

Representative Jay Xiong, Chair Workforce Development Finance and Policy Committee 557 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul. MN 55155

Re: House File 100

Omnibus Cannabis Bill

Dear Chair Xiong and Members of the Committee,

I write today on behalf of Sensible Change Minnesota, in support of House File 100. Sensible Change Minnesota is a non-profit that believes our communities are safer when we create sensible drug policies. We have focused much of our efforts over the past four years on improving the medical cannabis program and are generally supportive of HF100 – Minnesota is ready!

However, we do have a concern with the A47 Author's Amendment, which creates an additional barrier to patient access by increasing the age of a designated caregiver to 21 for obtaining medical cannabis flower. Access to a registered designated caregiver is something our team has worked to expand over the past five years, after hearing from many patients and caregivers about barriers created by the law. The age of a caregiver was reduced to 18 to better facilitate access, and this is a step in the wrong direction.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on this bill, and support advancement of it through the legislative process.

Respectfully,

Maren Schroeder

Policy Director, Sensible Change Minnesota