

Submitter: Jeremy Goldstein

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB1506

Hello,

I wish to voice my vehement opposition to the proposed SB 1506, which would increase local tax on cannabis products from 3% to 10%. Oregon cannabis consumers are incredibly price sensitive, even more so now as a result of the increased economic hardships of the past 2 years brought on by the pandemic. This tax increase of over 300% is not only an insult to the law-abiding Oregonians who have paid into the legal recreational market since it came into law. It also (further) drives cannabis users towards illegal & unregulated markets. It makes for less safe products, zero testing or accountability, and less safety overall for Oregonian cannabis users and their health. It also pulls revenue from the legal cannabis market, which will actually have the opposite effect that proponents of SB1506 are attempting to achieve with this tax-increase.

While the Oregon Cannabis market has certainly seen it's share of problems and growing pains along the way, those of us that voted for legal recreational cannabis and/or have paid into the legal marketplace believe we have a relatively good thing going in our state. Opportunist maneuvering such as the proposed SB 1506 presents as nothing more than a cash-grab to me, by those attempting to take advantage of well-meaning law-abiding cannabis users. The Oregon cannabis space is already an ineffably over-regulated & excessively taxed industry and actions like SB 1506 are 100% a step in the wrong direction.

Honestly, the amount of disrespect this shows for all Oregonians who have contributed/supported the legal cannabis industry is insulting. We deserve better than this.