

January 29, 2019

To: Chair Rep. Greenlick and the Members of the House Committee on Health Care

Re: Testimony regarding HB 2687

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health Care,

My name is Jesse Bontecou, I am the Deputy Director of the Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association (ORCA). ORCA is the largest trade association of cannabis businesses in the state representing approximately 350 businesses across all cannabis license types. We would like to thank the committee for being willing to address this very important issue.

On behalf of our members and good conscience we strongly support passing HB 2687. This bill simply provides reasonable and moral protections against discrimination to our fellow Oregonians who use cannabis as part of their therapeutic regimen and are in the terrifying situation of needing an organ transplant. Arizona, California, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Utah, and Washington have already passed similar legislation (links below) and it is time for Oregon to join them.

Accordingly, we strongly urge the members of this committee to support this bill and ensure that organ transplant patients in Oregon don't needlessly suffer emotionally or medically.

Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Respectfully,

Jesse Bontecou Deputy Director Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association Office: 541-632-4442 Jesse@oregoncannabisretailers.com http://www.oregoncannabisretailers.com

Arizona, Revised Statutes 36-2813 - https://www.azleg.gov/ars/36/02813.htm

California, Assembly Bill No. 258 - https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB258

Delaware, § 4905A Discrimination prohibited. - http://delcode.delaware.gov/title16/c049a/index.shtml

Illinois, (410 ILCS 130/) Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act - http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=3503&ChapterID=35



Maine, HP0544 LD 764, An Act To Prohibit the Exclusion of a Patient from Eligibility for an Organ Transplant Based on Medical Marijuana Use - https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0544&item=1&snum=128&PID=

New Hampshire, RSA 126-X Therapeutic Cannabis Program Protections and Prohibitions for Qualifying Patients - https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oos/tcp/documents/protectionspatient.pdf

Oklahoma, 63 O.S. 425 - http://www.yeson788.com/sq-788

Rhode Island, § 21-28.6-4 (2) (r) Protections for the medical use of marijuana - http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE21/21-28.6/21-28.6-4.HTM

Utah, H.B. 3001 Utah Medical Cannabis Act, 26-61a-111 (1), https://le.utah.gov/~2018s3/bills/static/HB3001.html

Washington, 69.51A.110 Suitability for organ transplant https://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=69.51a&full=true#69.51A.110