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RE: Definition for Marijuana Infused Topical Products

Chairs Senator Burdick and Representative Ann Lininger, and members of the M91 Committee

As you will recall, we represent a small group of businesses, largely women, who process and manufacture marijuana infused topical products. We have asked for a specific definition to cover these products currently being sold through the medical marijuana program. These products offer relief for many skin conditions including psoriasis and eczema while also offering relief from arthritis pain and discomfort. Because these products have no psycho-active effects on the user they are often overlooked.

We have just reviewed the proposed amendments to SB 844. We are extremely concerned that the definition of Marijuana Infused Topical Products that Representative Olson had drafted on behalf of the Marijuana Infused Topical Association is not included in the definitions in section 4a of the dash 3 amendment. Perhaps there is a reason for that omission that we are not aware of. If so we need to understand what that issue is so it can be resolved.

As we have previously indicated we remain concerned that without this definition our client will suffer irreparable harm. Because their customer base are individuals who are seeking holistic remedies for their skin conditions and relief from arthritis and joint pain and hot intoxication it is critical that they not be linked to the larger group of marijuana products that have intoxicating effects. They firmly believe that this definition is critical if they are to remain a viable business in the new emerging market for recreational marijuana products.

We are requesting, once again, that the following language be included in the amendments so that our client is not damaged by the passage of a bill that does not clearly define their specific product type.

"Lotions, cream, gel, balm, oil, ointment or other products meant to be applied to the surfaces of a person's body, including skin and hair, into which marijuana or a marijuana extract has been incorporated."

If it is the intention of the Committee to exclude the definition we need to understand why and how the Committee envisions their placement in the new emerging market. By ignoring their request for this definition they will be unfairly damaged and their ability to continue to do business in this emerging and growing industry will cause them irreparable economic and professional harm.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request once again. It is our sincere hope that the Committee will take action to include the definition that we have provided in LC 1250.

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