



Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association

www.oregoncannabisretailers.com

541-632-4442

June 4th, 2019

To: Chair Rep. Holvey and Honorable Members of the House Rules Committee

Re: Testimony regarding SB 582

Honorable Members of the House Rules Committee,

My name is Jesse Bontecou, I am the Deputy Director of the Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association (ORCA). ORCA is the largest trade association of cannabis businesses in the state representing approximately 350 businesses of every cannabis license type from across Oregon.

We would like to thank the committee for their willingness to address this critical issue to the industry and thousands of Oregon businesses and employees.

Our members emphatically support SB 582 and the concept of legal cannabis exports and ask you vote for this historic bill. In the simplest terms, being able to legally export cannabis is absolutely essential to the long-term health and success of Oregon's burgeoning cannabis industry.

It is estimated that the national adult use market will be worth more than 80 billion annually by 2030¹, and that is not taking into account the potential for international sales. Oregon can be the epicenter of this market, America's cannabis "bread basket" you could say. We are already producing the best cannabis in America and have all the essential ingredients necessary to become the preeminent production region in America – World leading cannabis expertise, growing environment, and farm infrastructure.

I am sure I don't need to tell you what capturing just 10% this market would mean to Oregon's economy, workers, and tax revenue. No other industry in Oregon that has as much potential for economic growth as cannabis, but export is essential for us to realize this potential.

SB 582 is the first crucial step towards ensuring that Oregon can fully capitalize on and is a leader in the coming national and international cannabis market place.

Thank you for your time and attention to this essential issue and the affects it will have for thousands of Oregon businesses and the lives of tens of thousands of Oregonians.

Respectfully,

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ⁱ Cannabis is poised to be an \$80 billion industry in the U.S. in 2030, <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/cannabis-poised-80-billion-industry-222331008.html> - & -
Chart: Putting the \$55 billion US retail cannabis market in perspective, <https://mjbizdaily.com/chart-putting-the-55-billion-us-retail-cannabis-market-in-perspective/>