



**GINNY BURDICK
SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

DATE: April 3, 2017
TO: Honorable Senator Prozanski, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
FROM: Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick
SUBJECT: Senate Bill 1014

Chair Prozanski and Members of the committee, for the record, my name is Ginny Burdick. I serve as the State Senator for District 18, which includes the city of Tigard and portions of west Portland.

I'm here today to discuss Senate Bill 1014. This bill allows law enforcement to transfer seized marijuana items to nonprofit medical marijuana dispensaries. SB 1014 also authorizes nonprofit medical marijuana dispensaries to provide transferred marijuana items to medical cardholders at or below federal poverty guidelines. This bill also includes vital provisions directing the Oregon Health Authority to adopt rules that will require nonprofit medical marijuana dispensaries to test these items before distribution.

As Oregon's recreational marijuana market continues to grow, Oregon medical marijuana dispensaries are rapidly disappearing. Since the beginning of this year, we have witnessed a reduction from 307 to 93 OMMP dispensaries. We also know that the percentage of reduced fee eligible OMMP cardholders has increased since the implantation of Measure 91, and that many Oregon Medical Marijuana Patients rely on free or low-cost access to medical marijuana.

Instead of destroying these valuable resources, we should allow law enforcement agencies to transfer this product to help some of Oregon's most vulnerable.

I strongly urge your "Aye" vote.

