

**Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council
Legislative Review Meeting #2025-1
Tuesday, January 21 · 4:00 – 4:30pm**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Dr. Deondra Asike
Dr. David Gorelick
Dawn Berkowitz
Dr. Leigh Vinocur
Delegate Terri L. Hill
Elizabeth Kromm
Karrissa Miller
Dr. Leah Sera
Martin Proulx

Members Not Present:

Bethany Young
Dr. Nishant Shah
Dr. Madhumi Mitra
Jason Semanoff
Jocelyn Bratton-Payne
Nora Urbieta Eidelman
Senator Benjamin Kramer

MDH Members Present:

Alex Nowalk
Dana Moncrief
Katherine Natafqi
Michelle George
Christopher McGrath
Victoria Marte-Tiburcio

Members from Public:

George Townsend
Mathew Swinburne
Annie Carver

I. Open Legislative Review Meeting by Dr. Deondra Asike, Chair. 4:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Deondra Asike, Council Chair, at 4:00 PM on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

Dana Moncrief took a roll call.

II. Discussion of Pending Legislation . 4:01 PM

Dana reviewed the Letter of Opposition for SB215 (HB132)- Cannabis - On-Site Consumption Establishments and Cannabis Events.

Dana reviewed the requested changes from the Council and made edits as appropriate.

Delegate Terri Hill made the suggestion to vote on the content of the letter to be submitted for both the House version and the Senate version.

Dr. Deondra Asike suggested that the letter urge the general assembly to obtain their own report of the public health implications of the proposed business model. The Council could ask the General Assembly to prohibit the MCA from issuing licenses in this category until the public health implications are fully elucidated and that they take time to look at the public health data from other jurisdictions that have moved forward with this model.

A clarification point was made that “Bring your own cannabis” events are not age-gated. However, events where vendors are invited to come to the event to sell cannabis are age-gated or the cannabis vendors must be in a separate area that is not visible to the rest of the event.

III. Public Comment.

There were no public comments.

IV. Position Vote (as necessary).

Edits to be voted on were:

- Name edits
- Including both SB215 and HB132 with appropriate Chairs listed
- Deleted the last sentence
- The second paragraph was edited to clarify language
- A final sentence was added about the legislature delaying the requirement for MCA to issue licenses for on-site consumption until sufficient information has been gathered to determine the public health implications.

Additional topics discussed in the letter

- Pharmacodynamics and delayed onset
- Cognitive impairment and delayed presentation
- Presence of both alcohol and cannabis at these events
- Putting forth educational materials.

Dr. Asike asked for a motion to approve the letter of opposition with the amendments mentioned. Delegate Hill made the motion with amendments and Dr. Gorelick seconded the motion. Dana Moncrief took a roll call vote.

Dr. Deondra Asike voted to approve.

Dr. David Gorelick voted to approve.

Dawn Berkowitz abstained.

Dr. Leigh Vinocur voted to approve.

Delegate Terri L. Hill voted yes.

Elizabeth Kromm abstained.

Karrissa Miller voted to approve.

Dr. Leah Sera voted to approve.

There was a quorum with 6 approved votes, 2 abstained.

January 30th is the Senate committee hearing. February 18 is the House committee hearing.

Dana Moncrief provided a reminder that the Council may be faced with questions potentially as a member outside of council work here. Therefore, anything that a Council member is discussing must be approved by the Council. If a Council Member is approached or asked to provide any comments, please do not misrepresent the Council in any manner.

Dr. Asike asked Mathew Swinburne to give a brief overview of SB 214 (HB12) - Cannabis - Sale and Distribution - Tetrahydrocannabinol Offenses which addresses the ATCC's authority related to branding labeling and potency of THC products that are not sold by license dispensaries. A letter of support is due on January 30, 2025 so the Council will need to vote on the letter on January 28, 2025.

Dr. Asike asked for a vote to submit a letter of support for SB214 (HB12) - Cannabis - Sale and Distribution - Tetrahydrocannabinol Offenses.

Dr. Deondra Asike voted in favor.

Dr. David Gorelick voted to approve.

Dawn Berkowitz abstained.

Dr. Leigh Vinocur voted yes/approve.

Delegate Terri L. Hill voted yes.

Elizabeth Kromm abstained but if she can approve, she will.

Karrissa Miller voted to approve.
Dr. Leah Sera voted yes.

There was a quorum with 6 approved votes, 2 abstained.

V. Adjourn. 4:44 PM.

Dr. Asike asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karrissa Miller made the motion and Dr. Gorelick seconded the motion. Dr. Asike asked for a vote to adjourn the meeting. All members present were in favor of the motion.