



May 16, 2017

TO: The Honorable Ginny Burdick, Co-Chair
The Honorable Ann Lininger, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Marijuana Regulation

FROM: Katrina Hedberg, MD, MPH
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Subject: SB 307-1, Social Consumption of Cannabis

Co-Chairs Burdick and Lininger and members of the committee, I am Dr. Katrina Hedberg, Health Officer and State Epidemiologist with the Public Health Division of the Oregon Health Authority. I am here today to present information related to SB 307-1, concerning social consumption of cannabis.

SB 307, as introduced, creates exemptions to the Oregon's Indoor Clean Air Act (ICAA) for licensed temporary events and licensed cannabis lounges. The -1 amendment leaves the ICAA intact, and this is important for protecting the public's health.

However, there are some public health concerns and questions related to this bill. The harms of secondhand tobacco smoke are well-known, and secondhand marijuana smoke is also harmful. The Oregon Retail Marijuana Scientific Advisory Committee (RMSAC) reviewed the existing literature on marijuana smoke and determined there is no safe exposure to any type of secondhand smoke, including marijuana smoke. Marijuana smoke, both firsthand and secondhand, contains many of the same cancer-causing chemicals as tobacco smoke.¹

There are questions about what social consumption of marijuana means for social norms of use, especially for kids. By allowing for the social consumption of cannabis, Oregon risks the rollback of years of progress related to social norms around smoking.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am happy to answer any questions.

¹ Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division: Retail Marijuana Scientific Advisory Committee. Summary of Selected Evidence Reviews and Public Health Statements. Accessed January 31, 2017 from: <https://public.health.oregon.gov/PreventionWellness/marijuana/Documents/rmsac/rmsac-statements-mj-and-respiratory-health.pdf>