging is not caregivers need to make money, it is simply that the patients who rely upon the caregivers for medical cannabis cannot afford the retail licensed stores.

Finally, it is important to understand the importance of the role the caregiver plays in Michigan law. From the Michigan Supreme Court Decision in People v Hartwick and Tuttle. 870 N.W.2d 37 (Mich. 2015)

" Primary caregivers must establish the amount of usable marijuana needed to treat their patients' debilitating medical conditions and then how many marijuana plants the primary caregiver needs to grow in order ensure "uninterrupted availability" for the caregiver's patients. "

Further, to the extent the Court of Appeals determined that a written certification was comparable to a pharmaceutical prescription, this determination was erroneous. A written certification is not similar to that of a pharmaceutical prescription. Marijuana is a Schedule 1 controlled substance.⁸⁷ Therefore, a doctor is not legally able to prescribe marijuana to an individual for any reason. A written certification is a statutorily mandated document that must meet specific statutory requirements so that an individual may successfully apply for a registry identification card. While the MMMA states that "[m]odern medical research . has discovered beneficial uses for marihuana in treating . debilitating medical conditions,"⁸⁸ the terminology employed in the MMMA and the actual function of primary caregivers and patients is not comparable to how a medical doctor's treatment of an actual patient.

Primary caregivers carry out a statutorily created task that is completely unrelated to how a doctor would treat a patient.

Additionally while this reference in the statute (and as discussed in Hartwick Tuttle) is found in the section addressing minor patients (requiring the legal guardian or parent to control acquisition, dosing and frequency of use) this is the unique feature of what a caregiver does. None of the retail stores medical or otherwise, address the intimacy of this function between the patient and the provider of medical cannabis.

That the statute requires these particular caregivers to control a patient's dosage, but does not require it of others, indicates that all other caregivers need not be particularly aware of their patients' medical needs. Instead, a primary caregiver may reasonably rely on the amount his or her patient states is needed to treat the patient's debilitating medical condition.

Michael Komorn
Komorn Law, PLLC
Business Law | Trial Lawyer | Legal Defense

- [Criminal Defense Attorney Michigan \(CDAM\)-Right to Counsel Award Recipient](#)
- [Attorney of the Year Award - MINORML](#)
- [Casework Focused Business Law | Civil Litigation | Cannabis Business Development and Licensing |](#)
- [Casework Focused On Marijuana Cases | DUI | Drugged Driving | Criminal Defense](#)
- [Recommended Award Winning Attorneys | 27 years of Experience](#)

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"As long as the world shall last there will be wrongs, and if no man objected and no man rebelled, those wrongs would last forever." - Clarence Darrow

Molly Wingrove

From: Stacey <stacey.watrobowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 2:25 PM
To: Rep. Tenisha Yancey (District 1); Rep. Joe Tate (District 2); Rep. Roger Hauck (District 99); Rep. Michele Hoytenga (District 102); Rep. Joseph Bellino, Jr. (District 17); Rep. Matt Hall (District 63); Rep. Mike Mueller (District 51); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 79); CClements@house.mi.gov; Rep. John N. Damoose (District 107); Rep. Pat Outman (District 70); Rep. Kevin Hertel (District 18); Rep. Alex Garza (District 12); Rep. Angela Witwer (District 71); Rep. Richard Steenland (District 22); Rep. Stephanie Young (District 8); Rep. Shri Thanedar (District 3)
Cc: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300-5302; HB5319-21 Opposition X

To my elected representatives,

This morning you may have heard big marijuana - and very deep pockets - asking you to rip apart a marijuana caregiver system that helps tens of thousands of your constituents every day. A system of benefits that was tearfully explained this morning by Susan Fischer, the cancer patient whose quality of life depends on caregivers. As a Detroit, a former unwilling participant in the war on drugs, and recent former employee of an MCMA-affiliated company, this bill scares the shit out of me. It scares me for the following reasons, and raises the following questions:

Penalties. Because the companies involved with the MCMA also have vested interests in private prisons (4 Front/Mission, Canterra, Helios-Lang, etc). What is going to happen if a caregiver is over on their plant count? Who is policing this? Are we going to rely on a snitch system and pith neighbor-against-neighbor? What will the penalties be? Will there be jail time perhaps? Because the companies involved with the MCMA have a long term goal here, and it does NOT just stop with taking medicine from children and destroying jobs many people have worked tirelessly to create. Is this going to affect automatic expungement set to take place in 2023? People who have been ravaged by the careless war on drugs are finally getting into the workforce and are getting their lives back. This smells like another way to put black people and minorities back into a corrupt and unjust system perpetuated by greed and control. We should not be going BACK to set of rules we know does not and has not worked. Its counterintuitive.

Testing. Oh, testing. Steve Linder was talking about a regulated market and safe products, but his company and many other MCMA licenses grows are riddled with mold at unsafe levels. Heres the thing: currently in Michigan, the "regulated market" is allowed to remediate their moldy products. Remediation is when you take the marijuana flower and put it in a giant microwave, which *removes essential components of the medicinal properties of the plant**, but also kills the mold so its "safe for consumption". They are allowed to do this BEFORE their product is sent to official state required testing labs, and are not required to disclose this process to the public, which can be repeated AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES until the mold is undetectable. The

machines that do the remediation cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Now, you can grow weed without mold at all - like caregivers do exceptionally well - if you just invested in people instead of things and marketing. Which brings me to...

LABOR. Why do they have mold in the first place? Because they have not put any money into labor, period. They keep the staff down to a minimum, pay them low wages with no benefits, no training, no upward career movement, unsafe work environments, sexual harassment, racism, and nepotism. There is no training in the regulated cannabis market because **its brand new**. So they attempt to hire experienced growers from the west coast, and when that doesn't work, they hire an educated Michigan caregiver eager to move into the regulated market. What's the issue with that? That caregiver has experience with up to 72 plants. These grows are thousands and sometimes tens of thousands of plants deep, with large, complex HVAC systems and expensive technology, and no one who knows or cares enough to train them on how to use it to do their job. You might be great at growing a vegetable garden every year, but if you walk into an industrial grow operation, would you know what to do? And on top of that, these big money grow operations don't have/won't hire enough employees to monitor and care for the plants, which is how you PREVENT mold and other very common, but *completely preventable* problems only identifiable by a trained human. A caregiver will produce impeccable product because they have their environment completely dialed in. In a massive warehouse that takes A LOT of people to produce that same quality, if they're properly taught to do so. So instead of putting more money into paying better wages, creating an education program, or labor in general, they put a *couple million* into mold remediation machines, which destroys so much of the plant that is not of the standards medical patients require of their marijuana products.

This is a massive problem, and the MCMA is trying to force more knowledgeable people (caregivers) into their bad business plan through this gutting of caregiver legislation. This will hurt patients, this will hurt small business, this will hurt our local economy and the MCMA is currently hurting the will of the people, and the people they employ.

I urge you to ask more questions of these big money cannabis companies on our behalf, and to ask US. We smokers, growers, advocates, activists and your neighbor, all have passionately read about these laws, because we know how important it is to defend them. Big Marijuana is getting away with selling bad product with fancy labels at unaffordable prices, and its flat out wrong to deny patients the right to quality medicine.

Thank you for your time; by voting NO, you stand with the people of Michigan.

Stacey Watrobski
Detroit, MI 48224

Molly Wingrove

From: Cary Justice <420positive@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 10:33 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300. OPPOSE

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Ms. Wingroves,

I'm writing to you about my opposition to HB 5300. This bill will effectively get rid of caregivers. We need our caregivers. They make life giving and life saving medicine and must be protected.

I'm asking that this email be read at the committee hearing Monday September 27, 2021.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter,

Cary Neuville-Justice

Onward and Upward

Molly Wingrove

From: Cary Justice <420positive@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 10:56 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5301. OPPOSE :)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Ms. Winegrove,

I'm writing in opposition to HB 5301. I do not support any changes to the MMMA and this bill does precisely that.

Caregivers make life giving and life saving medicine. Caregivers are a critical component to patient care in Michigan.

I oppose HB 5301.

I'm asking this letter be read at the committee hearing on September 27, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,

Cary Neville-Justice

Onward and Upward

Molly Wingrove

From: Cary Justice <420positive@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 11:02 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5302. OPPOSE ;)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Ms. Wingrove,

I'm writing in opposition to HB 5302. It modifies the health code with regard to cannabis caregivers. I oppose any changes to the MMMA 2008.

Caregivers make life giving and life saving medicine. We need caregivers in Michigan.

I'm asking that this letter be read into the minutes at the committee hearing Monday September 27, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cary Neuville-Justice

Onward and Upward

Molly Wingrove

From: Cindy Fej <cindy012365@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 4:06 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: Regarding HBs 5300-5302

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Greetings,

My name is **Cindy Fejedelem**. I'm a registered voter living in Flushing Township. I'm writing to you in regards to HBs 5300-5302. As you're aware, the registered voters of the state of Michigan democratically voted in both medical marijuana and recreational marijuana. We voted on the language of these state laws. We approved these. This is the will of the majority of the people of our state.

Now comes big business, and Steve Linder, trying to restrict the rights of patients and caregivers. I am a registered medical marijuana patient. I just got my card in June. Last year, on May 8th, University of Michigan Hospital refused to send me home with anything for pain after I had surgery. I'm a chronic pain patient, and I'm chronically ill. I believe that everyone has a right to adequate pain control, and I was suffering. My significant other and I made the decision to try marijuana to help control my pain. As our state is now recreational, that was easy to do. The next day, we were at a dispensary in Ann Arbor picking up some THC gummies. I had never used marijuana before in my life. I had an aversion to it, and was raised by conservative parents. Marijuana is highly looked down upon still to this day, and there is a social stigma by conservative people who don't like it for whatever reason. It was something new and scary for me to try, and with the support of my significant other, I tried it. Guess what? It helped immensely with my pain.

After a lot of trial and error, trying to figure out what works for me and what doesn't, we found products that help me. Not only did I get relief from my surgical pain, but it helps me with my daily pain as well. I live with chronic daily migraine, fibromyalgia, chronic abdominal pain, osteo arthritis, degenerative disc disease, I have vertebrae that are fusing in my spine, I have scoliosis, a calcified tendon in my neck, no curve to my neck, and all of these cause me a great deal of pain every day. On the standard medical scale, my pain never gets lower than a 5 every day, and goes up to a 10. I struggle to function at pain levels that are higher than healthy people do. I also suffer with gastroparesis, which is a digestive disorder, and causes me tons of abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, and stool problems. Because of this, I don't digest food fast enough, or sometimes too fast, and it goes bad in my stomach before my body can digest it. I have to give myself IV medication four times a day, and a bag of saline five days a week to keep me out of the hospital. Marijuana helps me have an appetite, helps my pain, and helps my nausea and vomiting. I also suffer with anxiety, medical-related PTSD, and insomnia. Marijuana helps control these things for me, and as a matter of fact, I have only had to use my Xanax, which is a Benzodiazepine, and is highly addictive, eight times since last year, because of Marijuana. I've suffered through painful spinal injections, painful Botox injections, which I had to do once a month for six months. It's 31 injections in your face, head, neck, and shoulders once a month, all at once. I've had nerve blocks, I use a TENS unit, I've tried fire cupping, acupuncture, massage, exercise, yoga, pool therapy, physical therapy, aromatherapy, supplements, medications that were never intended to treat pain, but are used for an off label use, and none of that has done what marijuana has done for me. I have suffered greatly. No one will prescribe me any prescription pain medication, despite living with chronic pain every day, and having no history of substance abuse. Doctors are more afraid of losing their licenses than they are helping people who are in pain. My pain management doctor recommended that I try marijuana personally.

I spend a lot of my income on medications every month. I live on \$956/month on SSDI. I am disabled and cannot work. I'm on medicare and medicaid. I have to pay cash for marijuana, as it is my medication. I ration my use of it, and don't even use it every day, due to the expenses. I can't claim it on my taxes. It's not tax deductible. I don't work, and

am a single disabled woman. I have no taxable income to even file taxes for. Most of my medical problems happened after I was exposed to lead, from the Flint Water Crisis of 2014. I was attending college at University of Michigan - Flint, and commuted to school from Flushing Township. I never was a Flint resident, but I ate and drank downtown on campus, before and after classes. I refilled my water bottles at the drinking fountains to save money. I had a full time job, and a full class load. I had to drop out of college, and stop working due to level 3 lead poisoning. I don't qualify for any help, because I never was a city of Flint resident. I've tried.

A kind person at an online meeting with Americans for Safe Access - Michigan Chapter, donated the cost of my medical card and televisit appointment to get my medical marijuana card in June. I had been paying recreational prices at dispensaries for over a year, because I couldn't afford the cost of the card. I am eternally grateful for him for that, and it's the nicest thing that anyone's ever done for me. It has allowed me to use medical dispensaries now, which have lowered my costs, but I'm still paying a lot for medication. Some of us have been fighting for patient-caregiver rights here in Flushing Township since February, and I am one of them. I also recently fought for other people's rights in Clinton Township. As I am immunocompromised, it's not safe for me to attend in person meetings, so I've been doing my best electronically, and providing support for those who can go in person, because I cannot. I lost my father to COVID in April, and I now caregive for my mother, who also had COVID, and is losing her cognitive abilities because of COVID. She also is still on oxygen, despite having no lung problems at all pre-COVID since April. I had sepsis, pneumonia, and a pneumothorax about a year ago now, and I'm still trying to fight away the sepsis. My labs are all off still, and I have a central line. It's not safe for me to be there to testify on the 5th as to what marijuana has done for me. Despite being fully vaccinated, I cannot take the risk to myself and to my mother. Because all of the townships around us are implementing new zoning ordinances, I haven't been able to find a caregiver yet. I still have to use a dispensary, and pay 6% sales tax on my medication. Having a caregiver who can grow and process my medication for me would help me immensely, and they can tailor products I can use to my dosage needs. I can try a specific strain meant for helping medical conditions that I have, instead of not knowing what strain is in my products from a dispensary. I cannot smoke it, due to my lungs. I have to use topical and edible products.

Please, please, don't make any changes to the medical marijuana program here in Michigan. It is hard enough trying to find someone who is local to me, who has an open spot for a new patient. Being physically disabled, and at the hospital bare minimum one day a week, with typically 2-3 other appointments that week for either my mother or myself, I'm not home a lot, and wouldn't be able to have someone in my house caring for plants for me. I don't have the room in my house. I live in a 12X60 trailer in Meadowbrook Manor Estates near Mt. Morris Rd. and Elms Rd. in Flushing Township. I don't have the space, the outlets, or availability to grow my own medication. I live alone. My significant other lives in Caro, and caregives for his father who has Parkinson's Disease. He cannot care for my plants, nor does he have the space at his home for them. Medical marijuana saves lives, and patients should have a right to safe access to their medication that can be tailor made for them. I don't think that the patients are being considered in all of this, and people are just thinking that caregivers are selling it to other people on the side, making money, when it's our medication meant and grown for US. We, the patients, are going to be the ones suffering - not them.

You can hear live testimony from me at the following links:

These are from March 11, 2021 (my 39th birthday,) at the Flushing Township Board of Trustees Meeting, as recorded by ABC 12, Fox66/NBC25, and mlive.

<https://www.abc12.com/2021/03/12/flushing-township-residents-concerned-over-proposed-marijuana-ordinance/>

<https://www.mlive.com/news/flint/2021/03/flushing-township-board-sends-proposed-medical-marijuana-ordinance-back-to-planning-commission.html>

<https://nbc25news.com/news/local/flushing-township-sends-controversial-marijuana-ordinance-back-to-planning-commission>

This is my testimony, and others' testimony, from the Clinton Township Planning Board meeting on August 26, 2021. I have fast forwarded it to start at the point where the ordinance is discussed. <https://youtu.be/qWpy4--P6I?t=450>

You can find my testimony, and others' testimony for the Clinton Township Board of Trustees meeting on September 13, 2021 here, also fast forwarded to the part where the ordinance is discussed. <https://youtu.be/4LyDq80EeII?t=1235>

Please don't make any changes to the medical marijuana program. We the people voted this in. We the people should be the ones voting on changes to it.

Thank You for Your Time,

Cindy Fejedelem
7327 115th St.
Flushing, MI 48433
Landline: (810) 639-7998
Cell: (810) 908-2479

Molly Wingrove

From: Charles Strackbein <strack66@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 6:58 AM
Subject: Re: opposition to HB 5300, 5301, 5302

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To: The Honorable House Representatives House Office Building, Mi 48933

Re: House Bill 5300, 5301 and 5302, by Jim Lilly, TC Clements, and Richard Steenland Our opposition of 5300, 5301 and 5302 legislative bills)

BRIEF: OPOSITION

Key House Bill 5301 Opposition points.

1. It causes an undue burden to me.
2. The licensed businesses cannot properly serve us, especially my fellow patients with cancer and life-threatening diseases
3. I cannot afford the prices big businesses charge, causing me to go without my medicine; the big box retailers price is exorbitant, due to increased costs for big-box marketing and packaging
4. The specialty medical products created by caregivers are niche "on-demand" products delivered to achieve specific medical benefits, these specialty products have limited markets and are not big money maker's so big box solutions don't meet the needs of patients for these critical products and their delivery.
5. If we (patients and caregivers) didn't sway public opinion and get medical-use passed first, there would likely be NO adult-use recreational market.

We are pro-"no changes" to the very popular 2008 voter approved (63%) "marijuana for medical use". The more recent and less popular 56% (2018) recreational-use law and related manufacturers push is for "marijuana like alcohol". There is a fundamental crime going on here. The very popular 2008 vote to "create a safe, affordable medical marijuana program" passed by 63%. This is very different from the less-popular 2018 (56%) campaign to treat marijuana "like alcohol" (56%). Two different issues, campaigns, votes, approaches, concepts and systems, different regulations for different markets. Please keep them separate. If we (patients and care givers) didn't sway public opinion and get medical use passed, there would likely be NO adult-use recreational market. I don't see you passing the hardship making us have to sway public opinion again.

Dear Honorable House Representatives,

My name is Charles Strackbein, I am the Founder of the Ann Arbor Monroe Street Fair, established in 2002. Proudly we now have over 20,000 active yearly attendees and another 20,000 in our highly engaged online community. I am the Founding Board Chair of MICHIGO, A specialty Michigan Tourism and Hospitality Organization, a life long, homegrown Michigander and Macomb County voter with family thats lived in Michigan for many generations.

I was a passenger in a violent auto accident in Macomb County in 1988. I suffered multiple serious injuries and was hospitalized for 3 weeks. I've been through years of occupational, physical, and vocational therapy (thank you auto-no-fault) and have made a remarkable non-pill popping recovery; cannabis relieves my remaining head, neck, hip and back pain. I am disabled and the relief cannabis provides helps me maintain my vocational therapy and employment. I cannot afford higher priced cannabis that bears the weight of big box cannabis marketing and packaging.

Cannabis has also met my alcohol and nicotine addictions head-on leading me to an alcohol, tobacco, and nicotine free lifestyle. My health has improved 10-fold as I benefit from personal cannabis use. Please reject these bills that will decimate my relationship with the source of my medicine.

Please allow me the personal responsibility of choice of medical cannabis medicine, and the method, date, time, and place of any testing of my cannabis. The last 5,000 years have shown people benefiting from the personal use of cannabis with no major health issues reported, all within the trust of close relationships. Please let this help guide your decision to reject these manufactured ideas and interests.

I grow 3-5 beautiful cannabis plants outdoors in the summer, and I trust my caregiver to provide in others. The quality I've known is based on personal experience and my close relationship with my caregiver and transparent growing practices.

All we need are seeds, soil, fresh air, sunshine and rain, (all Gods premium ingredients). Please do not accuse us of adulterated cannabis. The surveys are tilted by the author. I do not know big box solutions personally; they are relatively un-established all things considered. I think the existing relationships should stand separately as completely different laws and systems.

I do believe big box solutions have debts to satisfy, out-of-state officials and stakeholders and are more likely to cut corners and therefore need to have their cannabis tested for the sake of all cannabis consumers in Michigan. One exists as a personal relationship founded on trust, while the other is a complete commercial endeavor designed to satisfy Michigan's adult-use market while providing returns to stakeholders. Please consider the differences and keep our unique solution in place.

Plus, there are far more licensed medical facilities than recreational facilities and only 13 testing facilities for over 30,000 caregivers. This bill is ill-founded and not practical. Please vote no.

Please keep our voter passed 2008 Medical use cannabis caregiver system and MMFLA Laws and regulations in place.

There is no problem with the caregiver system. The surveys are manufactured with no input from Michigan Patients. The MCMA claims to represent the interests of over 1/2 the class-C Licensed Marijuana businesses yet fail to mention how many patients they officially represent. They do not properly credit or qualify their claims and statements, leaving them without any authority.

Please let me know your thoughts on this bill and how you intend to vote and why.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Strackbein

Charles A. Strackbein

22900 Playview St.

St. Clair Shores, Mi 48082

Appendix:

Key House Bill 5301 Opposition points.

1. It causes an undue burden to me
2. The licensed businesses cannot properly serve us, especially my fellow patients with cancer and life-threatening diseases.
3. I cannot afford the prices big businesses charge, causing me to go without my medicine; the big box retailers price is exorbitant, due to increased costs for big-box marketing and packaging
4. If we (patients and caregivers didn't sway public opinion and get medical-use passed, there would likely be NO adult-use recreational market.

House representatives contacts

Regulatory Reform Committee Chair,

Roger Hauck (517) 373-1789 RogerHauck@house.mi.gov

emails

House Rep Jim Lily jimlilly@house.mi.gov

House Rep Richard Steenland richardsteenland@house.mi.gov

House Rep **TC Clements** TCClements@house.mi.gov

House Rep Kevin Hertel:: KevinHertel@house.mi.gov

phone #'s

House Rep Jim Lily at 517-373-0838

House Rep Richard Steenland 517-373- 0854

House Rep **TC Clements (517) 373-2617**

House Rep: Kevin Hertel: **(517) 373-1180**

Molly Wingrove

From: T Cyph <ty.cypher@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 7:47 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: Bills 5300-5302

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello!

I am writing you today as a concerned citizen. I have read these three bills and they are harmful to those with chronic pain. The bill limit the amount of caregiver growers on a property is just poor shaming. Also dispensary edibles don't taste good, how dare you make it harder for my caregiver to provide me with my medicine.

If you're looking for something to change try allowing caregivers to sell there excess product to dispos provided a state test. You could tax it, which I know is all you care about. All this corporate interest will ruin my medicine

A concerned citizen

Molly Wingrove

From: Julie Barron <jbar0907@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Molly Wingrove; Rep. Roger Hauck (District 99); Rep. Michele Hoytenga (District 102); Rep. Joseph Bellino, Jr. (District 17); Rep. Matt Hall (District 63); Rep. Mike Mueller (District 51); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 79); Rep. TC Clements (District 56); Rep. John N. Damoose (District 107); Rep. Pat Outman (District 70); Rep. Kevin Hertel (District 18); Rep. Tenisha Yancey (District 1); Rep. Alex Garza (District 12); Rep. Angela Witwer (District 71); Rep. Richard Steenland (District 22)
Subject: House Bills 5300, 5301, 5302

I am writing you today to urge you to vote no on the Michigan Cannabis Safety Act.

House Bill 5300:

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/.../pdf/2021-HIB-5300.pdf>

House Bill 5301:

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/.../pdf/2021-HIB-5301.pdf>

House Bill 5302:

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/.../pdf/2021-HIB-5302.pdf>

If passed these bills would be devastating to MI cannabis patients, one of those patients being my daughter!!! We use a caregiver to provide safe organic medicine at a reasonable cost. Please do not allow her to lose access and put more money in the pockets of Big Canna. This is a money grab!!!

-Julie Barron
Ann Arbor, MI

Molly Wingrove

From: Anton Harb Jr. <tfire136@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 10:20 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Cc: Rep. Pat Outman (District 70); Rep. John N. Damoose (District 107); Rep. TC Clements (District 56); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 79); Rep. Mike Mueller (District 51); Rep. Matt Hall (District 63); Rep. Joseph Bellino, Jr. (District 17); Rep. Michele Hoitenga (District 102); Rep. Roger Hauck (District 99); Rep. Stephanie Young (District 8); Rep. Richard Steenland (District 22); Rep. Angela Witwer (District 71); Rep. Alex Garza (District 12); Rep. Tenisha Yancey (District 1); Rep. Kevin Hertel (District 18)
Subject: Written Testimony for the Record RE: Regulatory Reform Committee Meeting October 5, 2021
Attachments: MEMORANDUM OF TESTIMONY.docx

Hello,

My name is Anton Harb Jr., I am a Michigan resident residing in Macomb Township. As a 100% disabled veteran and former Federal Law Enforcement Officer, I have prepared the following written testimony in opposition of HB 5300, 5301 and 5302. I wish for this written testimony to be added as part of the official record for the Regulatory Reform Committee hearing currently scheduled for October 5, 2021. I am unable to attend this meeting in person. If there are any further questions, I would be happy to make myself available to this committee for further questioning.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anton Harb Jr.
716-553-6935
Tfire136@gmail.com
Macomb Township, MI

MEMORANDUM OF TESTIMONY

TO: The State of Michigan House of Representatives Regulatory Reform Committee

FROM: Anton Harb Jr.
1LT, US Army (Retired)

RE: Opposition To Michigan House Bills (HB) 5300, 5301 and 5302

DATE: October 2, 2021

I request the following testimony be included as part of the official record for the Regulatory Reform Committee meeting scheduled for October 5, 2021. My name is Anton Harb Jr., I am a first generation Palestinian American resident of the State of Michigan (MI), and currently reside in Macomb Township. I am a medically retired U.S. Army Officer, who served in combat during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005. Prior to becoming permanently and totally disabled in 2016, I served this country as a Federal Law Enforcement Officer in the following capacities: Special Agent, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Detroit Field Division (2012-2016), Special Agent, U.S Department of Treasury, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), Boston, MA (2010-2012), Task Force Officer (TFO), Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (2011-2012), Boston, MA and Border Patrol Agent, United States Border Patrol, Sonoita, AZ (2008-2010). I am very proud of my current status as a MI medical cannabis patient and Caregiver. My service to my country has led me to becoming 100% VA service connected for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). I am also a cancer survivor and a suicide survivor. I wish to convey to this committee the importance medical cannabis played in allowing me to survive my wounds. I currently serve as the Veteran Advisor to the Board of Directors for the Hero Project, a MI based non profit organization, aimed at helping disabled veterans through monetary donations raised from MI's legal cannabis industry. I stand shoulder to shoulder with every MI medical cannabis patient and Caregiver, and aim to defend our current medical cannabis law which was overwhelmingly passed by Voter Referendum in 2008.

I vehemently oppose the introduction of HB 5300, 5301 and 5302. In both my professional and personal opinion, this proposed legislation represents an attack on the rights of all MI medical cannabis patients, with the most impact to MI's disabled veteran population. HB 5301, page 30 lines 24-26, proposes limiting registered Caregivers to servicing only 1 patient. The MI Caregiver system is vital in providing medicine to disabled veterans, who otherwise fear repercussions for using medical cannabis, and the exposure visiting a provisioning center can create. Repercussion fears include losing VA medical benefits or military pensions. Many veterans suffering with PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) rely on the personal nature the Caregiver/patient relationship provides. Veterans are not always willing or able to frequent medical provisioning centers. The high costs and general distrust in the quality of dispensary products forces many veterans to rely on Caregivers. I have always known legally operating Caregivers to provide safe, quality medicine to those in need. Veterans are often forced to live

on fixed incomes which restricts their ability to pay for dispensary products. This legislation would force countless veterans to lose access to the only source of medicine they can afford. The thought of turning any veteran away from their source of medicine is reprehensible. This legislation premises itself on "safety" and regulation. I have been unable to find a single case where anyone has been injured by Caregiver produced cannabis flower since the law was enacted in 2008. In fact, I am sure a review of the METRC data system would reveal Caregiver product being welcomed into the licensed medical system as recently as 1 year ago. The Caregiver system has never been broken. People abusing the Caregiver system are already operating outside the law the people voted for. The answer is to enforce the laws on the books. Whether you are in favor or against cannabis, voting in favor of this legislation will absolutely have a negative impact on MI's veteran population.

HB 5301 Page 32 line 29 and page 33 lines 1-4, proposes allowing the MRA to provide State Police and local law enforcement with address information of Primary Caregivers. As a former law enforcement officer, I am deeply troubled by this proposal. This information has always been regarded as protected confidential health information. By freely providing this information we would be providing a tool for law enforcement officers to "fish" for Probable Cause. An overwhelming majority of Caregivers are legally operating within the confines of the current law. This proposal will encourage negative, and unnecessary law enforcement encounters with citizens who are legally exercising their duties to MI patients, especially in communities of color historically disadvantaged by the war on drugs. This would set up an open season on Caregivers, many who already operate in cannabis hostile local municipalities. I am dismayed at how interested the government is in what citizens are doing behind the doors of their 4th amendment protected residences.

In closing, this is not about plant counts, safety or any other red herring the corporate lobbyists are attempting to sell to this committee. This is about corporate greed and the attempted rekindling of the cannabis war so the wealthy can profit. The reality is compliance with any new legislation would likely be low, which would result in further drains on an already stressed legal system. We would turn disabled citizens who have been operating without issues for 12 years into common criminals. For me, this is an organized, methodical attempt by wealthy corporations to force our most vulnerable patients towards corporate owned medical dispensaries. I respectfully request this committee allow HB 5300, 5301 and 5302 to die without further consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anton Harb Jr.
716-553-6935
Tfire136@gmail.com
Macomb Township, Michigan

Molly Wingrove

From: Curtis Crump <curtis.crump@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 4:57 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321

Dear Honorable Chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HB's 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5th's regulatory reform committee hearing.

I am concerned for my patients who can't afford the high prices of medical marijuana products offered by dispensaries for their medical conditions. This is detrimental to my patients that rely on the patient/care giver system. Please do not change the system that we all voted for over 10 years.

Sincerely,
Curtis G. Crump
5454 Country Hearth Ln.
Grand Blanc, Mi. 48439
810-444-8488

Molly Wingrove

From: Malvin Essak <malvinessak24@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 9:15 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321

Dear honorable chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HBs 5300,5301,5302,5319,5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for the October 5ths regulatory reform committee hearing. I can't afford to pay the prices at current medical marijuana recreational and medical dispensaries.

Sincerely Malvin Essak

Molly Wingrove

From: Brandon Korkis <brandonkorkis@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 9:27 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321

Dear Honorable Chairman Hauck

I am writing to oppose HB'S 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321. PLEASE ENTER MY FORMAL OPPOSITION INTO THE RECORD FOR OCTOBER 5TH'S REGULATORY REFORM COMMITTEE HEARING.

We as caregivers and patients will not be able to live with only 1 patient. That is only 20% of our current patients.

Sincerely,
Brandon Korkis
47639 Nola dr, Macomb, MI
2488355637

Molly Wingrove

From: Rudell Salmo <rudell_salmo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 9:28 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: Hb 5300 ,5301, 5302 , 5319 , 5321 ,

Dear honorable chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HBs 5300,5301,5302,5319,5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for the October 5ths regulatory reform committee hearing. I can't afford to pay the prices at current medical marijuana recreational and medical dispensaries.

Rudell hermez
586-818-6035

Molly Wingrove

From: Elin Bouchard <elin.bouchard@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 11:28 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321

Dear Honorable Chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HB's 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5th's regulatory reform committee hearing.

If caregivers no longer have the right to provide medicine for their patients, many patients will have to go without due to high prices at dispensaries. All of what we have worked for will be thrown away and there will be underground operations which will lead to incarceration. The prisons and jails will be filled with non-violent crimes only due to providing safe marijuana to patients. Tax payers should not be paying for overfilled prisons due to something that has been legal for good reason. Many people have to grow their own Marijuana to provide medicine for themselves and family members and often times would have to go without otherwise. There are children suffering from diseases such as epilepsy, cancer, and more. Many parents cannot afford to go to dispensaries and spend hundreds of dollars on creams and tinctures. There are also adults that suffer from cancer, epilepsy, chronic pain, depression, anxiety, PTSD, multiple sclerosis, and more. A lot of these people already have to pay thousands for hospital bills and other medical expenses. Caregivers should continue to be able to provide meds for themselves and their patients. It is not fair to us, as caregivers, that we are being pushed to the side so that these new companies can have the entire market. We deserve to keep our rights and not be forgotten. There have never been any issues of "unsafe medicine" until it became an excuse for these companies. These companies are not realizing that their greediness will leave needy people without. They are making millions and millions of dollars and it is still not enough. We are not concerned about the money, we are concerned about keeping our rights as a people. If unsafe medicine is actually a concern, we should be able to pay to get our medicine tested just like these companies do. Thank you so much for taking time to read this email.

Sincerely,
Elin Bouchard
53308 Joann Marie Drive
Chesterfield, MI 48047
586-265-0816

Molly Wingrove

From: Nicholas Arroyo <nikobrown2820@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 11:30 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321

Dear Honorable Chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HB's 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319, 5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5th's regulatory reform committee hearing.

If caregivers no longer have the right to provide medicine for their patients, many patients will have to go without due to high prices at dispensaries. All of what we have worked for will be thrown away and there will be underground operations which will lead to incarceration. The prisons and jails will be filled with non-violent crimes only due to providing safe marijuana to patients. Tax payers should not be paying for overfilled prisons due to something that has been legal for good reason. Many people have to grow their own Marijuana to provide medicine for themselves and family members and often times would have to go without otherwise. There are children suffering from diseases such as epilepsy, cancer, and more. Many parents cannot afford to go to dispensaries and spend hundreds of dollars on creams and tinctures. There are also adults that suffer from cancer, epilepsy, chronic pain, depression, anxiety, PTSD, multiple sclerosis, and more. A lot of these people already have to pay thousands for hospital bills and other medical expenses. Caregivers should continue to be able to provide meds for themselves and their patients. It is not fair to us, as caregivers, that we are being pushed to the side so that these new companies can have the entire market. We deserve to keep our rights and not be forgotten. There have never been any issues of "unsafe medicine" until it became an excuse for these companies. These companies are not realizing that their greediness will leave needy people without. They are making millions and millions of dollars and it is still not enough. We are not concerned about the money, we are concerned about keeping our rights as a people. If unsafe medicine is actually a concern, we should be able to pay to get our medicine tested just like these companies do. Thank you so much for taking time to read this email.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Arroyo
53308 Joann Marie Drive
Chesterfield, MI 48047
586-662-2055

Molly Wingrove

From: Ferris <ferris1669@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 11:41 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300,5301,5302,5319,5321

Dear honorable chairman hauck,

I am writing to oppose HBS 5300,5301,5302,5319,5321 please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5TH's regulatory reform committee hearing (price increase will Hurt patience)

Sincerely

Ferris Paula

Thank you

Molly Wingrove

From: James Salmon <james.salmon777@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 8:41 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300,5301,5302,5319,5321

I am writing to oppose HB 5300,5301,5302,5319,5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5th's regulatory committee hearing.

Changes to the standing MMMP laws will adversely affect Caregivers and Patients alike while also harming local small businesses while solely benefiting Corporations and Corporate entities. The people that built this industry in Michigan will have food taken from their families table and handed to Corporate Giants who don't care about the people who worked hard to bring the industry to where it is today.

Best Regards,

James Salmon
Portage, MI, 49002

Molly Wingrove

From: kathy l <kathyl_68@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300 5301 5302 5319 5321

Dear Honorable Chairman Hauck

I am writing to oppose House bills 5300 5301 5302 5319 5321. Please enter my formal Opposition into the record for October 5th's regulatory reform committee hearing.

This will cause undo stress and burden to me and other patients. The licensed businesses cannot properly service patients especially those with cancer and life-threatening diseases in addition we cannot afford the prices big businesses charge therefore causing them to go without their medicine.

Sincerely

Katherine Lyon
13055 n bray rd
Clio mi 48420

Molly Wingrove

From: Kenny Kassab <kennykassab@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 10:01 AM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: HB 5300 5302 5319 5321

Dear Honorable chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HB's [REDACTED]
5300 5301 5302 5319 5321.

Please enter my formal opposition into record for October 5 regulatory reform committee hearing.

I am and have been a Michigan medical marijuana caregiver since 2015. I have five patients that rely on me. Two years ago I lost one of my patients Anisa King to cancer. I'm not a doctor, so I will not preach the health benefits of marijuana, but she definitely felt that cannabis helped her through the hard times.

Also I'm just against people monopolizing things as well as greedy corporate companies taking over local ways of living.

Respectfully

[REDACTED]
kenny kassab

3149 Rabeeh Dr., Auburn Hills, MI 48326
5865526775

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Molly Wingrove

From: Jeffry Luchies <kalamazoowoodfloors@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 1:20 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: House bill 5300 5301 5302 5319 5321

Dear honorable chairman Hauck,

I'm writing to express my deep disappointment in the house bills 5300, 5301 5302, 5319, and 5321. With the help of cannabis, I've been able to ween myself off any pain killers (just aleeve and ibuprofen, I have refinished wood floors for over 20 years) and I got off of my blood pressure medication while dropping 75 lbs in the last year. Growing this plant has also lead me through a gateway into the wonderful and rewarding world of gardening. Since Growing cannabis I have expanded my garden and grown more and more vegetables with a close eye on regenerative soil.

I'm a parent of 2 wonderful little girls... I want them to grow up in a world where cannabis (an Essential medicine) is an acceptable and appreciated form of medicine. I know you have probably gotten some nasty emails associated with this bill, please know I'm more than willing to chat and talk about what this plant has done for me.

Regards,

Jeff Luchies

Kalamazoo Wood Floors

2697623548 cell

736 pleasant ave Kalamazoo Mi

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Molly Wingrove

From: Joe Blow <joeblow856@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 1:28 PM
To: Molly Wingrove
Subject: Don't be a bad person

Dear Honorable Chairman Hauck,

I am writing to oppose HB's 5300, 5301, 5302, 5319,5321. Please enter my formal opposition into the record for October 5ths regulatory reform committee hearing.

Don't take the caregivers away from the people so you guys can profit off big business.

MWJR