



1021 23rd Ave. NE #2
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418

Sensible policies, safer communities.

March 4, 2019

Chairman Carlos Mariani
575 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Re: House File 2013
A bill for an act relating to crime; adjusting thresholds for certain marijuana offenses; providing for penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 152.025, subdivisions 1, 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 152.

Dear Mister Chair and Members of the House Public Safety Committee:

Sensible Change Minnesota is the policy partner of Sensible Minnesota, a 501(c)3 organization promoting compassion, restorative justice, and public health for persons impacted by cannabis prohibition and the war on drugs.

After reviewing HF2013, we urge Representative Dehn and the Committee to adopt amendments that would incorporate the "resinous form of marijuana" into the step system, which would provide a meaningful change in the law. As you may know, currently possession of the resinous or concentrated form of cannabis is considered a felony, which has created problems for many Minnesotans.

We would recommend amendments to Section 3 incorporate the "resinous form of marijuana" as follows:

- 8 grams or less: Petty Misdemeanor;
- 8.5 to 20 grams: Misdemeanor;
- 20 to 50 grams: Gross Misdemeanor; and
- 50+ grams: Felony

These thresholds are based on the concentrated oils that could be made from the corresponding amount of plant material. Without this amendment, we oppose the bill as presented, as it does not decriminalize the most common prosecuted marijuana possession charge we see on the ground as patient and consumer advocates.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandan Borgos".

Brandan A. Borgos
Chair, Sensible Change Minnesota