Federal and State Committee

Topic: Medical Cannabis

Hearing Date: February, 23, 2021

Room # 346-S Joseph Short

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To the Committee Members and the Chair,

My name is Joseph Short. I am a Kansas hemp grower. At least, I was last year. It is a tough industry for small farmers. We had to destroy 20% of our fall crop due to high THC levels. We would like to get into the medical marijuana field, but the Kansas laws need to change.

I have many friends and family that would benefit from a medical marijuana program in our state. I believe it is time for us to follow the lead of our neighboring states and find a way to get this medicine into the hands of the people that need it.

I have read the majority of HB 1284 and I am impressed with what I saw. It appears to be very thorough and well thought out. I like that patients would have the ability to cultivate their own medicine, as the cost of buying from dispensaries can be expensive.

The cost of cultivation licenses seems high to me and I worry that small farmers will have trouble signing up.

A medical Kansas marijuana program will bring industry, jobs for Kansans, tax revenue, and a safe medicine that can help so many in our state. Please be a part of making the right decision for our future.

This issue is important to me, and I will gladly make myself available to answer any follow up questions.

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