

**Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council
Legislative Review Meeting #2025-3
Tuesday, February 4 · 4:00 – 4:30pm**

Members Present:

Dr. Deondra Asike
Dr. David Gorelick
Dawn Berkowitz
Dr. Leigh Vinocur
Delegate Terri L. Hill
Jason Semanoff
Elizabeth Kromm
Dr. Nishant Shah
Jocelyn Bratton-Payne
Karrissa Miller
Martin Proulx

Members Not Present:

Bethany Young
Dr. Leah Sera
Dr. Madhumi Mitra
Nora Urbietta Eidelman
Senator Kramer

MDH Members Present:

Alex Nowalk
Dana Moncrief
Katherine Natafagi
Michelle George
Pamela Williams

Members from Public:

George Townsend
Mathew Swinburne

1. Open Legislative Review Meeting:
 - a. Council Chair, Deondra Asike, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm
 - b. Roll Call- Roll was called and at 4:04 pm and 8 members were present which constituted a quorum.
 - i. An additional 3 members arrived after the first roll was called.

2. Discussion of Pending Legislation
 - a. Debrief about Letter of Opposition and Oral testimony that was submitted for HB132.
 - i. Two members of the council (Dr. Asike and Dr. Vinocur) provided oral testimony before the general assembly for HB132 on 1/30/25.
 - ii. The legislative subcommittee met on 2/3/25 and determined that the letter submitted for HB132 did not need to be updated for SB215 (hearing on 2/18/25)
 - iii. During the discussion the council members noted the fruitful dialogue from the hearing. Members noted that smoking of cannabis was a recurring theme from the bill hearing. Council members noted that it is possible that the bill may be amended to allow combustible cannabis in onsite consumption sites.
 1. Consideration for the council should this bill pass: What are the public education messages that need to be broadcast to the public.
 - iv. Would the council consider, if we were doing a revised letter, seeking to reinforce our support for MCA, but suggest educational requirements to be put in place before legalizing the onsite consumption locations.
 - v. Is it reasonable to ask if there could be a study performed to examine the impact of onsite consumption in other states before legalizing it in Maryland?
 - vi. If there is a last minute amendment, wouldn't the council have an opportunity to react?
 1. Once a bill is out of committee, to advocate for a bill, one must reach out to legislators individually.
 - vii. Council members suggested the letter be tweaked to address inhaled cannabis more directly.
 1. Delegate Hill moved to amend the house letter to acknowledge possible amendments on the house bill which may consider combustibles and add additional points to oral testimony.
 - a. Dr Vinocur seconded the motion.
 - b. Council voted: 8- Yes, 3- Abstain

Yes	Dr. Deondra Asike Dr. David Gorelick Jocelyn Bratton-Payne Dr. Leigh Vinocur
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	Karrissa Miller Dr. Elizabeth Kromm Del. Terri L Hill, MD Dr. Nishant Shah
No	None
Abstain	Martin Proulx Dawn Berkowitz Jason Semanoff

- b. HB 880: Repeals all of the prohibitions against outdoor advertising and does not place limits on where advertisements can be located.
- i. Last year there was a similar bill which used exclusionary zones for the restrictions on outdoor advertising. This bill has no such restrictions.
 - ii. Chair Asike read aloud the draft letter of opposition for the council.
 1. *LRC noted that AZ has no advertising restrictions of any kind. Oregon, Michigan and Missouri have no location restrictions on billboards. Michigan, Missouri, and Oregon have content restrictions on billboards.*
 2. The Council discussed specific edits to the letter drafted for the council in response to HB880.
 - iii. Council vote to approve letter as edited at 4:49 pm: 8- Yes/ 3- Abstain

Yes	Dr. Deondra Asike Dr. David Gorelick Jocelyn Bratton-Payne Dr. Leigh Vinocur Karrissa Miller Dr. Elizabeth Kromm Del. Terri L Hill, MD Dr. Nishant Shah
No	None
Abstain	Martin Proulx Dawn Berkowitz Jason Semanoff

3. Public Comment
 - a. No members of the public were present.
4. Adjourn- Council chair adjourned the meeting at: 5:01pm