

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: LAURIE ZRENDA <lzrenda@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:25 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: proposed amendment SB1064

My name is Laurie Zrenda and I own Thames Valley Alternative Relief which is one of the six licensed medical marijuana dispensaries in Connecticut. I am writing in support of the proposed amendment SB1064. I believe the intent of the law regarding medical marijuana was that patients would purchase marijuana in the licensed dispensaries. As it is now, the medical marijuana registration certificate allows patients to possess up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana regardless of where it was purchased. Now that the program is operational, it is important that marijuana possessed legally be purchased in a dispensary. Products sold in the dispensaries are lab tested and free of pesticides, mold and bacteria. Products sold in the dispensaries generate sales tax revenue for the state. Many patients are still purchasing on the black market because there is no penalty for doing so. This amendment would help the program succeed, deter purchases from the black market and result in patients consuming a safer and more effective product.

Thank you for your consideration.
Laurie Zrenda