From: Edward Herren
To: dencc - City Council; Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2; Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3; Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4; Susman, Mary Beth - City Council; Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6; Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7; Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8; Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9; Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10; christopherherdon@denvergov.org; kniechatlarge
Subject: Supporting CB15-0109 is a step backwards.
Date: Friday, March 20, 2015 5:09:00 PM

Hello esteemed representative,

My name is Edward Herren, I am a botanist who has been working in the legal cannabis industry for 12 years, starting in California, and coming here to Colorado to seek more sensible regulations. I was uncomfortable with the lack of regulation in California, which I believed would result in Federal harassment of large Cannabis providers. But, once upon a time, perhaps like yourself, I had no interest at all in Cannabis. I was raised in the heyday of D.A.R.E., and I believed Cannabis was just another illicit drug. My interactions in college with a variety of medical patients in California led me to give my position research and consideration, resulting in my acceptance of Cannabis as a substance with positive therapeutic applications in human biology.

One need only consider the evolution and spread of the two species, Cannabis Sativa and Homo Sapiens, to see a direct relationship between the two. Where our species has migrated as it evolved, we took Cannabis with us. This has resulted in a unique relationship between our biology and the Cannabis species, creating biochemical systems within the human body designed to interact only with Cannabis, which react unfavorably in the presence of artificial Cannabinoids such as Marinol or other artificial versions of tetrahydrocannabinol.

Our state has made amazing progress in providing its citizens with open yet responsible access to Cannabis, but the proposed regulations in CB15-0109 can only be seen as a direct assault on the rights of your citizens, as well as upon their health and well being. These arbitrary numbers that are created with no consideration to the actual needs of patients are not and never will be a sound form of Cannabis policy.

Are you aware that currently, most patients consume some form of concentrated cannabis which is a few or many times stronger than unprocessed cannabis plant matter? These purified forms of Cannabis are not only a healthier consumption choice than traditional smoking, they are also convenient and largely non-offensive when used, comparable to e-cigarettes in their odor level. Unfortunately, these forms of cannabis require large amounts of plant material to produce, and a person who was limited to only a dozen plants at any given time would likely fall quite short of the needs of their household, especially if one takes into consideration potential medical needs for non-psychoactive forms of Cannabis for individuals with Epilepsy and other conditions which are traditionally sensitive to psychoactive substances.

Currently, these concentrates are prohibitively expensive in retail establishments, requiring most patients to supplement their purchases

with some type of home made concentrate. This bill would be a direct blow to their financial well being, and mine as well, my wife currently holds an extended plant count prescription for Epilepsy, she has been symptom and seizure free since we began a regular Cannabis growing and consumption program for her. This bill would force us to space out her consumption so much that it would fall below the minimum dose threshold, putting her at risk for relapse or full seizure.

Please, use a logical and scientifically sound basis to form any new regulations, do not let special interests bully and barter their way into control of your constituent's lives.

Thank you,
Edward Herren, Cannabis Botanist