

**Date: 1-31-2022**

**Regarding: House Bill HB 351– Testimony of Robert Davis R.Ph**

**Owner hi Tide dispensary/OC botanicals LLC (SD 38) Ocean City Maryland.**

Good afternoon,

I would like to voice my support to have the state tax code changed to make medical cannabis businesses able to operate on the same platform as all other businesses in the state of Maryland. The negative effects of 280E at a state and federal level are extremely detrimental and are damaging to the growth of our new business in an already challenging new industry. Our inability to operate as a normal business within the state negatively impacts many aspects of our business. Some impacts are our ability to spend money on advertising and marketing and being able to grow our business and expand pay scales for our current employees and growth in hiring potential new employees expanding our business. These wage and payroll constraints have a negative impact on trying to budget our business and implement expansion. We would like to create more high-paying jobs within this business and take on new employees. The removal of this business handicap will only lead to expansion and growth helping not only our employees but also directly impacting the patients in the community service. The working capital lost due to 280E directly impacts every aspect of how we stay profitable and how we service our patients along with our ability to grow and hire within our Maryland community. With changes that would allow us to operate as a normal business I am sure expansion will follow as we would be able to operate on a fair platform as does every other business in Maryland.

Thanks for your time and the opportunity to present this statement.

Sincerely,

*Robert H Davis R.Ph*

owner/Clinical Dir.

hi Tide dispensary