



Akamai Cannabis Clinic
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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1024
RELATING TO EDUCATION

By
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Senate Committee on Higher Education
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 11, 2021; 3:05 PM
State Capitol, Room 229, Videoconference

Strong Support

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

[SB1024](#) would create a Cannabinoid Medicine Program within the University of Hawaii System (UH) to be administered by the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM).

With nearly 30K registered medical cannabis patients and a state-regulated Medical Cannabis Program that is over twenty years old, a Cannabinoid Medicine Program at JABSOM is long overdue.

UH and JABSOM leadership need not fear having a Cannabinoid Medicine Program under their administration. Any research that the Dean believes may jeopardize federal funding because of the current conflict with the federal regulation of marijuana can still be limited under the discretionary provisions provided by the Medical Cannabis Testing and Research Program [statute](#).

In addition, nothing in this bill diminishes the Dean's authority over the activities of JABSOM programs, to include a new Cannabinoid Medicine Program. The Dean could allow this program to provide much needed cannabis medical expertise to the medical school, healthcare professionals in the community, and the general public, as well as the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation.

However, if JABSOM feels that the current conflict with the federal regulation of marijuana would prevent implementation of a Cannabinoid Medicine Program, then the following amendment to this bill should be considered:

SECTION 2b. Hawaii Revised Statutes, part IX. Medical Use of Cannabis, Chapter 329, is amended by adding the section to read as follows:

“§329-132 State Authorization.

The department of health shall submit to the administrator of the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, Diversion Control Division:

(1) An application for immediate relief pursuant to title 21 Code of Federal Regulations section 1307.03 to the Office of Diversion Control. This application shall state that part IX of chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, create an exemption from federal drug laws and do not create any positive conflict pursuant to title 21 United States Code Annotated section 903; and that the federal scheduling of marijuana does not apply to the state authorized use of cannabis. The application shall also include a proposed rule containing the following: "The listing of marijuana as a controlled substance does not apply to the state authorized use of marijuana, and persons using marijuana in compliance with state law are exempt from registration"; and

(2) A petition for permanent relief pursuant to title 21 Code of Federal Regulations section 1308.43. This petition shall state that part IX of chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and

chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, create an exemption from federal drug laws and do not create any positive conflict pursuant to title 21 United States Code Annotated section 903; and that the federal scheduling of marijuana does not apply to the state authorized use of cannabis. The petition shall also include a proposed rule containing the following:

"The listing of marijuana as a controlled substance does not apply to the state authorized use of marijuana, and persons using marijuana in compliance with state law are exempt from registration."

Aloha.