

Submitter: Jessica Martinez  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure: HB4016

I would like to start by thanking you for taking the time to listen to my previous testimony earlier today. I apologize that it was very jumbled and not very well stated, I feel very passionately about this issue and was afraid of speaking. I did not mean to come off as self-interested and only wanting this bill not to pass for my own benefit. I feel that this bill will negatively impact the cannabis community and minority cannabis community, by only allowing businesses that have the financial power to control, monopolize it. This bill does not allow for new companies to come into the legal market, which will stop or slow the monopolization. New companies create competition and allows for licenses to have choice, rather than not having one. By having only a few companies to work with can cause manipulation and abuse of companies that have no other option to keep using the same few companies. Limiting new licenses unduly deprives legal companies, that have suffered thru the years of price decreases, price gouging, and this does not help them. This will not allow for a vertical integration for current license holders, vertical integration is critical for the growth of some producers, processors, wholesaler and retailers whom have been stolen from and used. Vertical integration will provide more job security, create more jobs because allows for expansion within the company. If this bill passes with the current amendments the only option for expansion will be to purchase a license from a company that is only holding the license to make a profit. These existing licenses are being sold at inflated price which are out of reach of your small business owner, the current selling price of a license is around \$70,000 to \$150,000 for only the license. The added amendments which allow for back dating to January 1st, will also cause a great financial loss for those who have already applied. We are not only out of the money for the application, but we will lose money on leases, buildouts, and all money that we put into jumping through the hoops to gain a license. This bill which has been amended to include all licenses is pushing out the small companies that have been here from the begging digging the ditches and paving the way. Thank you for your time and understanding.