



Legislative Action:

Compassionate Care Act (SB3)

CONCERNS

The North Carolina Substance Use Disorder Federation (SUD Fed) has identified the following concerns about SB3 as it is currently written. SUD Fed is a consortium of substance use disorder organizations and groups that promote policies to assure quality systems of education, prevention, and the expansion of a continuum of prevention and treatment services and recovery supports to effectively meet the needs of our population.

Bill Gaps

THC Limitation	Mandate that Commission establish a THC limit by weight (not %) per serving and per package. Imperative to reduce risk of drug induced psychosis, poisoning, and other health issues.
Use of Excess Revenues (90-113.135)	Appropriate minimum of 30% of excess revenues to Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Substance Use Services (Indefinitely)
Geographic Equity Issues (90-113.118 (h))	Targets vulnerable populations with potential for over-saturation and outlet density issues under guise of equitable access. SUD Fed requests reconsideration of inclusion of favor given to Tier 1 counties.
Medical Cannabis Production Commission (90.113.118 (a))	Must Include a Physician appointed by the NC Medical Board & a member from Substance Use Disorder Treatment 90-113.118 (a)7
Remove PTSD as a debilitating medical condition	Medical evidence does not support the use of Cannabis to treat PTSD.
Define Adequate Supply	What is an adequate supply for 30 days? This is a critical consideration as it is important to preventing excessive amounts that have been "prescribed" by physicians from being diverted to non-patients.
Mandate Use of CSRS	Dispensed Cannabis must be logged into the CSRS. This would allow medical providers to make clinical decisions with a full understanding of a patient's-controlled substance use. This would also allow for research on the impact of cannabis use on opioid prescribing.
Establish Reference Lab	Implement State reference lab for product fidelity testing
Commission Determines Product Forms	Empower Commission to establish Product Forms/Types. This provides a tool needed in respond to the ever-changing creativity of the cannabis industry as they evolve product types to increase consumption and appeal to young adult users.
Remove Industry Representatives on Medical Cannabis Production Commission	Industry representatives should be reduced from 2 to 1 or removed completely.
Horizontal Integration	Horizontal integration allow separate licenses for cultivation, processing, and retail sales and would allow smaller businesses to enter the market. Current bill iteration favors out-of-State corporations vs creating opportunities for NC Farmers and small businesses.
Taxation	Should be based on THC % vs flat rate of sales. This is to maintain revenues when the price of cannabis inevitably goes down and disincentivize purchase of higher THC products.

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