



**Akamai Cannabis Clinic**  
3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304  
Honolulu, HI 96816

December 23, 2020

Craig Inouye  
CEO, MedCan Hawaii LLC

### **RESOLVING THE FEDERAL CONFLICT**

Dear Craig,

I am writing to you because of the ongoing conflict with the federal regulation of marijuana, which I hear is making it very difficult for state-certified cannabis analytical labs in Hawaii to operate as legitimate businesses in terms of banking and the inter-island transport of cannabis samples.

My understanding is that [state law](#) authorizes certified labs to transport cannabis material between islands for testing purposes. There is even a federal aviation [regulation](#) that exempts the transport of cannabis aboard aircraft from federal restrictions if authorized by state law. And yet, the labs that I've talked with still think that they are violating federal law by transporting or mailing cannabis samples between islands despite such state and federal authorization, and as a result are employing all kinds of stealth measures to avoid detection of such transport.

Many seem to think that we must wait for Congress to fix a conflict that the state created in the first place when it authorized the use of cannabis in Hawaii for medical purposes over twenty years ago. Personally, I am not in favor of a Congressional measure that would impose a 5% federal tax on all cannabis products across the nation. My feeling is that the state authorized use of cannabis should be allowed to exist without federal interference, especially if such use is for purely intra-state purposes.

I am proposing to the Legislature this Session an [option](#) that would involve applying for a federal exemption for the state authorized use of cannabis in Hawaii, which would remove the restrictions that cannabis analytical labs in Hawaii are currently facing. May I please schedule a time to discuss this matter with a member of your staff.

Aloha,

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