

SB17-111 -Medical Marijuana Inventory Shortfall Fixes

"Mr. or Madam Chairperson, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present to you today. My name is Tom Scudder, representing Wellness Centers – a Medical Marijuana Dispensary in Colorado Springs, and I am here to support/oppose various components of this bill. While I support the primary change in the bill relating to 70/30, I am opposed to two other elements of the bill. First, "

Testimony

Support:

I support the change from 70/30 to 50/50 buy/sell for the Medical inventory control. However, I would withdraw support if this change is combined with the other elements (common ownership exception, and center to center/MIP transfer exception) in this bill that will make it unfair because it only benefits some of our industry, and not all.

Oppose:

I oppose two elements of this bill:

1. Common Ownership Exception
2. Center to Center/MIP transfer Exception.

I oppose these two elements for the following reasons:

1. It puts smaller producers at a distinct disadvantage when production issues occur. With this exception the larger producers can absorb a challenge at one store with production from other facilities. Small players are still bound to the vertical integration and cannot offset the occasional crop loss by "stealing" production from other facilities or stores.
2. These changes decrease the importance of the patient/caregiver choice that is at the core of the vertically integrated production controls. Larger companies will be able to offset patient shortages in one locality by using patients from other localities.
3. These changes put smaller producers at a disadvantage when limited by local licensing. Colorado Springs has just implemented a location cap. We cannot move our production to other facilities in order to expand production. Larger producers can absorb these challenges by moving production to other facilities in other localities due to the common ownership exception, and thus the larger producer escapes local regulatory impact because they operate in multiple jurisdictions.

Tom Scudder
Manager
A Wellness Centers (Medical only)
Rocky Road Aurora (Recreational only)
2918 Wood Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
(719) 375-1907 office
(719) 233-3425 cell