

Oregon Cannabis PAC Testimony on SB 479, SB 480 Presented by Geoff Sugerman

The Oregon Cannabis PAC supports the establishment of a task force or advisory committee to make recommendations to the legislature on improving the medical marijuana program with a specific focus on products designed to help patients with certain conditions.

During these decades of prohibition, even as states have approved medical marijuana laws, there remains a huge gap in the research necessary to aid patients with their conditions. While there are numerous patient stories on how specific strains have helped with specific conditions, there remains in the United States a great dearth of research based information.

Oregon, with its long established medical program, can and should become a leader in this type of research. As we learn more about the effects of different cannabinoids on different conditions — from helping to control seizures to attacking cancerous tumors — we will help inform patients, growers, processors and dispensaries on what works best.

In addition, this task force can provide guidance on establishing the right kind of research programs and help improve communications throughout the industry on strain varieties, growing techniques and other critical needs.

Many of those in the medical marijuana program today have developed great knowledge and understanding about the use of particular strains and its impact on certain conditions. We encourage their participation in this task force. And we also believe bringing in new voices experienced in research protocols and communications will aid us as we move forward with both medical and adult use programs.

We also support the establishment of a research license that will allow for private commercial entities to establish research programs for medical conditions and for plant sciences.

We thank Senator Edwards for his work on this issue and will provide any assistance we can in the establishment of this task force.

Thank you.