

**Comments for the Senate Committee on Business and General Government work session on 4/2/2019
- SB 585 – Support**

Please support the establishment of OLCC rules for Cannabis retailers in order to be compliant with laws.

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It has happened, for example, that pot buyers circle through the same shop 20 times a day and buy the legal limit for the day 20 times, and then turn around and sell the drugs illegally.

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It is bad enough that I can go on a website that sells marijuana products and the first window I see says: "Are you 21 years or older?" - and I click on "yes" - and I am in the website and I can buy anything I want. No one checks a drivers license for age or anything else. I can be a 10 year old kid using my mother's credit card, sitting on the family couch - and the marijuana products will be delivered to my house. This is sooo wrong.

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Kids in Middle schools and High schools all over Oregon are loosing competitiveness and have falling grades and teachers and coaches attribute this to kids smoking/vaping/ingesting pot. Ask ANY coach or ANY principal at ANY Middle- or High school in Oregon to confirm this. This is an epidemic in the making.

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It is already costing Colleges money. COCC in Bend had to hire a drug counselor to "advise" College students on the dangers of using THC or CBD in any form and getting addicted and dropping out, or getting bad grades. This needs to be better controlled and regulated. This is on top of the hyperemesis and marijuana psychosis seen in ERs all over Oregon, leading to admissions to medical floor because the patients cannot stop vomiting or get over their mental problems.

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Two thirds of the marijuana we know about is already in the black market because 2 out of 3 producers in Deschutes County, for example, have not even bothered to apply for a license to sell. I quote: "In the years since marijuana became legal, the county has approved 30 unique grow sites, with 22 more applications pending. Only nine of the approved applicants have also received a required license from the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, which oversees the state marijuana issue, and can therefore legally operate."

<https://www.bendsource.com/bend/grow-woes/Content?oid=5330998>.



[Grow Woes | Local News | Bend | The Source Weekly - Bend, Oregon](#)

The sheriff is not the only person worried and afraid. Some county residents have formed Preserve Deschutes County to oppose marijuana farms. "Allowing marijuana grow operations in our rural neighborhoods is a threat to the community's safety, property values, water stability and way of life," its website states.

www.bendsource.com

Do you seriously believe that retailers of these products bother with legality, especially when we already have 6 1/2 years of overproduction in Oregon as of the last count (Jan 2019) and we already have a "public" track record of compliance like this? Unlikely. Strict oversight is EXTREMELY important.

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Another reason for oversight is the toxicity of the products. Pesticides, herbicides, miticides, and fungicides on marijuana are completely unregulated - because the government cannot make any rules because the whole plant is federally illegal - why make rules for something you don't allow in the first place? What do diseases and bugs on plants love? Greenhouses - a warm, moist, well fed environment with plants that grow like "weeds". Mildew, aphids, spider mites, and leaf curl LOVE these kinds of environments and many pot growers do not know (or care) what they put on these plants. Look at reports from Oregon and surrounding states where inspectors had to pull up to 25% of product off the shelves because it was TOXIC - not fit for human consumption. There are articles of pesticides that the growers use where a half teaspoon can kill a bear. Again, oversight is EXTREMELY important.

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Therefore, please support Senate Bill 585 - please vote yes.

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Respectfully,

Susanne Ritter, concerned citizen