

From the Desk of
Rep. Buckley

HB 3460



P.O. Box 928 • Salem, Oregon 97308
(503) 588-6550 • (800) 452-0338 • Fax: (503) 399-4863
www.orcities.org

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Representative Peter Buckley
Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Representative Buckley:

I am writing to express the League of Oregon Cities' support for HB 3460 which would regulate medical marijuana dispensaries. It is widely believed that there are over 200 medical marijuana dispensaries operating in a legally unstable manner in Oregon with no requirement to notify local governments or the state that they even exist and with no standards that protect patients or communities.

While there are a number of divergent view points on medical marijuana among Oregon's cities, there is a common need to ensure that those providing medical marijuana do so in a responsible manner and that patients are not likely to become victims of a crime while seeking a substance a physician has approved them to ingest. To that end, HB 3460 requires that dispensary operators pass criminal background checks and have robust security systems in place.

Additionally, HB 3460 prevents a concentration of medical marijuana dispensaries to be located in a specific area by preventing dispensaries from being within 1000 feet of another dispensary and in residential areas. However, the bill does not prevent a city from adopting local ordinances in order to tailor requirements to meet local needs.

Thank you for working with us in a collaborative manner to address this complicated issue.

Sincerely,

Scott J. Winkels
Intergovernmental Relations Associate
League of Oregon Cities.