

Konrad Jackson

From: Carly Dennis
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2025 10:35 AM
To: Konrad Jackson; Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: FW: Letter in Support of SB73

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Additional letter of support below.

From: Mindy Millhouse <millhousemindy@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 1, 2025 10:26 AM
To: Sen. Matt Claman <Sen.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Letter in Support of SB73

Dear Honorable Senator Claman: This letter is in support of SB73

My name is Mindy Millhouse. My husband and I have been active in the industry since 2016.

I am writing you today in support of SB73 because I feel like operating circumstances and conditions are so dire and have been for a very long time. I believe that without the implementation of this bill we have no future. We can't operate in this manner sustainably.

The relief that this bill would bring myself and everyone else in the industry would be deeply appreciated. It's our only chance at survival. We have invested our whole lives and worked tirelessly to meet the never ending demands and challenges that come with owning and operating a marijuana business. We are tired. We feel defeated. One step forward then it feels like we are pushed back into a corner. We love and believe in what we are doing so we keep persevering, but it just feels like we are all swimming upstream.

I listened in to the AMIA meeting last week, and I wanted to speak up and share my point of view, but as another business owner pointed out, we are used to "living in the dark". There is so much red tape in what we do everyday that speaking up can feel very cumbersome. The rules, restrictions, regulations, make an individual feel like they are walking on eggshells. Because of marijuanas federal status, we are already extremely restricted and limited more so than any other business. Banking isn't accessible, advertising is limited, everything. We have adapted to these challenges and kept working hard with the desperate hope for change.

A topic that was brought up at the meeting was the need for owners to speak up, I believe we have, and that we have been met with resistance at every corner. The brunt of the challenges are absorbed by the owner already. Owning and operating a business requires your full time attention.

We have spoken up, we have shared our concerns, we have come together, we have adapted, we have overcome, and our industry has evolved, so I believe it's unfair to continually push the weight and brunt of this overdue change onto the owners who are already struggling just to pay their taxes. The cultivation

tax is killing us. Literally. We are in desperate need of relief. Not only do I believe in the relief that it would bring owners but the relief that it would bring the state in revenue long term. I believe that with the tax relief good things will come to all parties. We will be able to pay our taxes timely, operate efficiently, upgrade our equipment, and enjoy what we are doing again.

I want our industry to survive. I'm grateful for any and all relief. Please consider my voice. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mindy Millhouse