

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Licensing & Administrative Procedures  
For HB 3652

Compiled on: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:18 AM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

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Hearing Date: April 26, 2023 8:00 AM

Brittany Best  
Texas collective  
League City, TX

Legalization is the future. Nearly half of America is legalized, it's coming whether you want it or not. More money for our state, community, business. Texas will THRIVE more than it ever has. Now is the time.

Cheyenne Baggerly  
self-customer service/food industry  
Weatherford, TX

Cannabis is a BOOMING business, what better way to help our state's economy than by introducing a new business outlet which in turn offers job openings, increased revenue for the state, health benefits, etc? Cannabis helps calm certain illnesses, and it's certainly more affordable than most medicine for any mental illness. Cannabis has been proven to help with anxiety, depression, PTSD, BPD, ADHD, ADD, etc. Cannabis is much safer than many of its alternatives(alcohol, methamphetamines, opioids, etc). In conclusion, we should maybe just take a look at the cannabis business in other states that have legalized it for medicinal and recreational purposes and how successful their businesses are. Cannabis has been labeled as bad and unhealthy for as long as i can remember, and it just simply is untrue. We should be part of the changing world and legalize cannabis. We want to be on the side that changes the world, and legalizing cannabis and making it more accessible is the first step. Thank you, if you have read this far into my comment. I appreciate the chance to be heard.

Loren Simpson  
Self  
Lago Vista, TX

I support this bill. Please vote it out of committee and onto the house floor!

Jill Robbins  
Self  
Holland, TX

Great care should be taken in the legalization of any products related to cannabis as there is always abuse and harm done to the citizens when a substance like this is legalized for profit. Colorado being a prime example. Thank you.

Alan Staton  
Self retired  
Houston, TX

Thank you for hearing my testimony. I support this bill whole heartily and urge you to support it also.  
This would bring our Texas so much closer to a free and just state. It's terrible that we keep Texas citizens away from this medicine and being able to exercise our freedom and liberty.  
Many of us have waited for multiple decades to see some changes in current cannabis laws and be free to make our own decisions regarding cannabis.

Robin Luna  
Self  
El Paso, TX

Being born and raised in El Paso, I am FOR the approval of this bill

Aubree Adams

Citizens for a Safe and Healthy Texas

Katy, TX

Dear Texas Representative,

We urgently ask you to oppose HB 3652, the legalization of cannabis. HB 3652 will allow the predatory addiction-for-profit marijuana industry to promote more marijuana use and target youth with flavored vapes and candies. Vapes and candies are designed to disguise the foul taste and conceal use from parents, educators, and employers.

There are many reasons to oppose this HARM EXPANSION bill. Here are just a few.

-Marijuana with a THC content over 10% increases the risk of a psychotic disorder, like schizophrenia, by 4 to 5-fold

-30% of users are becoming addicted to THC, which is called cannabis use disorder.

-Marijuana users are more vulnerable to addiction to other addictive substances, even opioid use disorder.

-State legal products are so toxic; people are developing cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome, severe vomiting, and GI issues condition, which can lead to organ failure and death.

-Marijuana legalization causes more road fatalities. In Colorado, Traffic deaths with drivers who test positive for marijuana doubled from 2013 to 2020.

-Marijuana use increases the risk of suicide by up 7-fold.

- Marijuana is the main drug found in suicide deaths for Colorado teens.

-Adolescent cannabis use source: Monitoring The Future 2022

Cannabis abuse has increased by 245% since 2000. Clinical Toxicology 05 Dec

Frequent adolescents' cannabis vaping jumped over two-and-a-half times from 2017 to 2019.

occasional adolescent cannabis vaping climbed more than 291% in 2022,

Young adult cannabis use (Source Monitoring The Future 2022)

past year use: 29% in 2011 to 43% in 2021

past month use: 17% in 2011, 17% to 29% in 2021

daily use 6 % in 2011 to 11% in 2021

vaping marijuana past month 6% in 2017 to 12% in 2021

Marijuana legalization only provides a cover and invites criminal operations to manufacture and traffic more marijuana in family neighborhoods.

DEA states, Domestic use of marijuana remains high and is likely to increase as the prevalence of state legalization continues to lower the perception of risk to users and potential users. The high availability of high-potency marijuana, marijuana concentrate products, and trendy paraphernalia will likely continue to entice users and potential users.

High concentrations of THC (products that contain 10mg or higher) are not proven safe for adults to use. A 10% tax rate will not cover the social, mental, and physical costs.

Vote NO to HB 3652.

his is a text block. You can use it to add text to your template.

Thank you,

Jennifer Jagger Johnson

Self retired

Spring Branch, TX

This will be a win for state by increasing revenue. It would also free up the judicial system by having set laws thus reducing court costs.

Danielle Kokinda, Property Manager

Self

Socorro, TX

I AM ALL FOR THIS! Marijuana is medicine and Texas needs to get with the times. Imagine all the commerce and money we could pump into the local economy...

Dea Young-Smith, Person

Self

Lubbock, TX

I live in Lubbock and my property taxes on my homestead have gone up again! We sit here close to the NM border, where Texans are crossing and shopping dispensaries in Roswell and Hobbs, spending \$ on gas and products, happily paying the additional taxes to the state of NM when they could be spending that money right here in their hometown. Our streets, our schools, and our communities could be benefiting from the additional tax revenue. I am in full support of legalization and keeping these dollars in our community and not losing them to other states.

Matthew Moore, PhD

Moore Scientific LLC, Cannabis and psychedelic Principal Scientist

Austin, TX

I urge the Texas Legislature to pass HB 3652 to legalize cannabis, opening the market, increasing jobs, and generating much-needed tax revenues. This is a sensible policy supported by a majority of Texans, and we have seen the successes of other states that have already taken this step, including increased economic activity, reduced crime and incarceration rates, and improved public health. Legalizing cannabis is a win-win for Texas and its citizens.

Anita Hunter

Self, Clinical Social Worker

Snyder, TX

Although I am not a user and have no desire to use cannabis, I support this legislation. It would be a good source of revenue for the state, and would remove revenue from drug cartels. Cannabis has been found effective for pain control, helping some to wean off of opiates. Others have found it useful for sleep, reduced nausea and improved appetite. It could be useful for some who have medical conditions not covered under current medical marijuana law.

Ozzie Guerrero

Myself

Houston, TX

It's time

Francisco Mendoza

Self

Houtston, TX

Legalize it

Hugo Hernandez

Self

Houston, TX

Please let it be legal. Or make alcohol illegal. I've been threatened by more alcoholics than potheads. I have chronograph I chronic pain and depression. The only thing that did not alter my mental health while helping me was marijuana. I tried various "treatments" including painkillers, muscle relaxers and zoloft along with other antidepressants. All they ever did was make me feel like mud if I either took them wrong or on empty stomach. I've never had a side effect with marijuana. Please don't make me a criminal for wanting to feel normal without a doctor forcing REAL DRUGS on me.

Josephine Hernandez

Self

Houston, TX

Please help my husband it really helps his back and moods. He feels horrible having to be labeled as a criminal but if it helps it helps.

Jeremy Thompson

Houston high

Houston, TX

I believe there nothing wrong we can create more jobs and recreational opportunities!

Pete Moreno, Contractor/consulting

Independent HB3652

Houston, TX

I appreciate that opportunity to share  
My opinion concerning HB3652  
I would appreciate not having to worry  
About being kidnapped and held a inmate.

Cannabis has helped me keep myself  
Afloat through covid and cope with a wide range of violence, depression, family issues good and bad  
The system took 5 years of my life do to cannabis  
If there are humans reading this  
then  
you know someone that medicated  
Be honest to yourself and the people trying to care for themselves, people that vote for you  
And really contribute to making America a free  
Land  
Americans stand up  
Thank you  
Lord Be Us

Alyssa Waters

Self

Friendswood, TX

In favor of

Rene Pena  
AMI  
Corpus Christi, TX

We need cannabis legalization because lives are at stake! Cannabis is medicine. Cannabinoids help regulate other systems through the endo cannabinoid system or ECS. It is found in every cell. Why would you have a whole system that's at the foundation of health if you are not to consume cannabis? Doesn't make sense does it? The drug war has harmed millions of people unnecessarily.

Stephaine Daniel  
Self  
Justiceburg, TX  
Cannabis should be legal

Mary Taylor  
Self  
Sweetwater, TX

Its time for this to be made legal for all adults! Time to regulate cannabis, and keep it safe . We are surrounded by legal states, and Texans are spending their money out of state. Imagine keeping millions to billions of dollars that could be kept in our state to fund schools,hospitals, housing . Free up police time by going after the real criminals in our state,instead of jailing people for a weed! Put the underground out of business! The eyes of Texas are on you!!!!

Randall Bullard, II  
Self  
Houston, TX  
Yes, I believe this should be imposed

Christopher Fox  
Houston high group  
Webster, TX

I've been diagnosed with monomelic amyotrophy and cannabis is the only reason in not in constant pain. It helps keep my muscle spasms at bay. It allows me to eat because one side affect from (MMA) is lack of appetite. This amazing plant has literally saved my life

Michael Kizer  
Self  
Baytown, TX

Just think of all the tax revenue you could generate from the legalization of cannabis. It would allow you the opportunity to invest more money in the infrastructure in schools across the state of Texas. It would decrease crime, exponentially, simply because you could walk into the grocery store or a pharmacy and you could purchase it over the counter no that point you're taking up taking away the black market, which feeds so many different criminal organizations you know if you want if you wanna stop the crime stop the illegal side of it. Just allow yourself to think for one minute that the money that could be generated in the same way. Alcohol sales generated revenue. When prohibition was lifted. It did not give any play into the black market for for people to you know continue to harm their their neighbors in their communities with poison you know regulate it . The time is not a legalize it in Texas. It's it's everywhere and people are going to continue to use it and then just ask yourself. Do you want to collect the money from it or do you want criminals to continue collecting money from it it's up to you, but we're sick of we're sick of innocent, lives in ruins, over a plant that you could just tax make your money and mind your business in the same way that we are citizens go to work, pay our taxes and mind our business. The time is now legalize it in Texas.

Vincent Fuentes  
Houston High Society  
South Houston, TX  
Legalize and tax it

Elizabeth Smart  
Self  
Lubbock, TX

Tax revenue is dire to the expansion of the city as it gives more funding to important city projects. Willingly allowing the use of cannabis allows the state and city to tax citizens accordingly, giving the city another source of revenue which can then go back to the people. This would also prevent many "criminals" who have cannabis related crimes from being placed into city or state jails, thus freeing available law enforcement to take care of genuine crimes where people are in danger. legalize certain cannabis usage.

Pedro Galvan, Jr  
Self-Payroll Specialist  
El Paso, TX

I feel that it's time for Texas to not only decriminalize cannabis, but make it fully legal for residents in need and of age. I feel that the taxes generated can benefit Texas so much as it has done for other states the past several years. I also feel that the state has and will continue to have bigger issues such as immigration to deal instead of cannabis and its users.

Suzannah Kizer  
Self  
Mont Belvieu, TX

To assist in availability of alternative medicines for various health issues such as anxiety and arthritis. This has beneficial natural remedies without potentially harmful side effects of other pharmaceutical products. Decreased black market activity and reduced criminal activity associated with marijuana and paraphernalia resulting in funds available for resources towards targeting higher profile drug and criminal offenses. Tax revenue could be beneficially applied towards state infrastructure, public health and education systems.

Braulio Bueno  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

This would be beneficial for all Texans. If I know one thing about Texas, is that they do will do thing's correct when it comes down to it. We need to make sure that we keep Texas money in Texas and not out to other states. Almost half of the US is on board with the green rush. Texans should not miss out on a giant opportunity. Thank you for your time.

Maddie Waring  
Self  
Kyle, TX  
Yes

Bryan Saufferer  
Self/Texas Original Compassionate Cultivation  
AUSTIN, TX

This would help so many patients! I encounter a lot of people who would prefer to have the flower form of Cannabis for their treatments and this would go a long way in providing relief to Texans!

courtney ricchini  
self  
austin, TX  
in support

Ronaldo Guerrero  
Self  
The Woodlands, TX  
End prohibition.

Clifford Nolte  
Self  
Rhome, TX

As a Texas veteran with 90% combat related disability, I would love to be able to legally medicate naturally instead of constantly using prescriptions with horrible long term side effects. It's insane to me that Texas isn't leading this industry. We've got the perfect growing conditions and if we look at the tax revenues from other legalized states, we are losing BILLIONS OF DOLLARS every year that we refuse to catch up with the rest of the country.

Trey Delossantos  
Self or cannabis business  
Lubbock, TX

It should be legal I mean all the products are selling for the use so might as well legalize it

China Young, San Angelo  
Self  
San Angelo, TX

Having lived in both Colorado and Arizona, I can testify that the move to decriminalize and regulate the cultivation, possession, and sale of cannabis and cannabis products is economically lucrative for the state. In addition to the income the state would receive in tax increase, you would also create an entire industry worth of jobs. That said, it would be inappropriate to move forward with this and not simultaneously decriminalize possession for marijuana, as well as minimize or end incarcerations for marijuana-related offenses.

amber carter

Self/ certified prevention specialist

baytown, TX

Dear Texas Representative,

I urgently ask you to oppose HB 3652, the legalization of cannabis. HB 3652 will allow the predatory addiction-for-profit marijuana industry to promote more marijuana use and target youth with flavored vapes and candies. Vapes and candies are designed to disguise the foul taste and conceal use from parents, educators, and employers.

There are many reasons to oppose this HARM EXPANSION bill. Here are just a few.

- Marijuana with a THC content over 10% increases the risk of a psychotic disorder, like schizophrenia, by 4 to 5-fold
- 30% of users are becoming addicted to THC, which is called cannabis use disorder.
- Marijuana users are more vulnerable to addiction to other addictive substances, even opioid use disorder.
- State legal products are so toxic; people are developing cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome, severe vomiting, and GI issues condition, which can lead to organ failure and death.
- Marijuana legalization causes more road fatalities. In Colorado, Traffic deaths with drivers who test positive for marijuana doubled from 2013 to 2020.
- Marijuana use increases the risk of suicide by up 7-fold.
  - o Marijuana is the main drug found in suicide deaths for Colorado teens.
- Adolescent cannabis use is increasing.
  - o Cannabis abuse has increased by 245% since 2000. Clinical Toxicology 05 Dec
  - o Frequent adolescents' cannabis vaping jumped over two-and-a-half times from 2017 to 2019, Monitoring The Future 2022
  - o occasional adolescent cannabis vaping climbed more than 291% in 2022, Monitoring The Future 2022
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  - o vaping marijuana past month 6% in 2017 to 12% in 2021
- Marijuana legalization only provides a cover and invites criminal operations to manufacture and traffic more marijuana in Texas neighborhoods.

DEA states: Domestic production and trafficking of marijuana will likely increase as more states adopt or change current marijuana laws to establish medical or recreational marijuana markets, allowing criminals to exploit state legality.

- Marijuana is a factor in the increase in violence.

High concentrations of THC (products that contain 10mg or higher) are not proven safe for adults to use. A 10% tax rate will not cover the social, mental, and physical costs.

Vote NO to HB 3652.

Thank you,

Amber M. Carter

Anthony Posey, Mr.

Self

Saginaw, TX

Having retired after 24 years of honorable active duty military service with service-connected disabilities I feel the passing of this bill is appropriate. I moved to Texas over 6 years ago from a legal state and legalization did great things for the state and the citizens. Since moving here I can say my overall quality of life have declined due to not being able to use cannabis in the way in which I did in a legal state. It proved helpful for the many service- connected disabilities I suffer from. Being able to cultivate is therapeutic as well. If all this is regulated and taxed it will benefit Texas in so many ways. I along with the majority of the people of Texas have made it clear the time is now for Texas to pass this bill. Thank you.

Zina Meeker

Self

Seguin, TX

I oppose full legalization of marijuana.

Wendy Myers

Raw No Cut

Houston, TX

I completely support legalization and decriminalization of cannabis products.

Joao Mitchell

Self, student

Austin, TX

Dear Members of the Licensing & Administrative Procedures Committee of the Texas House of Representatives,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for House Bill 3652, which was introduced by Representative Joe Moody. This important legislation would legalize, regulate, and tax cannabis and cannabis products in the state of Texas, and I believe that it would have a number of positive effects on the lives of Texans.

First and foremost, I believe that legalizing cannabis would help to reduce crime and improve public safety. By taking cannabis out of the hands of criminals and regulating its production and distribution, we can ensure that Texans have access to safe, high-quality products that are free from harmful contaminants. This would reduce the risk of accidental poisoning and other health problems associated with unregulated products, and it would help to prevent the spread of dangerous criminal activity.

Furthermore, I believe that legalizing cannabis would have a positive impact on the economy of Texas. By creating a legal market for cannabis products, we would generate significant revenue for the state through taxes and fees. This revenue could be used to fund important programs and services, including education, healthcare, and public safety initiatives.

In addition, I believe that legalizing cannabis would promote individual freedom and personal responsibility. Texans should have the right to make their own decisions about their health and wellbeing, and they should not be subject to unnecessary government interference in their personal lives. By legalizing cannabis and allowing individuals to possess and use it responsibly, we can empower Texans to make their own choices and take responsibility for their actions.

In conclusion, I urge you to support House Bill 3652 and to work to ensure its swift passage into law. I believe that this legislation would have a number of important benefits for the people of Texas, including improved public safety, increased revenue, and greater personal freedom. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Joao Mitchell

Laura Broome

self/Resilience Coach, Founder/CEO of iCope2Hope LLC

San Antonio, TX

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Vote NO to HB 3652.

Thank you,

Laura Broome

San Antonio TX 78216

Trish Lines

Self

Greenville, TX

I really hope we can agree as a state this is good for everyone. 10% sales tax that will go straight back into the state at our most vulnerable places! Legalization of a plant that helps many people with pain and mental stability. And having less persecution in this department means more energy spent taking down the real hard drug dealers and bad people. Please vote this bill into law. Your people with thank you! I thank you for time reading this and I hope you consider my words

Sean Weatherly

Self

Houston, TX

Alcohol is far more dangerous. Please legalize

Janelle Farnham, Mrs

Self

Temple, TX

I oppose HB 3652. Please do not vote it out of committee.

Christine Kalmbach

Self/Realtor

Houston, TX

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Vote NO to HB 3652.

Amanda Hardin

Self Dental Assistant

Marshall, TX

Please support this.

Tristan Fleck  
Norml  
Richmond, TX

Family & Friends of mine (all native Texans) Believe this bill should be passed. The movement toward legalization seems inevitable so why the resistance? The current laws in place within rural counties have the potential to RUIN peoples lives. Although very difficult for certain law makers to understand, It is not cannabis ruining lives and potential of Texans.

It is the Laws that have been put in place, I personally have been processed through the Texas court system under charges of simple possession. Four acquaintances & myself were arrested for .5 grams of marijuana found in a gym bag located in the trunk of the vehicle. That .5 grams that all but one of us were aware of, not only caused a rift in great friendships, it also cost us jail time, probation fees, loss of license & my ability to get to and from work as driving in Texas is a must.

So I would like to ask The Texas senate if they truly believe having Texas State Troopers busting 17-20 year olds for .5 Grams of Marijuana is solving more issues than it is creating?

Let's stop costing people opportunity & freedom for something that is legal in so many other states.

It is a very ugly truth about this state that we currently have the opportunity to change & I believe the time is now.

Thank you.

Luis Guerrero  
Houston high  
Houston, TX

Please pass this people shouldn't have risk freedom to enjoy something that's practically accepted nationwide. You can be a raging alcoholic or pill head and still able to have a decent job but Marijuana is there's an issue. I believe this isn't right at all

Josh Gause  
Self, Bartender  
Fort Worth, TX

Please for the love of God stop the illegal prohibition of a natural substance that gives relief and care with few side effects to so many. From physical to psychological relief this plant is known to help a side range of symptoms and reduces alcoholism, which is the result of a legally controlled drug with far worse side effects than smoking a joint. Short and long term. If you're a liberal, vote for compassion and science. If you're conservative view for individual liberties and rights. This is a no-brainer decision on either side and will also result in increased tax revenue for the State that can help with psychological treatment for addiction and reduce the population in our already overcrowded prison system.

Maribel Martinez  
Dope Moms 915  
El Paso, TX

As a member of the Texas community who has also been part of the New Mexico cannabis legalization that took place 04/01/2022.. I urge our states representatives to re-consider your stance on this PLANT. The health benefits and properties we can benefits are greater than any negative impact it would ever have. As a parent who suffered Post Partum depression and anxiety, I would be lying if I didn't say this plant has pulled me out of some very dark places in my life. I tried pharmaceuticals which my body immediately rejected, I also tried drowning my problems in alcohol for several years.. that only made me angry and often times violent. Marijuana could benefits soooo many people, especially the way violence and deaths caused by drunk driving continue to affect our community and state. Let's also address the fact that all of the revenues made from taxes could greatly make a difference on our communities vs using that money on bordering states that HAVE legalized marijuana. There are so many groups and advocates in the state of Texas who would love to work with you all on this matter, because legalization doesn't just mean we get to smoke some weed and call it a day. Legalization means bringing awareness, education, and support like with anything else. The black market has taken over the streets, our children will continue to have access to this plant (whether it's legal or not, except now you have the possibility of stuff being laced). So why not work on a plan to ensure safety measures are set in place? They say it takes a village to make things happen.. so I ask you all.. are you ready to be part of this village? Are you ready for change?

Joseph Williams  
Citizen  
Houston, TX  
Pass bill

bryan dodhiya  
self  
rosenberg, TX  
legalize

Cassius Linscomb Jr  
Self  
La marque, TX

Marijuana is a hot topic of discussion, with its legality being debated in several states, including Texas. While some people view marijuana as a harmful drug, others believe it has several benefits, and therefore, should be legalized. Legalization of marijuana in Texas could bring several benefits to the state, including economic growth, reduction of crime rates, and improved health.

Firstly, the legalization of marijuana in Texas could stimulate economic growth. If it is legalized, the drug would become regulated, leading to the creation of a new industry with thousands of jobs. States that have legalized marijuana have seen significant boosts in their economies through increased taxes, tourism and job creation, and reduced law enforcement costs. In fact, a report by the National Cannabis Industry Association showed that in 2020, the legal marijuana industry contributed \$31.4 billion to the U.S. economy. Texas stands to gain a lot from the legalization of marijuana in terms of economic growth.

Secondly, the legalization of marijuana could help reduce crime rates in Texas. Criminalizing marijuana has created a significant black market for the drug, leading to increased crime rates, including violence and theft as drug dealers fight for territory and control of the market. Legalizing marijuana would create a regulated market and reduce the illicit black market dealers, leading to a reduction in drug-related violence and theft. Furthermore, police resources could be redirected to more severe crimes, thus reducing law enforcement costs.

Thirdly, the legalization of marijuana could have health benefits for Texans. Marijuana has been found to have several medical benefits and is used to alleviate symptoms in patients suffering from various conditions such as epilepsy, chronic pain, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Legalization could make it easier for patients to access medical marijuana, leading to improved health outcomes.

Despite the advantages of legalizing marijuana, there are concerns about the negative effects of the drug. However, strict regulations can be implemented, such as age limits, so that only adults can purchase and use marijuana. Additionally, legalizing marijuana does not mean that it will be readily available on every street corner, just as alcohol is not.

In conclusion, the legalization of marijuana in Texas could bring significant benefits to the state. It could stimulate economic growth, reduce crime rates, and improve health outcomes. Texas should follow the example of other states that have legalized marijuana and make it legal in a safe, controlled, and regulated manner, with strict regulations to ensure public safety.

Stephen Kobb, mr  
Self  
Houston, TX

I urge you to vote FOR HB 3652.

There are numerous reasons to approve it, but I'll focus here on just a few.

1. Criminalization of cannabis breeds DISRESPECT for the law.

There are literally millions of people in our state who routinely break the law just because they want to smoke a joint occasionally. They perceive the law to be unfair and unjust -- particularly because they see that cannabis is a multi-billion dollar industry in many other states, including some that are right next to ours.

Continued criminalization tells the populace that a minority opinion prevails, even when numerous surveys show that most Texans want legal access to cannabis.

2. Texas state government needs money.

The tax revenues from legal sales of cannabis would be put to good use. It is absurd to turn away from such a major source of revenue.

3. We must curtail the influence of parties that support continued criminalization because their jobs depend on it.

I refer here to several prominent industries and interest groups: Private prisons, producers of alcoholic beverages, drug manufacturers, associations of law enforcement officers, etc. Each of these has a pecuniary interest in the keeping the status quo.

PLEASE do the right thing: Give 3652 your support.

Stephen Kobb  
5518 Venice Street  
Houston, TX 77007

Native Texan... and non-pot smoker

Cailie Foote  
Self, office admin  
Edna, TX

Please legalize!

Jaela Pope  
Self  
Humble, TX

I think this is a great change and move my for the state of Texas

Steven Fox  
Self - Operations Tech.  
Pearland, TX

Approve

Hannah Holmes

self

Houston, TX

There's no proven harm, legalize it buttholes

Annette Fox

Self

Plano, TX

Needed for medical reason

Jesus Gonzalez

Self, Communications

San Antonio, TX

I support HB 3652 as a resident, consumer, and tax payer. Impose the taxes, fees, and rules you deem appropriate, but give Texans the access and freedom to legally consume cannabis.

David Fox

Self/fuel industry

Texas City, TX

I approve this message.

Ava Gardiner

Self

Magnolia, TX

This would help my dad so much

David Gauthier, Mr

Barbering

Austin, TX

No

Jakasia Smith

Self

Humble, TX

Cannabis is medicinal

Paris Rambo

Self

Webster, TX

Yes

Joshua Martinez

Houstonians for Responsible Cannabis Reform

Houston, TX

We SUPPORT this bill

Cory Fox  
Self  
Baytown, TX  
N/a

Xzavier Wright, Mr  
Self  
Houston, TX

I believe it's a great move for the state's economy

Dusty Davis  
#houstonhigh  
Magnolia, TX

Legalize it, if we can have alcohol Togo we need weed legal when you can't OD come on Texas

Deseree Roberson  
Self  
Houston, TX

Cannabis helps for so many medical reasons.

Thomas Korkmas  
Self  
Belton, TX

I am adamantly opposed to any bill legalizing cannabis or cannabis products. Cannabis is the gateway drug that led to the death of two of my relatives and there is no amount of money justifying its use in any form. With as much information as exists as to the dangers of this drug, I am ashamed that anyone in the legislature would even consider this evil. Please do not vote this out of committee in any form.

Andy Becerra

Self.

Mesquite, TX

Dear politicians who represent our state, my name is Andy Becerra and I am here writing on behalf of all residents, specifically Veterans and medical patients. As a native who rose his right hand honorably to serve for this beautiful nation, it breaks my heart to come home to a state with so much potential who still is living in a past full of misinformation propaganda against cannabis. Over half of this nation has at-least some sort of medical program that's realistic to the consumer. I just relocated back to this state from California because I know we are better. That said, California right now is one of the leading states in Cannabis. Everyone knows the dangers flooded over the border with bad narcotics, criminal activity, and many more, so it baffles me that the Governor here holds Cannabis in a similar negative regard. As a Veteran who is also a disabled veteran, I know the value Cannabis holds to helping people like us who suffer from unimaginable trauma mentally and physically. I refuse to succumb to a program here that is absolutely a complete joke, that I know is only there to check off a box. Well I'm here to say, if the governor cares so much about the economy of this state and the well being of its citizens, he should heavily consider approving this bill. We are not asking for much, just take a look at every state that surrounds us? New Mexico personally should be this states example on how to create a program that brings revenue to the state, but also treats every person who wants complete access to cannabis in all forms legally. My fear is having to be punished legally for seeking alternative medicine for all the trauma I got protecting each and every one of you here reading this. This state is full of veterans who agree and not just that but also many parents who don't want to keep feeding their family with narcotics that ultimately do nothing but hurt and fund big Pharma. The time for the brainwashing of the American people to Cannabis is over. Especially when leaders here don't want to actually care because they're covered on their finances through the alcohol businesses. I plead if this gets done, we need competent leaders who are also going to be in charge of overseeing all the revenue that will be collected through taxes, that way we can start feeding that money right back into our economy. Leaders, please read my message and take it into consideration. At this point, the success of this state will only get extra value if this gets done. Let's take what other Republican states have done with their programs and let's become the leaders, the example, for every other state who wishes to do the same. Thank you so much for reading my message. Respectfully, Semper Fidelis.

Carlos Fuentes, Moving company

Self

Dallas, TX

I'm am honored the chance to make a change for this country to legalize cannabis and help others that need the medicine in the cannabis field to help change lives and help others health!

Jason Mcgruder

Self

Houston, TX

Pass bill

Robert Nelson

Self

Tyler, TX

I am in full support of this bill and see the benefits thereof.

Briona Joubert

Self

Houston, TX

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Derek Cloutier  
Veterans / Self  
Fort Worth, TX

My name is Derek Cloutier, I served in Fallujah, Iraq in 2006 during Operation Iraqi Freedom in the Marine Corps and I was medically discharged back in 2009. I am currently a new resident in Fort Worth, TX, recently buying a home here.

I have been a mmj (medical marijuana) patient/user for about 10 years now, and a patient in 3 different legal states where PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and chronic pain have plagued my life from injuries in service. When I first got out of the military, I was working for the Dept. Of Corrections as a Corrections Officer. Over the course of those 5 years after service, I was assaulted by inmates and also had legal issues outside of work related to alcohol use while taking prescriptions that exacerbated me down a dark path, where I obtained a service dog to help with my conditions.

I had a fellow veteran introduce me to cannabis because I was having issues with sleep and high functioning anxiety and depression. Cannabis allowed me to come off of ALL pharmaceuticals I was on, of which most if not all had serious negative side effects, some creating major suicidal ideation. Cannabis allowed me to seek a brighter path in life thru service to others. I ended up creating a successful nonprofit helping connect veterans to alternative therapies such as cannabis and giving them a purpose while also finding my own.

With this nonprofit, I have helped hundreds of veterans find purpose again and an option to be self-sufficient while helping themselves. In those legal states, veterans used the law to their advantage by being allowed to cultivate their own cannabis, which inevitably gave them a newfound purpose in life. I was able to create groups that came together and educated each other about cannabis and how it helped others. I created a grow program that supplied \$5000 in equipment, genetics, etc., with a mentor to teach them how to be self-sufficient. This was a huge success, and we started to see fewer people dependent on pharmaceuticals and opting for a natural option.

I have seen firsthand how cannabis benefits people, whether it be recreational or medical, it all affects us in similar ways. It's helped many stop drinking alcohol, which can accelerate depression in veterans and lead to negative consequences. Cannabis has helped me get out of my head and into my community. If it wasn't for cannabis, I probably wouldn't be here today, and since moving to Texas after using cannabis for years positively, I can say that my mental health hasn't been as good as it has been in the past, and I'd love that to change.

I am testifying in SUPPORT of HB 3652 to legalize and regulate cannabis, and to allow for home grow rights as I know the benefits it will have, not to mention the money that could help this state more. I respectfully hope you consider my testimony.  
Thank you

Desirae Quijas  
Dope Moms 915  
El Paso, TX

Cannabis is a medicine.

Bailey Rabenau  
Self  
El Paso, TX

I live in El Paso Texas and I approve of HB 3652

Matthew Poling, MD  
Self  
College Station, TX

I strongly oppose this egregious bill to legalize a substance which has done so much damage in other states. Having seen the ravages of THC addiction and psychiatric injury in my teen and young adult patients, I believe we should be investing in marijuana use prevention strategies--not giving license to a predatory addiction-for-profits industry.

Michael Hernandez

Self

Converse, TX

The research on benefits of marijuana is undeniable at this point. Not only that but tax benefits for the entire state. Please do this for your people.

Lisa Cook

Self

Magnolia, TX

Please put this on the ballot for Texans to decide. We are so sick and tired of your political agendas. Start working for the people instead of against ! It's time Texas... so much lost revenue for something so benign. Educate yourselves!

Scott Miller, Mr.

Self / Teacher

San Antonio, TX

It's time for Texas to finally pass this legislation in both the House and Senate. This plant has too many benefits and qualities to keep it suppressed. Texans want this option to be available and legal under Texas law. I am a public school teacher and support this legislation.

Tona Impelmance

Self / Driver

Houston, TX

First off, Thank you for adding Chronic pain to qualifying conditions. Cannabis saved my life??

Abran Rangel

Self

Humble, TX

The tax would help improve Texas schools and help buy better books to bring the average student GPA, also help Texas cities to improve roadways, and improvements only means more people being hired to help complete these tasks. Finally, we would make real space in jails for REAL criminal activity, giving law enforcement actual control of jail/prisons now.

Dustin Ray, Mr

Self

Lavon, TX

Being a disabled person, with would help me in my daily life to function as best as I could.

Heather Collisson

Self

Austin, TX

Cannabis helps where pharmaceuticals can't, don't, won't or do but cause dangerous side effects. We all need more relief in this day and age. This is medicine that helps veterans thrive in civilian life, after war. This medicine helps overworked mothers find their calm at the end of the day so their generational trauma isn't passed down to another generation. We need to legalize cannabis. We need to regulate cannabis. We are happy to pay taxes on cannabis.

Crystal Nuding

Self

Lockhart, TX

Please consider the fact that this plant is medicine to many people.

My partner made it through stage 4 breast cancer with the help of some Western medicine in addition to healthy lifestyle choices and cannabis.

We're now facing outstanding charges for chemo therapy that insurance isn't covering. Overpriced medicines she needed help surviving.

As a Texan, as an American, the idea that I can't grow the very medicine, a plant, needed to support my families health is unconscionable.

Why would anyone stop people from growing plants to support the health of themselves, their families and communities?

Who would not want people to take their health into their own hands?

Who would not want people to be healthy?

Who would benefit from that?

Who benefits from that?

Why would people do that?

Money.

I hope that you good folks are actually here for the citizens of this fine state of Texas.

We will know by your actions and the future will reflect that.

Jordan Paredes, Disabled Veteran

Houston High

Houston, TX

Hi good day I am FOR HB 3652 & thank you for giving me a moment of your time and understanding. I would like to state I am a 100% disabled Army Veteran with severe mental health issues: MDD, GAD, & PTSD. The medications I've been prescribed by the VA hasn't helped much or even at all, I continue to have emotional issues for instance Constant Suicidal Thoughts, Lack of Sleep, Lack of Eating, Aggressive Depression, Tremors, Panic Attacks, Anxiety, & Vomiting. It's only been getting worse, I feel hopeless on the medication. I have used Marijuana and/or cannabis in the past and it did nothing but give me pleasant & positive effects it completely curbed most of the issues. I felt like a completely different person at the time of usage, but since I've stopped using and have no complete legal access it's just been getting much worse for me. I shouldn't have to made out into criminal for just wanting access to something that has helped me and even millions of others. WE all know it has beneficial effects I've seen it firsthand! No one has overdosed or had cancer or other diseases from it. So I say why do we allow alcohol and cigarettes to run rampant in our communities? They have only continued to cause detrimental effects to the people and society as a whole. Why not allow marijuana to be legal? this criminalization has always been a very backwards approach and this bill needed to pass yesterday! Thank you for your consideration and opened mindedness, blessings to all.

Sergio Lopez

Houstonhigh

Hockley, TX

This bill would benefit the state in aiding the fight against criminal organizations in Mexico and in the Texas streets. This would also help those in need for its medicinal purposes. Not to mention the amount of tax money coming into the state, as seen with other states in the country. Texas would benefit in many ways.

Zachary Stokes

Self

Mansfield, TX

Pass it

Katey Ritchie

Self, Self Employed

Lubbock, TX

As a resident of Lubbock, Texas, I urge the committee to approve HB 3652, which would legalize, regulate, and tax cannabis and cannabis products. The benefits of legalizing marijuana are clear. First and foremost, regulating the supply of marijuana is an important step towards ensuring that it is produced and distributed safely, with clear labeling of potency and potential risks. Unregulated marijuana has been known to contain harmful contaminants, and legalization would prevent the use of contaminated or mislabeled products. This would not only ensure the safety of consumers but also reduce the use of illicit drugs.

Furthermore, legalization would create new opportunities for medical research and enable patients to access safe and legal treatments for a variety of conditions such as chronic pain, anxiety, and seizures. Many patients have reported significant benefits from using marijuana for medical purposes, and regulating its use would ensure that they have access to safe and reliable treatments.

Legalizing marijuana would also have significant economic benefits for the state of Texas. It would generate significant tax revenue, create new jobs in the agriculture and cannabis industries, and reduce the burden on our criminal justice system. The current system of criminalizing marijuana use has disproportionately affected communities of color and has led to unnecessary arrests and incarcerations.

In conclusion, I believe that legalizing marijuana is an important step forward for Texas. It would improve public health and safety, create new economic opportunities, and address issues of criminal justice reform. I urge the committee to approve HB 3652, which would bring Texas in line with other states that have already legalized marijuana and pave the way for a safer, more just, and more prosperous future.

Allison Whitney

Self, professor

Lubbock, TX

I approve of this bill and I hope it will pass.

Myriah Treybig

Self general manager

Kerrville, TX

This is ridiculous we are even still voting

Romana Harding

Self

Cleveland, TX

I fully support this bill! This is an excellent bill that will move aTexas forward and bring true freedom to Texas!!! Keep our taxes here, give us non-drinkers a safer option! It is just a plant for goodness sake!!!!!!

indya guidry

self

Humble, TX

legalization

Angelica Allen

Self

plano, TX

I support

Noah Lombardo

self

Austin, TX

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of HB 3652. The war on drugs has been a complete failure. Not a single aspect of it can be called a success. It wasted billions of dollars and destroyed thousands of lives for nothing. Cannabis use is a personal choice that adults should be allowed to make, much like the choice to drink alcohol. Using cannabis in the privacy of one's home should not be considered a criminal offense. So long as the user is not harming anyone else, there is no reason for it to be illegal.

Furthermore, Texas's cannabis laws have not worked at all! Marijuana is still criminalized in Texas, and these laws have done nothing to keep it off the streets. It is as easy to get as a bottle of liquor. However, users run the risk of being arrested, receiving fines, and going to jail just for possessing it. Our laws are ineffective and outdated, and should be repealed.

Cannabis should be legal in Texas. For a state that values freedom, it is long past time to make this a reality. Please vote in favor of HB 3652.

Cody Johnson, Mr

Self

Houston, TX

I think this will be a great bill to generate revenue for our city and state. This will benefit people with chronic pain tremendously.

Michael Mata

"self" Outreach

El Paso, TX

This bill would help myself and many other Texas residence obtain the medication alternatives as marijuana and be able to help our state by taxing it instead of states like New Mexico and Colorado etc. that are benefiting from the needs of Texans.

Johanna Nuding

Self / entrepreneur

Lockhart, TX

I'm a born and raised Texan who left the state in 2012 to legally explore cannabis as a wellness tool. Before leaving, I had prescriptions for sleep, anxiety, migraines and muscle tension. I was an over-drinker and 30 pounds heavier. I was emotionally blunted from the medications. I certainly couldn't cry or express emotions and orgasm was impossible. I was a shell of a human. Moving to a state with medical and adult-use cannabis changed my life. With the help of this nurturing medicinal plant, in my mid-40's I'm on zero prescription medications and I consciously manage chronic aches and pains, anxiety, and I sleep like a baby. And using cannabis as a wellness tool also curbed my desire to consume alcohol. I now can experience all of my emotions and am highly in-tune with my body. After being gone from The Lone Star State for over ten years and working in the cannabis industry for eight of those, I recently moved back to Texas for family reasons. I can't think of any logical explanations as to why the Lone Star State would keep its citizens from growing their own personal medicine alongside the food in their backyard gardens. Home grow is an affordable option to the cost prohibitive TCUP program. Allow Texans to grow cannabis plants based on personal health needs and make their own medicine! While living in CA, as part of my wellness lifestyle, I made my own tinctures, oils, topicals and I used the raw flower (which is non-psychoactive) and the leaves in smoothies. Cannabis is one of the most healing plants known to man with a historical record of health benefits that spans thousands of years (with no occurrences of death). And to circumvent the "we need more research" argument, cannabis has been and will continue to be studied far more than any pharmaceutical drug or vaccine that's been released and peddled to the people. This isn't a bipartisan issue. This is big business vs. the citizens of Texas. And Texans are waking up to the truth. Will you stand with the people you serve or fall in line with the special interest groups? The eyes of Texas are upon you.

Sarah Bass  
Self, RN  
Houston, TX

I support the legalization of cannabis in Texas and the decriminalization of the possession of cannabis.

Jesse LeBlanc  
Every Brain Matters  
League City, TX

Dear Texas Representative,

I urgently ask you to oppose HB 3652, the legalization of cannabis. HB 3652 will allow the predatory addiction-for-profit marijuana industry to promote more marijuana use and target youth with flavored vapes and candies. Vapes and candies are designed to disguise the foul taste and conceal use from parents, educators, and employers.

There are many reasons to oppose this HARM EXPANSION bill. Here are just a few.

Marijuana with a THC content over 10% increases the risk of a psychotic disorder, like schizophrenia, by 4 to 5-fold

30% of users are becoming addicted to THC, which is called Cannabis Use Disorder

Marijuana users are more vulnerable to addiction to other addictive substances, even opioid use disorder

State legal products are so toxic; people are developing Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome, severe vomiting, and GI issues, which can lead to organ failure and death.

Marijuana legalization causes more road fatalities: In Colorado, Traffic deaths with drivers who test positive for marijuana doubled from 2013 to 2020

Marijuana use increases the risk of suicide by up 7-fold

Marijuana is the main drug found in suicide deaths for Colorado teens.

Adolescent cannabis use is increasing.

Cannabis abuse has increased by 245% since 2000 (Clinical Toxicology 05 Dec)

Frequent adolescents' cannabis vaping jumped over two-and-a-half times from 2017 to 2019 (Monitoring The Future 2022)

Occasional adolescent cannabis vaping climbed more than 291% in 2022 (Monitoring The Future 2022)

Young adult cannabis use is increasing, according to Monitoring The Future 2022:

Past year use: 29% in 2011 to 43% in 2021

Past month use: 17% in 2011, 17% to 29% in 2021

Daily use 6% in 2011 to 11% in 2021

Vaping marijuana past month 6% in 2017 to 12% in 2021

Marijuana legalization provides a cover and invites criminal operations to manufacture and traffic more marijuana in Texas neighborhoods

DEA states: Domestic production and trafficking of marijuana will likely increase as more states adopt or change current marijuana laws to establish medical or recreational marijuana markets, allowing criminals to exploit state legality.

Marijuana is a factor in the increase in violence.

Cindy Martinez  
Self- Veterinary Technician  
Houston, TX

Pass the bill already! So many health benefits and aids in the reduction of opioid use in chronic pain patients.

John Zamora, Mr.  
Self - Customer Experience  
Austin, TX

Please support medical cannabis laws in Texas!! This medicine regulated will keep it off the streets and available thru reputable companies apart of the compassionate use program while aiding as safer alternatives to the prescription drug epidemic. Thank you for your consideration.

Jessica Tanner  
Self - Project Manager  
Haslet, TX

I am diagnosed with anxiety, depression, and insomnia. I have tried many pharmaceutical drugs to help with my symptoms. I am severely underweight due to my diagnosis and would benefit from legalized cannabis. I am on three different medications to manage my symptoms, none of which are herbal. I would like to have an option outside of pharmaceutical drugs such as Xanax, Temazepan, Lunesta, etc.

Keith Tipton, Mr  
self, tutor  
Lubbock, TX

I am from Lubbock and support marijuana legalization and the taxation that comes with it. But, an occupational license?? Do those even exist? What does that even mean?

Danny Gerard  
Desert Oasis CBD  
El Paso, TX

First off. I would like to thank Representative Moody for taking action in putting this Bill together. The Prohibition of this tremendously beneficial plant and various products that come from it is something that every Texan should have access too. We need to move this forward because of the benefits that so many people around the world receive from the use of these products. We are in an interesting time in the industry more and more states are seeing that it is both beneficial for its constituents, along with the state itself by being able to increase tax revenue. As more and more states make this change it paces the way for more research to be done both by universities and private sector. It also allows for companies to invest in research and development of new products and technologies to make even better products for those who choose to utilize these products. This will hopefully push the federal government to finally legalize it fully which will also help to change banking laws and open more safe options for cannabis business owners to be able to bank the money received at dispensaries. Texas should be at the forefront of this fight to legalize cannabis and make it readily available for its citizens. This would help to fight the black and grey market cannabis and other drugs that are illegally sold which benefit no one including the state government. The Drug war that is at our doorstep from illegal drugs from cartels and around the world is only fueled by the strict and out of date regulations that currently exist. We want to provide safe and legal access to cannabis that are grown and manufactured by legal companies who are licensed and lab tested.

The next item to discuss is the insane costs for the application and licensing that are currently in the medical cannabis over \$8000 for application and if you somehow get picked then it's \$524,000 for a two year license and an additional \$480,000 to renew for two years. This is absolutely insane pricing. This isn't charged in the liquor or beer industries or to obtain a liquor license for a store or to wholesale why then are we making the pricing so ridiculous that unless you are in the top 1% you wouldn't be able to take part in this industry. Look at states like New Mexico who recently went full recreational last April 2022. You can get a fully integrated license that allows you to grow, manufacture and sell for \$7500 a year. You can't even apply in Texas for that amount. In a state as small as New Mexico which has less population than Houston the state tax revenue was \$300 million in first year. Why are we not looking at that potential for a state as Great as Texas. We can do better and again I thank Representative Moody for heading the charge on this bill. We are always ready to talk and discuss how to make this a win for Texas as well as a win for all Texans.

Travis Rivas  
Self  
Smithville, TX

It's time for us to join everyone else in legalization!

Jermiya Jeffery  
Self  
Houston, TX  
Legalize it

ROGER WILSON, Mr.

Self

San Antonio, TX

I support this bill and I feel it doesn't go far enough, I am a disabled iraq veteran with "Chronic PTSD" on my problem list among other problems. I will move disability to another state if you force me settle for the existing, lame, laws over cannabis.

Alejandro Monjaraz

Self

Canutillo, TX

I support this bill and others like this. Thank you for your time.

buddy crisp

Self

Lubbock, TX

Granted the bill is albeit advantageous, but introducing this sector here would free up police resources to focus on more heinous crimes and keep a slew of people from having their future possibly ruined due to a possession charge, at the very least the introduction of this bill can ease into decriminalizing small amounts as some of our other Texas counterparts have. Thank you for your time.

Douglas Stafford

self

Longview, TX

I support this bill, we need sensible reform on the legalization of cannabis. Making cannabis illegal has failed and has only created criminals. Its time for the Texas government to catch up with the rest of the country and legalize cannabis. Legalization will enable Texas to protect citizens by preventing dangerous black market products and enrich our state by collecting reasonable taxes on the sale and distribution of this plant.

Alyssa Dorado

Self

El Paso, TX

I support this bill.

Amy Brown

Self

Bivins, TX

I believe this would be so beneficial for the state of Texas , the tax revenue alone is worth it based on numbers from other states that have legalized cannabis . Cutting down on the cannabis offenses which have flooded our prison system . Regulation and monitoring of the inflow and distribution of cannabis reduces the likelihood of the product being laced with other substances .

James Riley

Self

Houston, TX

I feel this is a great decision!

Jacey Patterson

Self

Houston, TX

No one should be criminalized for a plant

Adam Murty

A Texas voter

Spring, TX

Texas needs this. We have far too long dictated morality to responsible adults in this state . Cannabis is far safer for adults to use than alcohol. we as freedom loving Texas must pass this so we can bring cannabis out of the Shadows and into the light of regulated commerce.

I personally have benefited from cannabis from a health and mental health standpoint. The fact that I have to act like a criminal to use a plant is ridiculous. With our economic power we should lead the nation in a his crop . Get off your butts and listen to your constituents.

Jamia Staggers

Self

Houston, TX

Cannabis should not be an illegal substance

Cassi Carrasco

Self

Lubbock, TX

I believe that this is an important bill to passed, many people use cannabis in may different forms to help relieve various problems. I believe if we were to move to legalize the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, testing, possession, and use of Cannabis with the possession of a license to do so could help Texas economically and mentally. There is a big mental health issue here in the state of texas, there's no hiding that, and cannabis is a great stimulant to help calm and ease the mind, I will admit in the past I did use marijuana during a moment of having suicidal ideations and I really believe it helped me calm down enough to make the decision that wasn't what I was wanting, not only have I seen this effect in myself, but also some of my associates as well, I believe this bill is worth passing and I hope you give this a chance, thank you I hope you all have a blessed day ????

Piper Lindeen, Corporate Development Manager, Americans for Safe Access  
Self, Corporate Development Manager, Americans for Safe Access  
Sugar Land, TX

As a teen, I was very involved with Texas War on Drugs. As a young adult, I tried cannabis a handful of times and found it unremarkable.

In my late twenties, I enjoyed using it on occasion, either laughing with friends or in quiet thought. With marriage and children, I took a break from cannabis, at least until my younger son began having seizures.

When pharmaceuticals proved ineffective against my son's seizures, I turned to cannabis for help. It proved remarkable, but how it changed my life for good didn't stop there.

During our struggles with my son's epilepsy and my husband's business struggles during the recession of 2008-2011, my husband turned to alcohol to cope. Our lives were a mess. He would give up drinking for a month, only to turn back to it when the month was up. He failed to moderate again and again. As his alcoholism progressed, I considered divorce many times. We began to use cannabis on occasion again and he was able to give up alcohol.

After having multiple positive experiences with cannabis, I pursued a Masters degree in Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutics at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, where I learned that multiple Congressional panels tasked with evaluating the potential harm of cannabis determined that the potential for harm did not indicate the need for prohibition.

I also learned about the hundreds of novel chemicals and combinations of chemicals (hundreds of new cannabinoids, terpenes, et al) have been locked away from drug and material discovery for the last century. Continuing to deny Texans access to this treasure trove of drug and material development puts Texans behind in what will surely be the next economic boom.

Though I clearly have a love of cannabis, I do not ignore the risks associated with it. Many of the semisynthetic cannabinoids that have been formulated around loopholes in existing laws are far more harmful than cannabis that has been consumed for millennia. Our efforts to avoid consumption of cannabis has led to our creation of a public health risk!

Furthermore, legislative obsession with THC has lead to increased public interest in THC. With improved public access comes improved public safety, education, knowledge about the nuances of cannabis that can be as bold or as nuanced as flavors of wine. It's not all about THC.

Through my work with Americans for Safe Access, I have had the pleasure to network with many leaders of the industry. Texas is projected to be the largest market country for cannabis. Legitimate businesses which operate responsibly are now waiting at the sidelines, while black market businesses flourish. Why would we want to continue to support a framework which gives advantage to lawbreakers?

Finally, legislative framework should be based on truth. When we make laws that are unfounded, we erode our trust in government and the rule of law. This is by far one of the most consequential result of failing to support this legislation. Thank you!

Jovan Carrasco  
Self  
Lubbock, TX

I wholly approve of the decriminalization of cannabis in Texas. It would be immensely beneficial to the economy. However, if currently convicted offenders are not also released or compensated, then I see no use in decriminalizing.

Lee Schnell  
Self/Retired  
Georgetown, TX

I support HB 3652.

Tad Grissom, Mr  
myself  
Odessa, TX

Please end the prohibition of cannabis in Texas. Prohibition only hurts our children and benefits criminals. People are in more danger because illegal drugs are of unknown quality or laced with actually dangerous drugs. Children are put into the criminal justice system where they learn to be criminals.

Reane Mata, Ms.

Self

Lubbock, TX

There are so many benefits that the marijuana plant has to offer. It is the way of the future. Texas is getting left behind. Alcohol and pain killers have worse side effects.

Jerid Achord

Self

Houston, TX

Please allow the people to decide if cannabis products are to be consumed. There is evidence that alcohol is much more dangerous and damaging to the body in comparison. Why not allow the people to choose?

Donna Maldonado

Self

Houston, TX

Allow cannabis to be legal.

Dennis Irvin

Flava house

Houston, TX

We are the only state where tourism is a big part of our economy, so why not allow the legalization of marijuana where it could bring in more profit to our state. More money means more opportunity more jobs and the reduction of crime!

Joel Sprechman

One Great Gut Public Benefit Corporation / Patient Advocate, Patient, Engineer, Business Owner, Coach

Austin, TX

Hi. In 2001 I was, suddenly, diagnoseed with an "incurable disease". I was serving the Department and Justice as Lead Hardware Engineer on an important program throughout the United States. This diagnosis changed the course of my life. In 2008 I moved to California and a MD friend sent me scientific reseach about the CB1 and CB2 receptors. I had consults with coaches and doctors and started to unwind the brainwashing that I had been subject to as a child in America/New York. I learned the story of the author and attorney Irvin Rosenfeld who, as of 2009, had received over 115,000 Joints from the Federal Government. He is(was?) one of four people who gets weed from the federal government. This is unamerican. For some people to be given acces to medicine from nature than others who suffer. Though I was shamed and bullied I decided to experiment myself. I found it very helpful. I wound up hosting the first Crohn's and Colitis Summit where ~20,000 people came. Through these interviews I learned of not just research, but also people who are \*completely healed from their dis-ease. If you've ever met someone with IBD/Crohn's/Colitis their quality of life is much different than most. The tiem in bathroom, missed work, stress on the insurance and hospital systems. It's a wicked dis-ease that I would wish upon no one. Children are being diagnosed more and faster than ever before. Cannabis helps. The freedoms we had in California to purchased, and the options were lightyears ahead of what is here in beautiful Lone Star State. Please consdier making the more morally and ethical decision to serve ytour constituents and the # of people who are suffering, uncesasrily, due to the restriction and legalities of a meaningful compound in nature. Thank You for protecting us from people and things that could do us harm, and I hope you consider assisting those - and maybe your friends and loved ones - with legal access to cannabis more so than is available today. Best, Joel Sprechman. btw: your'e welcome to reach out and I'd be glad to discuss more my research and what I've learned. I'm here to serve others, and this is an imporant issue to me b/c it pains me to see people suffering when maybe they don't have to.

Nancy Yates  
Self homemaker  
Katy, TX

Dear Texas Representative,

We urgently ask you to oppose HB 3652, the legalization of cannabis. HB 3652 will allow the predatory addiction-for-profit marijuana industry to promote more marijuana use and target youth with flavored vapes and candies. Vapes and candies are designed to disguise the foul taste of marijuana and conceal its use from parents, educators, and employers.

There are many reasons to oppose this HARM EXPANSION bill. Here are just a few:

Marijuana with a THC content over 10% increases the risk of a psychotic disorder, like schizophrenia, by 4 to 5-fold  
30% of users are becoming addicted to THC, which is called cannabis use disorder or CUD.

Marijuana users are more vulnerable to become addicted to other harmful substances, including opioids and fentanyl.  
State legal products are so toxic that people have now started developing cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome (CHS), which causes severe vomiting and other GI issues and which can lead to organ failure and death.

Marijuana legalization causes more road fatalities. In Colorado, Traffic deaths caused by drivers who test positive for marijuana doubled from 2013 to 2020.

Marijuana use increases the risk of suicide by up 7-fold.

Marijuana is the main drug found in suicide deaths for Colorado teens.

Adolescent cannabis use source: Monitoring The Future 2022

Cannabis abuse has increased by 245% since 2000. Clinical Toxicology 05 Dec

Frequent adolescents' cannabis vaping jumped over two-and-a-half times from 2017 to 2019.

Occasional adolescent cannabis vaping climbed more than 291% in 2022,

Young adult cannabis use (source: Monitoring The Future 2022)

Past year use: 29% in 2011 to 43% in 2021

Past month use: 17% in 2011, 17% to 29% in 2021

Daily use: 6 % in 2011 to 11% in 2021

Vaping marijuana past month: 6% in 2017 to 12% in 2021

Marijuana legalization only provides a cover and invites criminal operations to manufacture and traffic more marijuana in family neighborhoods.

The DEA states: "Domestic use of marijuana remains high and is likely to increase as the prevalence of state legalization continues to lower the perception of risk to users and potential users. The high availability of high-potency marijuana, marijuana concentrate products, and trendy paraphernalia will likely continue to entice users and potential users."

High concentrations of THC (products that contain 10 mg or higher) are not proven safe for adults to use. A 10% tax rate will not cover the social, mental, and physical costs.

Vote NO to HB 3652.

Thank you,  
Nancy Yates

Roger Palomino, Mr.  
Self - Disabled Veteran  
Helotes, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for the passage of cannabis laws in our state. As a concerned citizen, I believe that responsible regulation and taxation of cannabis can offer substantial economic growth and increased safety for our communities. This letter outlines several key reasons why passing such legislation is a positive and necessary step forward.

First and foremost, the economic benefits of legalizing and regulating cannabis are undeniable. In states where cannabis has been legalized, significant tax revenue has been generated, leading to improved public services and infrastructure. Legalization also creates new job opportunities in cultivation, processing, and retail sectors, contributing to local economic growth.

Moreover, legalizing cannabis can reduce law enforcement costs associated with the prosecution and incarceration of non-violent cannabis offenders. Redirecting these resources towards more pressing public safety concerns will greatly benefit our communities.

Importantly, public health and safety concerns regarding cannabis are often overstated. According to National Institutes of Health (NIH) public records, there is no evidence to suggest that cannabis use poses a significant public health or safety risk. In fact, numerous studies have demonstrated its potential medical benefits, including pain relief, reduction of nausea in chemotherapy patients, and alleviation of symptoms in various neurological disorders.

To conclude, passing cannabis laws is a critical step towards realizing the economic and social benefits that responsible cannabis regulation can offer. I urge you to consider the evidence and support the passage of these laws for the betterment of our communities and the growth of our economy.

Erica Clutter  
Self  
El Paso, TX

It helps with pain and anxiety.

Hannah Whittington  
Self  
Corpus Christi, TX

Cannabis should be legal for everyone to use even people with stressful jobs and government officials should allow it and they should also allow government officials to use and consume cannabis. It helps with stress anxiety and ptsd and adhd and it's a natural product. It could be beneficial to the whole state of Texas financially. It's also beneficial for people who live in constant stress and anxiety without having to take a pill because it's a natural herbal supplement.

Colt DeMorris

El Paso NORML/Self- Director of Retail Operations for High Horse Cannabis Co.

El Paso, TX

I am in support of this bill and I believe this bill needs to be passed and implemented as soon as possible.

I am a resident of El Paso, Texas, and I have been in the New Mexico cannabis industry for nearly 3 years.

I started in the medical cannabis industry and with passage of NM's Cannabis Regulation Act, I now work in the fully legal adult-use retail market with my main focus on patients.

Working in a legal market that borders the West Texas border has shown me a lot of things. For one, it has shown me that the current laws in Texas that prohibit cannabis, doesn't stop those who chose to use cannabis.

Secondly, I have followed the numbers being made in NM jurisdictions like Sunland Park, Las Cruces, Chaparral, and Hobbs- all being a short drive away from the Texas border.

More so, the amount of lost revenue Texas is experiencing to NM's legal market is astounding. The percentage of clientele patronizing NM dispensaries being Texans is high.

It is time that Texas implements sensible cannabis policy legalizing cannabis for all patient and adult use. It is time that Texas allows Texans to earn the revenue that a legal cannabis industry brings. It is time to end prohibition in Texas and allow the cannabis industry to flourish allowing the state economy to do the same thing as well.

No better time than now! Please pass this bill swiftly to allow it to hit the House floor for a vote.

Robby Hurt

Republican Activist

Mountain Home, TX

The science in support of this bill is nonexistent. Why are we even having the discussion? Anyone that supports this bill is very likely to be cursed by God including future generations. Maybe a thousand. And I pity the sponsors and cosponsors.

Taryn Jeffrey, Ms.

Self

Tomball, TX

Make it legal already.

Alfonso Alvizo

Self

Friendswood, TX

I'm a Chrons patient and ptsd patient and we need to normalize this medicine

Clovis McCary

Self

Madill, TX

I was born and raised right here in Texas. The current legislation forced me to move to Oklahoma to have safe access to medical Marijuana. I have owned and operated large scale Marijuana grow facilities all across the country. When laws didn't matter to me that included right here in Texas. After that thought process cost me my freedom. I moved to where my believes were not condemned. Please allow me to be able to return home and have safe access to medication without fear of losing my freedom for following my personal beliefs. Legalize possession and home grow and I promise you texas population will surge as people like myself, who move away cause they had to. Begin to come back

Mario Castro  
Self  
Galena Park, TX

It's time.

Deborah Preece  
Self/ Home Maker  
EagleLake, TX

I support this bill HB 3652 by Moody. We the people of Texas need to make a Positive move forward or we will get left behind. Please Approve this Bill.

Jesse Williams  
Self  
Austin, TX

I support this bill and moving cannabis laws forward in Texas.

Craig Mann  
Houston high  
Houston, TX

Texas representatives need to listen to the voice of the people, this would greatly increase tax revenue and bring in small buisness opportunities to the state. It NEEDS to happen.

Christian Villalpando, Mrs  
Self, Bookkeeper, QBO entry level  
San antonio, TX

This form will bring to light on what legitimate growers and consumers may be able to use and create for the cannabis community. Not only this bill will regulate the way how cannabis is distributed amongst other texans. Cannabis has many health benefits for the consumer and also the distributor. Which is why implementing the 10% sales will create much needed revenue for texas. Many other states have shown that the use of cannabis creates revenue for the state. Reduces crime rate to distribute cannabis illegally, it will not put an end to the crimes of illegal consumption. It will significantly reduce the crime rate and bring forth the individuals responsible in illegal distribution. The 8.25% of state tax on top of 10% tax sales for cannabis will bring many customers that want to partake in this recreational, but most importantly, legally. Reducing penalties among the previous owners or consumers of cannabis should be it's first step into creating this bill. Wrongfully sentenced for a plant that can be used in many medicinal practices or recreational use. It shouldn't be classified as it has been in the past, next to the schedule 1 drugs, that do harm into our communities.

Benjamin Leder  
Self  
Trinidad, TX

This bill is a step in the right direction, but doesn't go far enough.

Paul Pierce  
Self, retired  
Austin, TX

I wholeheartedly support the passage of HB 3652.

Lisa Bueno  
Self, Medical Cannabis Manufacturer  
New Braunfels, TX

Please support HB 3652 by Representative Moody. Texans deserve legal access to cannabis and the ability to cultivate plants in their own home.

The majority of Texans support cannabis legalization. It's time for our laws to reflect that.

Jeff Gray  
Self  
Cypress, TX

Its time to legalize cannabis in Texas, I support this bill.

Edward Matlock  
Self / Transportation  
Pflugerville, TX

Good morning I'm writing in hopes that this message will reach someone who can make a difference. There are at least 20 other legal states and more who have mix legalization laws. Texas is being held back by old outdated views that don't reflect the majority of the of residence here. We are doing type a diss justice to the state that we are allowing other states to prosper financially as well as medically in this Industry. Texas is the leader in a lot of different industries/ fields and this could be the next, please don't allow us to fall far behind. Don't wait till it's legal on the federal level to take action. Help us change and make this state even greater than it already is. Thank You in advance for your service to us.

Valerie McGinnis  
Self/family caregiver  
Lubbock, TX

Legalizing cannabis will give our population access to a gentle drug that helps with anxiety and depression, with less side effects than what is currently available.

A healthy supply of cannabis would also help our state's SUD community. Currently, poisonous drugs like fentanyl and other "dope" are abundant, while a cannabis supply is nearly non-existent. Cannabis is less harmful to our personal, and societal health than mystery chemical cocktails, and in many cases can improve health.

Please legalize cannabis.

Jennifer Tyler  
Myself and more than half of Texas voters!  
Nederland, TX

Why are people in jail for a plant? Our body has a endocannabinoid system which means we have receptors for this plant. We were made to consume it. This plant needs to be fully legal. It needs to be legal for health purposes and because it's a plant. Why are we making nature illegal? We can go to a smoke shop and buy delta 8 or 9 which gets you just as high as the illegal plant. Tell me why the hemp derived thc is legal when it gets you just as high as the illegal cannabis plant? I really would like to get an answer back on that question! The state of Texas is so backwards. You all should be embarrassed that you have people in jail for this plant yet almost half the US has it legal.

Corey Pendergrass  
Self, mechanic  
Garland, TX

As a regular consumer of cannabis for multiple heath reasons, I want you to pass this bill. I would rather consume cannabis products than popp8ng pills. I a favor of decriminalization of cannabis.

Idona Griffith

Retired

Austin, TX

I strongly support HB 3652! Let's bring Texas into the 21st century and boost our economy at the same time -- it's a plant, y'all!

Nanci Lancaster

Self

Austin, TX

I am in favor of this bill passing in Texas. Cannabis should be legal, regulated. Citizens should be able to use and purchase cannabis and cannabis products just like alcohol. I believe Texas would make a lot of money through taxes and fees when this bill goes into effect.

Kevin Hale, Legislative Coordinator

Libertarian Party of Texas/ self

Dallas, TX

Yes, please pass this bill. For 50 plus years the Libertarian party has been advocating for the end of prohibition. This bill would go a long way to crippling the illegal markets and restore the freedoms we should be enjoying in the first place.

Christopher Grisolia

Self

Krum, TX

I lost my son to epilepsy because he refused to break the laws that prohibit cannabis. Meds only made his seizures worse and TCUP wasn't in effect yet.

Donavan Pantke

Self / Director Cloud Tools and Services

Arlington, TX

I am in full support of this bill.

I don't consume cannabis, and to be frank I can't stand the smell of people smoking it, but its use is far less dangerous than either alcohol or nicotine, and for far too long has Texas banned its use. There are few reasons to keep a ban in place, and it will free up scarce jail space and police resources to go after real violent criminals. It also will reduce the incidents of people getting sucked into the criminal justice system and becoming true criminals through adversity and hardship that they wouldn't have otherwise encountered.

Cannabis legalization also allows the product quality and potency to be transparent in a public marketplace. Private sellers in a public, legal marketplace won't want contaminated product or product so potent as to cause true damage being sold, and consumers can leverage our legal system to sue people who do; People won't have the fear of such actions because their purchase was illegal to begin with.

I urge this House and Legislature to pass this bill immediately and get away from targeting potheads to going after the murderers, thieves, violent sex offenders and fraudsters that we need to bring to justice.

Thank you for hearing me today.

Trey Camby  
Self  
Pearland, TX

Good morning, I would like to just address HB 3652 by saying cannabis has been something that has help my family for over the last 5 years. It has gotten my mother off of opioids and cbd has been tremendous in helping my father with his neurodegenative disorder. Legalizing cannabis could potentially do the same for someone going through these same type of ailments and pains. I believe someone who uses cannabis isn't always your typical "stoner" or "lazy" person. You can indulge responsibly and respectfully for as long as you choose to. Cannabis should be used as a tool for the people. That's why I believe HB 3652 would allow for cannabis to be used as a tool for the people of the great state of Texas. Thank you for taking the time to read my statement, I hope everyone has a great day!

Kaitlyn Shelby  
Self  
Conroe, TX

Please stand by this bill for those that medically need cannabis and want to get the necessary help from doctors and dispensaries

Marissa Valles  
Self  
Houston, TX

I believe having this bill pass will help bring money and new jobs to Texas. It will also help Texans that experience pain give them another avenue to manage without having to become addicted to pain meds. Let's move Texas forward.

Gregory Castle  
Self  
Cypress, TX

There is no reason for the sell of cannabis, which is medicine for some and an alternative to alcohol for others. The legilization will also help to minimize the strength of the drug cartels from Mexico

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Hearing Date: April 26, 2023 8:00 AM

Dianne Sula, Mrs

Self. Retired

Temple, TX

I strongly oppose HB 3652. Please do not vote it out of committee. Texas does not need to open our door to the legalization of cannabis. Thank you.

M Ortiz

Self

Glenn heights, TX

I believe cannabis would affect Texas in a great way. Less law enforcement wasting their time on marijuana related incidents. More tax dollars from a booming industry. I have personally seen the affect it has had on many recreationally for anxiety and depression and also medically with cerebral palsy epilepsy etc. Please think openly when voting on this bill it helps many people from all walks of life.

Henry Fuentes

Self

Houston, TX

Please allow for this bill to pass. Many in the community are looking towards natural medicine to ease medical problems without ingesting harmful medications with often terrible side affects.

Troy Gibson

Houston High

Houston, TX

End the war on drugs.

Chance Sirey

Self

Houston, TX

I vote yes

Britannica Roberts

Self

Channelview, TX

This would such a great move for alot of reasons. There are so many medical Benefits that would help alot of people.

Jennifer Waddock

Self

Humble, TX

Get this passed

Blair Henderson

Self

Sugar Land, TX

I am writing to urge you to support House Bill 3652 by Moody, which seeks to regulate the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, testing, possession, and use of cannabis and cannabis products in the state of Texas.

The legalization of cannabis would have many benefits for our state. Not only would it generate significant revenue through taxes and fees, but it would also create job opportunities and stimulate economic growth. Additionally, by regulating cannabis, we would ensure the safety and quality of cannabis products, protecting the health of Texans who choose to use them.

I strongly support the requirement of an occupational license, which would promote responsible business practices and prevent criminal activity related to cannabis. Furthermore, the criminal offense provision would deter illicit cannabis activities that endanger our communities.

Overall, House Bill 3652 is a common-sense solution to regulating the cannabis industry in Texas. By passing this bill, we can take advantage of the many benefits that come with legalizing and regulating cannabis. I urge you to support this bill and help bring positive change to our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark Yokim

Self

Dallas, TX

Legalize cannabis and create an industry built around healthcare. This plant is medicine.

Brenda Colon

Self

Webster, TX

Please legalize for the people who suffer from medical conditions and want to get better!

Eric Vasquez

Self

El Paso, TX

I am from El Paso Texas and I support this bill

Ana Garza

Texas Hempres - self

Kenedy, TX

I would like that you help us in legalizing cannabis. I have suffered for years from pain and anxiety.

However the prescriptions are very expensive. I am a green thumb who loves all plants. Especially cannabis because it save my life. I am a cannabis advocate here in San Antonio Texas. I am currently holding an event to try and educate others about the importance of voting.

I would love for you to help us in anyway that you can so we may have access to this precious medication.

cesar Restrepo

Self

Houston, TX

Legalize it

Noah Lopez  
Self Barista  
Lubbock, TX

I am from Lubbock Texas and would like the committee to approve this bill, Thank you.

John Blassingame  
Self  
Amarillo, TX

I'm a 62 year old disabled individual with major reconstruction surgeries after twice breaking my back. I was prescribed opiates and was taking 90 hydrocodone a month for two years as directed by my doctor. I began traveling to Colorado to buy cannabis and completely rid myself of the addiction resulting from my prescribed medication. On a return trip I was pulled over in Hartley County for a two mph over speed limit, immediately asked for permission to search the vehicle which I denied, I was removed from my vehicle to detained for twenty to thirty minutes in 40 degrees with 50 mph winds and for a K-9 unit which signaled the handler. I have no arrest record. I was detained for two miles over and now after thousands of dollars from my modest set income, drug testing, travel limitations, reporting to a probation officer I am 90 days away from ending four years of being under the heel of "Texas Justice". What I have learned is Texas blindly enforces draconian law rather than profiting the State from regulation, taxation and production of a nontoxic, non-lethal herb that has physically and mentally been the best aide in my chronic pain and depression from my limitations. Texas, you are on the wrong side of history on this one. Every day we are funneling cash to the cartels you claim to be at war with through nonsensical cannabis prohibition. After my probation I will not be going to Colorado, Oklahoma or New Mexico to purchase my medicine. I will go back to having a Bandito MC hang around connected to the cartels deliver to my door. I will not allow the ignorance of this State to dictate what I can use as treatment or recreational relaxation within my own home while the politicians are speaking of freedom and less Government while employing fascism against us. Texas, you should be ashamed!!

Jesse Gallegos  
Self  
El Paso, TX

I am for This!!

Richard Almeida, Owner  
Houston Movement  
Kingwood, TX

Thank you

Rusty Shelburne  
Self, IT Tech and Smoke Shop Owner  
Kilgore, TX

This is the absolute best thing you can do to remove people such as myself that have debilitating anxiety disorders that do not like the prescriptions written for my condition. It's treatment for vets and others with PTSD from traumatic experiences are begging for relief in Texas. I fully support the tax as an advocate for recreational distribution through regulated retail such as my smoke shop. It will lower the rate of tobacco usage thus chipping away at cigarette related cancers. Please have compassionate empathy when considering this bill. Yes is the right answer!!!! Thank you for your time!!!

Trey Delossantos  
Self  
Lubbock, TX

I vote for the cannabis to be legalized

Jason Yockov  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

It's time Texas citizens have the same choice and availability of our neighboring states to use cannabis for pain and medical conditions as well as recreationally if desired. Texas is losing out on his and money that can be used to go back into Texas infrastructure to repair road, build schools, and various other resources needed within the state. It's time for Texas to catch up with the rest of the U.S.

Kelsie Roushan  
Self recruiter  
Cypress, TX

This will increase revenue across the board and free up space in local jails and prisons.

Lona Meyer  
Self  
Brazoria, TX

Let's do it

Brenda Ortiz  
Self/Administrative clerk  
Houston, TX

As a Texas resident and anxiety prone adult, I feel like this bill should be approved for many Texas residents as myself who suffer from other medical conditions that nothing else helps with. By imposing a tax, it can be more regulated, and control. Also the revenue in taxes alone will help the state of Texas where it needs it most.

Reuben Foster  
Self  
Houston, TX

Please pass this into law! We have been persecuted for too long. I live in chronic pain and this plant has helped me more than any drugs.

Sarah Odom  
Self  
Deer Park, TX

I would like to share my support for this bill being passed. As someone living with chronic pain and medical issues, cannabis has literally saved my life and given me some control back in quality of life.

Please bring Texas to the modern era of therapeutic cannabis use so that all Texans have access to medicine!

Tyler Overturf  
Self  
Shepherd, TX

I support this

Robert Porter

Self

Humble, TX

I support this bill. We have been lacking for funds. Watch Colorado and California. They were able to fix a lot with the tax revenue generated

Liberty Wood

Self

Groves, TX

Please vote in favor of this bill. Texas needs to move forward in this industry. We are lagging and could benefit from such a bill. Medically many constituents are still unable to qualify, having cannabis products available and cultivation rights will all have full access for medical purposes. I believe it will also reduce use of schedule 1 drugs and alcohol in our state. Please vote YES!

Alberto Garcia

Self

Houston, TX

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Tyler Davis

Self

Tyler, TX

I support HB 3652. Please pass this for the greater good of all Texans. We value freedom, now it's time to show it. Thank you for all of your hard work.

Richard Fennell

Self

Amarillo, TX

This is a simple matter of freedom. It is wrong for government to arbitrarily decide I can use some harmful substances, like alcohol or tobacco, but not others. These decisions clearly have nothing to do with right or wrong, or protecting our citizens. It seems like these decisions are instead based on what is most profitable for state departments and the private entities who work with them. During past hearings, I've watched in disbelief as state representatives and members of law enforcement make up false statistics and paint wildly irrational slippery slope scenarios in order to preserve the lucrative industry of incarcerating our own citizens - our friends and neighbors - for petty crimes. And these so-called criminal offenses don't even fit the philosophical definition of a crime. No one's rights were violated. No one was injured. No one's property was damaged or stolen. Enough already. In my life, I have encountered countless individuals who, as a result of drinking too much alcohol, posed an immediate threat to themselves and everyone around them. I lost my brother to alcohol. Still, I have to just accept the fact that people have the right to drink as much as they want to. If they break the law by operating a motor vehicle or by behaving belligerently while under the influence of alcohol, they will be punished accordingly. Here's the thing though. It is also true that over the course of my lifetime I have yet to encounter even one individual who, as a result of consuming too much cannabis, posed an immediate threat to anyone or anything, except perhaps any sweet or salty snacks you might have in the pantry. Those snacks are done for. They never had a chance. I'm not saying cannabis is harmless. For individuals with existing physical or mental health issues, consuming cannabis can be downright dangerous. Even for a perfectly healthy person, consuming cannabis comes with a variety of potential health risks. But the fact remains that my elected representatives have no right to decide for me whether or not it's okay to accept those risks. Banning things is a terrible idea. It doesn't matter whether we're talking about books, or guns, or abortion, or recreational drugs. Banning things transfers all power over the business aspect of said things to criminal organizations. I want to take the revenue from the production and distribution of cannabis away from criminal organizations. I want it to be regulated for safety and taxed to fund local projects. Let's make it happen, Texas. Also, not that it matters, but I don't use cannabis. I smoked lots of it when I was younger and experienced no adverse effects. There was no noticeable addiction either. Quitting was easy, with no withdrawal symptoms or any challenges like that to overcome. I just decided I had outgrown it one day, and that was that. Quitting cigarettes was a nightmare. It was a crippling addiction, like a boot on my neck. Terrible withdrawals. Yet it's perfectly legal. That's bonkers.

Cody Brown

Self

Abilene, TX

I think this bills should move forward because it would help people that enjoy using cannabis in a responsible manner to stay out of jail and not lose there jobs, house and kids. It's no different then anyone who works all day and goes home to enjoy their favorite adult beverage. We are not criminals, we abide all the laws. We just want the same rights given to people in 21 other states just like ours. Thank you for allowing me to comment on this bill. Please don't let it fall on deaf ears. God bless Texas

Heather Achord

Self

Houston, TX

Please pass this. Not everyone wants to treat their anxiety with Prescription meds. Responsible people will greatly benefit from legally being able to treat their sleep disorders, anxiety, and stress with cannulas. Atleast decriminalize it and begin the much needed destination process surrounding cannabis. Alcohol causes so much depression and poor choices, that is what's criminal. The amount of homeless people on our Houston streets with alcohol addictions is profound. Utilize and rebrand cannot is as a medicine for pain management. Anti anxiety, lower blood pressure, improve sleep, etc. Texas will benefit financially form this choice, people will not stop using this plant so please make choices for our state that ensure legality and proper consequences for misuse.

Shelby Parson

Self

Houston, TX

I agree and support this bill

Scott Dagrella

Self

Spring, TX

Free it

lisa Watson

Self

El Paso, TX

People with disabilities really need this and sometimes it's hard to get into the THC program.

Danielle Rodriguez

Self

El Paso, TX

The process should be more friendly.

Sage Gamboa

Self

El Paso, TX

I agree with moody!!!

Ryan Kheir

None

Sugar Land, TX

Free it

Clinton Beall

Self

Fresno, TX

I support the legalization of marijuana and marijuana products.

Connie Farias

Self

Houston, TX

I vote for HB 3652

Ryan Bell

Self

Lubbock, TX

My name is Ryan Bell and I am a resident of Lubbock, TX. I'd like the committee to approve HB 3652. I am a medical patient under the Compassionate Use Program and due to the strict limitations around cannabis in the state of Texas, it makes it incredibly hard for me to afford my medication. I would have to spend \$400 a month to get my prescribed dosage and that is just impossible. I suffer from PTSD and Crohn's Disease and I have gone through over a dozen different medications to help with both diagnoses over the past 10+ years until my mother suggested I give cannabis a try. If I am able to smoke cannabis, the relief is almost instant however, the edibles work amazing too (it just takes a while to take effect). HB 3652 would not only help with the price of cannabis being more affordable by creating more market competition, it would allow me to grow my own plants at home in my garden. This would help tremendously because I would no longer need to worry about being able to afford \$400/month for my medicine. HB 3652 would also help free up resources for the Lubbock Police Department to focus more of their efforts on the rising crime in Lubbock, Texas. On average, marijuana arrests account for ~11% of all arrests made by Lubbock PD. I know I would rather my tax dollars be spent on more important crimes like the increasing amounts of B&E's in my neighborhood and other violent crimes that have victims. I am writing to y'all to ask y'all to please pass HB 3652 and bring us out of this outdated prohibition. There are over 20 states that currently have legalized cannabis for adult use and 38 states have legalized it medicinally. Our neighbors in New Mexico and Oklahoma have passed legislation that legalizes cannabis, and I truly hope that our great state will be able to join the ranks of these other progressive states in legalization. The majority of Texans have voiced their support for cannabis reform. Please pass HB 3652 and be the voice for the people who are pleading for their state representatives to legalize cannabis, the same people who make this state the great state it is!

Jessica McCormick

Self/ salesperson

Huntsville, TX

I feel this would benefit our state by creating jobs, medicine, and alternative manufacturing possibilities by utilizing the cannabis plant to its full capabilities and also clear up our state and government resources by focusing our time, money, and energy on more important issues.

Brandy Stender

Self

Houston, TX

It's time to legalize and tax cannabis in Texas! Allow Texans to heal. Undo 80 years of racism, greed and ignorance.

Jack Santilli

Self, chronically ill patient

Garland, TX

Hello, my name is jack. Im 21 and have been in severe chronic pain since i was 10 ish. Medical cbd and later on the resulting analogs like delta 8 have considerably improved my quality of life and even saved it. Every day i was sleeping constantly, i was crying to god to kill me regularly, thinking how messed up it was to be going through this. Then one day cbd was legalized via tincture, which really really helped for awhile. Then one day it stopped working as my liver became inflamed and i had to change to smoking cbd at 18. Since then, delta 8 became legalized and at the start of that, things were going pretty well. Then once the government decided to try to ban it(unsuccesfully, and creating new more dangerous analogues) while keeping regular cannabis illegal causing the quality of otc delta 8 to plummet and cause just as many health problems as black market thc vape cartridges did in 2016 ish. That has put me and many like me in a dangerous position of consuming tainted substances because edibles and tinctures do not work anymore, but neither does anything else. Except for cannabis. The plant with proven medical benefits for some people, the plant that can regulate stress and pain. If you had asked me when i was young if i would consider using cannabis for pain i would have said hard pass because of the demonizing rhetoric surrounding it. Its 2023, its time to re-evaluate your priorities. People are getting sick from the alternatives, and the medical proof surrounding the original is too much to deny. Please let people be out of tremendous pain.

Daisy Llanos

Self/baker

Houston, TX

Use for mental disorders, especially anxiety.

Griffin Morgan

Self

Houston, TX

In support

Dana Deeds

Self

Austin, TX

I'm in support of this bill

james Allen

Military veteran

Belton, TX

Please support this bill. It's far past time we caught up on ending this silly cannabis prohibition. As a retired veteran, this and 2A are what I vote for. I don't care which party gets the job done, but end cannabis prohibition and preserve my 2A rights and I'll vote for you. I speak to many veterans, this is the consensus among us.

Morgan Kirkpatrick

Self/project manager & marketing coordinator

Lubbock, TX

I'm a Lubbock resident and support this bill.

Michael Bezecny

Self tire technician

Sugar Land, TX

I would love to see this bill get passed as marijuana reform is much needed in this state at this time

Rohn Norwood

Self

Spring, TX

Texas has waited too long to help its people. We need to start looking at this as help not an excuse! We need this!!

Sarah Melendez

Self

El Paso, TX

Alcohol and guns kill more people daily than marijuana has in its entire history. The laws against marijuana are racist, outdated, and purely illogical. It has been known as a medicine for centuries.

Simone See, Ms.

Self

Lubbock, TX

I am from Lubbock, Texas and would like to see the committee pass HB 3652. My step dad is a retired Texas police officer who was forced into retirement early due to Parkinson's disease. Having access to legal cannabis would be life changing for him. He refuses to use it due to it still being illegal here.

Juan Alvarez

Houston High

Houston, TX

Please pass this bill without prejudice

Matt Hubbard

Self

Austin, TX

I believe HB3652 should be passed to bring in another sustainable tax source.

Marguerite Waddock

Self

Humble, TX

Hoping we can legalize Cannabis and prosper from regulating and taxing to help with public programs.

Myra Decigo

houston high

Humble, TX

Houston High, i believe this will help alot of people medically.

Jessixa Brewer

Self

Lubbock, TX

I would like the committee to approve HB 3652.

Hector Guerrero

Self

Lubbock, TX

I support this bill in favor of cannabis.

Andrew Hay

@HoustonHigh

Hockley, TX

I've been a consumer for many years. Alot better than alcohol or cigarettes yet those both legal and taxable. Why not texas get aboard and let us have our God given plant.

Ryan Sanchez

Self

Cypress, TX

I hope it gets passed and goes through as this would benefit the state with tax money and benefit the people that need it desperately. Also Texas is a huge state with a ton of alcohol homes, breweries, whiskey distilleries etc. Would be nice to see the organic side of our state come alive!

Chadwick Martin

Self

La Marque, TX

Full support.

LaTonjalia Perry

Self

Spring, TX

Texas is an agricultural state, yet it has been a participant in a dangerous and unnecessary war against a plant that has benefits to help so many people. Cannabis should be regulated and used to bring income into Texas by providing jobs in the cannabis industry. It should not be used as a political pawn to fill prisons and oppress people of color.

Christina Phillips

Houston High

Houston, TX

Please legalize this. I would rather do this than take the amount of pharmaceutical medications I have to.

Brayson Cox

Self

Ira, TX

The access to cannabis is already widely available; though it is through unregulated and tax deferred illegal cannabis. Marijuana taxation would be smart economically. We would be able to use the cannabis profits to do what we please. It's not a partisan issue, it's a Texas issue.

Alcohol reportedly is worse on your body than cannabis.

People use it already, might as well regulate it and make some money off of it.

Carol Sloan  
Self  
Brazoria, TX

If it wasn't for this wonderful plant I would never leave my house. I don't take pills. That lovely plant helps me eat, sleep and not hurt as much without being addicted to pills

Darrell Huddleston  
Self/Field Service Engineer  
Palestine, TX

Thank you Representative Moody.

Toni Guzman  
Self  
Lubbock, TX

Hello I am from Lubbock, Texas and I feel this bill should be passed ..tax revenue, and also helps so many people with ailments such as myself anxiety pain fibromyalgia

Leah Patrick  
Self Caregiver  
Liberty Hill, TX

Thank you Rep Moody , and everyone working on HB 3652!

Please pass this bill! As registered medical patients, and caregivers, we need safe access to safe , natural medicines that heal, not kill. My son is a 13 year brain tumor warrior and I'm an 11 year MS/Pain/PTSD warrior. The plant helps all of it with no lethal side effects. As his caregiver, and a patient, we ask for the right to grow our own plant medicine, or have a caregiver grow it for us. As disabled patients, it's important to feel supported and not shamed in our great state of Texas for a life saving plant. It's saving lives and eases suffering, especially going through chemotherapy, which I wouldn't wish on anyone. My son has endured 4 brain surgeries, radiation, and chemotherapy. Cannabis is saving his life, my life, and millions of others. We're surrounded by legal states and are tired of waiting and don't want to move . Let's finally help Texans get the real medicine to patients and end the stigmatization on cannabis... we have the right to try. Compassion, caring, and cannabis for the win. Pass HB3652!

God bless,  
Leah Patrick

Alejandro Tellez  
Self  
Baytown, TX

Texans deserve medicine just as much as the rest of the country. We should not be exiled from a plant. There is great potential in marijuana for Texans. Not just to get high or even medicate but create jobs and yield on more tax dollars. I don't have much to say but want to be heard on this topic. Legalize what should already be legal. Thank you.

Mark Cavazos  
Self  
Edinburg, TX

No one should have a felony for weed

Kristi Hinds  
Self  
HOUSTON, TX

It's time for Texas to legalize Marijuana! It is a medicine that many people need to have access to. I have a variety of ailments and it would help me each day to use legal products from a dispensary. It is pathetic Texas is one of the last state to legalize. It is way over due. Old white men, pale and frail are making wrong decisions to keep it from being legalized is ridiculous. It's 2023. Time to get with the times and pass this bill for the greater good of Texans.

Shaun Scurlock  
Self  
LEANDER, TX

I am FOR this bill. It is time we decriminalize a plant that helps 1000s of people a year and incarcerates much more. Legalize Marijuana in Texas!

Linda Adkins  
Self  
Nederland, TX

I am a cancer patient and would like to cultivate a plant for pain relief. I am soon to be 75 years old. Thank you.

David Headen  
Houston High  
Houston, TX

As a patient with a Neurological condition, it's important

Isaiah Calderon  
Self  
Irving, TX

We need it legalized

Candice Cook  
Self  
Katy, TX

As someone who lives in constant, chronic pain, but isn't deemed ill enough to qualify for disability, legalizing cannabis would allow me to simply enjoy life again. I am a California transplant who moved here to start a small business (which is starting out beautifully). I love living here so much more than California and am grateful I can call this state my home. However, the legality of cannabis was the only con I found when moving here. I used to be able to get through my day without having every bone and joint in my body hurting and aching. Every other aspect of my life has improved since moving here but my pain persists. I was not an abuser or overuser of cannabis but someone who truly benefited from its use. California made the mistake of making it hard for businesses to sell regulated cannabis which only fueled the black market. I believe if I had access to cannabis, I would be able to run my business without being in pain, it could REALLY thrive! Please legalize cannabis, please allow those of us in pain to use a natural plant to let us live lives with quality.

Dana Mcwhirt  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

Please

Ishonna Walker, Ms.

Self

Rosharon, TX

Cannabis is a better alternative to many antidepressants.

Matt Brown

Houston high/self

Brazoria, TX

I have degenerative bone disease and marijuana helps ease the pain in my back and neck and not for just getting high.

Haley Cates

HoustonHigh

Houston, TX

Since I am unable to publicly speak for a variety of personal reasons, I would like to send me testimony in electronically. I am in favor of HB 3652 and would like to share to my personal reason.

Growing up, I was what others would call a "quiet" kid, but in reality I was suffering inside my head. I witnessed things and had to do things that a child shouldn't have to and unfortunately, things have not gotten much better. While I don't worry about certain things that were weighing me down as an adolescent, the problems that arise in adulthood are seemingly just as difficult or even more so to navigate. I have found that marijuana has helped a tremendous amount with reducing my depression and anxiety, and an added benefit is that it even assists with the pain associated with a previous meniscus repair that left me with arthritis by the age of 21. It is unfortunate that we do not have access to a natural solution to natural problems that humans face and that is why I am in favor of this bill.

Brad Steward

Self

Lubbock, TX

Texas has the capabilities to grow some of the finest cannabis in the country with our climate. We already have a great economy but we could stimulate it more with cannabis regulation. Millions of dollars are spent across the state in illegal procurement of cannabis products whether it's crossing state lines or giving money to a criminal- a drug dealer. Would you rather have that money going back to help the people and our education system or further provide funding for street activity? The legalization and regulation of marijuana is a smart business decision. Those who wish to use it will, those who don't won't. The medical benefits resulting from cannabinoid consumption extend further than the range of compassionate use that's been previously stipulated. The benefits of legalization far outweigh the cons. We share a border with Mexico and it's no secret the cartels smuggle in marijuana- why don't we take their funding? Provide it locally so we don't resort to funding the cartels.

Kristie Hagar

BIZDEV

Llano, TX

Legal cannabis is necessary.

Felicia Hunter

Euphoric Accounting

FORT WORTH, TX

I support HB 3652. Legalizing recreational cannabis will result in safer and healthier access to cannabis for medicinal purposes, legalizing recreational marijuana would end the costly, and frequently racist, enforcement of marijuana laws and debilitate the illegal marijuana market. Legalizing cannabis would also generate well over \$100M annually in excise tax revenue, generate additional job markets, and allow for farmers to diversify their crops. By continuing to not legalize, the state of Texas is losing out of generating revenue to neighboring states.

Nicole Betscher

Self

Austin, TX

I believe that access to cannabis is an essential aspect in many peoples lives. It's a natural medicine that people use to combat many different types of illnesses. Not to mention, the amount of money the state would make in taxes off cannabis sales could pay for the new highway expansion alone. Please support the legalization of cannabis in Texas.

Amanda Lemmert

Self

Cedar hill, TX

The passage of this bill is a crucial step in decriminalizing cannabis and making it available to the many who could benefit from its use. Please make your constituents heard and legalize cannabis.

Nathan Lewis

Self/Various

Lubbock, TX

The Texas House recently passed HB1805 expanding the state's medical marijuana law to include more types of chronic pain and increase allowable prescription concentrations. The Senate companion bill, SB 1747, is currently in committee.

While expanding the number eligible for this program is commendable, lots of people will be left out and possibly criminalized for purchasing on the black market. Organizations like the NBA and NFL are realizing marijuana can sometimes be a better alternative than other treatment programs for pain, but would athletes qualify under the new law? Many other people have conditions, that while debilitating in their own way, will not be covered.

Furthermore, this micromanagement doesn't occur with substances like alcohol, tobacco, caffeine or even sugar. It can be argued that the side effects of abusing these substances is often worse. America tried prohibition of alcohol 100 years ago, and it was a complete failure on many levels. Imagine if alcohol or tobacco were only allowed today for those in chronic pain and the debate was over how much actually helped and how much was too much.

None of this suggests that people should abuse any of these substances, but that public health message should come in the same way it does for the other substances listed above, not through punitive laws that imprison people, saddle them with heavy fines, and give them a permanent record which makes it difficult to find employment, qualify for housing, or educational assistance.

About seven years ago I hired someone to help me at the apple orchard where I worked. A few weeks after I hired him, I got a call that he was in jail because of an ounce or two of marijuana. Most employers would have probably fired him on the spot. And for what? This person had grown up in a troubled situation. They were working hard and doing a good job. The substance didn't keep them from showing up and doing a good job every day.

The local police force was wasting their time and resources, no one was being kept safer, the overburdened legal system got more overburdened. The man was kept in limbo for months pending a hearing and couldn't get on with their life as they saw fit - seeking employment elsewhere perhaps.

I have never used marijuana. Don't particularly like the smell, but prohibiting it just makes everyone's lives worse. How many border patrol agents and other law enforcement officers have to die in the war on drugs before we come to our senses? The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

Aileen E. Tidwell

Self

Lubbock, TX

YES!!!

Madeline Gorelik

Self

Austin, TX

I implore you to please vote yes on this bill. Cannabis is an invaluable medication for many Texans.

Karina Rubio

Self-Area Manager

League City, TX

I would like to express that the safe use of cannabis for medical reasons would be absolutely beneficial to the state. The amount of money the state could make off of recreational cannabis as well could be amazing for the state itself.

Nacolby Deruso

Self

Houston, TX

Passing this bill would provide many jobs and a steady source of income for the state of Texas not to mention drop a lot of marijuana charges wrongfully filed against Texans

Dennis Castro

Self

Houston, TX

Harmless drug

Lauren LeClair

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I urge you to vote yes on this. Cannabis is such a crucial substance for many Texans and can truly change their way of living for the better.

Abigail Smith

Self- delivery driver

Irving, TX

As a life long citizen of Texas, I find our aversion to Marijuana to be confusing and oppressive to the people. We allow people to smoke themselves sick on cigarettes, drink themselves to death with alcohol, and yet a drug with no direct deaths and far fewer ill side effects is still banned because of a 1940s legislative push for funding. As an adult of sound mind and body, I should not be penalized for how I choose to relax. My stepfather risks incarceration because he uses Marijuana to cope with his joint pain. He's a tax payer, and a useful member of society, who is told he should choose highly addictive painkillers instead of a healthy, all natural remedy. Countless students with bright lives and careers ahead of them are thrown into the prison system because of a non-dangerous drug. Texas citizens deserve bodily autonomy and the right to do as they please, so long as it harms no one else. And Marijuana hurts no one. And on a side note, think of what could be done with the tax money. There's a large part of the population of Texas that already purchases Marijuana, and far more would if it were legal. That money could repair infrastructure, support the NRA, and help the homeless. Thank you -Abigail Smith, from the lone star state

Brett Stelter  
Cannabis-Quarterly  
Austin, TX

Legalizing Cannabis means more freedoms for Texans which is what Texas was founded on. The ability to possess, cultivate, import/export Cannabis means more jobs, more tax revenue, more investments, more federal dollars for research and development for medicinal purposes and will help stop the illegal importation of Cannabis over the Southern border. Cannabis/Hemp is a crop and in a big agriculture state such as Texas you could carbon capture the greenhouse energy and sell it back to the federal government for the clean energy tax credits, therefore not using bad energy and recycling it. Hemp is a supercrop you can use in soil remediation and crop rotation.

Consider this: Florida has a population of around 21 million with about 561,000 registered medical Cannabis users. If you price the average "medical card" at \$40 that equals \$22 million in state revenue alone they've spent a dollar on any products or medicine. Comparatively, Texas has a population of around 29 million with only 43,000 enrolled in the compassionate use program. That's a lot of revenue left in the streets. I appreciate your consideration and hope you agree that since God put the plant on the Earth for our uses, a human cannot determine the opposite. Blessings.

Mari Jackson  
Self.  
Magnolia, TX

Please consider the people that are using this for pain and to treat manic disorders.

PATRICK BIRSCHWALE  
Self  
Katy, TX

Please pass this bill. Make millions off taxes!

Lance Staggs  
Resident of Texas  
Lubbock, TX

I believe the state and all of its residence would greatly benefit from the legalization of Cannabis. It's medicine from god that cures children's seizures. Keeping it illegal seems criminal.

Hannah Kafer  
Self; academic analyst at Texas Tech University  
Lubbock, TX

I live in Lubbock, Texas, and I support the well-regulated legalization of cannabis, which would allow for a lucrative income for the state through taxing these products.

Donna Robinson  
Self/ Self employed  
Surfside, TX

I believe marijuana should be legalized and regulated like alcohol. It is a medicine and helps millions of people. It would also benefit the economy.

Suzanne Gore-Berryman  
Self/Business Owner  
Lubbock, TX

Please approve! Lubbock would benefit from this greatly. Thank you!

Lluvia Alvidrez

Self

El Paso, TX

Please consider that cannabis is medicine.

As someone who struggles with mental health severely, diagnosed bipolar disorder, ask yourself if antipsychotics are truly better.. I had to call my doctor once over having absolutely horrible reactions to my medication prescribed only to have her not care about me but only her paycheck by proceeding to tell me "I already gave you medicine, what do you want.?"

How many people overdose daily on the same antipsychotics or anti depression medication, rather than having access to medical cannabis.

I'd much rather have access to regulated, tested, medical cannabis than to have another eating disorder due to medication I take for my depression or have another panic attack with medication not made for my body.

Jacque Talboy

Self

Conroe, TX

Please vote to pass this bill. The tax income should be a great incentive.

Isaiah Munoz

Self

Lubbock, TX

Im from Lubbock Tx, and would like to see this bill passed

leanne morales

Self

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Cannabis would help cancer patients like me in Texas. Cannabis helped me through my battle with stage 4 cancer and I can't believe im here but by God's grace I am alive today to tell you cannabis can help cancer patients and other people in Texas. God bless you

SHAUNA THOMAS

Self

Houston, TX

Please legalize marijuana. I personally have to use marijuana for medical reasons due to my gastroparesis, neuropathy and PTSD. The edibles and tincture do not work for me. The fact that alcohol is still legal and causes so much harm to people and marijuana which mostly just mellows people out and has actual medical benefits is still illegal. Most Texans and Americans are okay with marijuana being legalized whether they choose to use it or not. There is no reason that cigarettes which have been proven to be more dangerous can be regulated and taxed and marijuana cannot. The state will make so much money off of marijuana sales and it will take money out of Mexico's pocket with their illegal drug trafficking of marijuana. Please stop keeping texts behind in the times and keep up with the rest of the US.

Johnny Copado, Mr

Self

La Marque, TX

Thank you for looking this over , we truly need this in Texas .

Anna Lewallen  
Self Sales Analyst  
Austin, TX

People are already using cannabis in Texas. Legalizing it would be much needed regulation and taxable revenue to the State. Please consider passing this bill.

Elisabeth Catland  
self, employed  
HOUSTON, TX

This is a bill that I trust confidently will be supported by many Texans on all ends of the political spectrum. The people of Texas need a way to easily and safely access cannabis and cannabis products: not only would it create more job opportunities for people looking to enter the field of cannabis, but it will also enrich the local economy and create more tax revenue to fund our struggling schools and hospitals. This is an opportunity that I am confident will benefit our great state enormously.

Logan Cooke  
Self  
Spring, TX

Come on! Let us choose what we can imbibe as free Texans.

Also, let's get this money!

Gabriel Vera  
Xotic meds  
Houston, TX

It will make life better for everyone

Ashley Redwine  
Self CNA  
Colorado City, TX

It should've been legalized years ago

isaias morfin  
Myself  
Santa Fe, TX

For it????

Rae Bodey  
Self  
Jacksboro, TX

Please pass this into law, I have many health problems that could be helped with this.

Erick Garza  
Self/ citizen  
Houston, TX

I personally agree with this bill, not only would it help create more job pathways and careers. Also the tax amount made by the state would be higher statistically speaking from those who were caught for simple possession. Keep in mind those are only a handful of those who use marijuana.

Meg Rutledge  
Texans  
Weatherford tx, TX

I support legalizing cannabis.

Rafael Rodriguez  
Self  
Dallas, TX

As a texas resident for 37 years I love our freedom here which is one of the reasons I support this bill to also excersize my right as a non criminal Texan to cultivate in my home for personal use of marijuana. Marijuana helps with my anxiety and depression and is very beneficial for mental health which is a big problem in our country . I ask that u please consider the people and also the “freedoms” that Texas abides by . I no longer want to feel like I’m a criminal while buying my medicine in a unlawful way in my home state in which I love very much . With all due respect this is TEXAS !! Freedom and government not over stepping their boundaries is what we’re all about . All in all I am proud to be a Texan thank you

Harris Nelson  
Non profit  
Houston, TX

I believe the use of cannabis should be treated as such as the use of liquor

Nolan McConnell  
Houston High  
Spring, TX

I strongly believe this needs to happen, there is so much negative stigma around cannabis that it doesnt deserve. There are countless studies that prove alcohol to be way more addictive and harmful to the body yet cannabis gets all the hate, it needs to change. not only will this bill help boost the economy, less people will be sitting in jail/prison for cannabis related crimes which are never violent. So many texans already smoke as if its legal, republican or democrat everybody enjoys it so just get over the stigma, cannabis is not that bad!

Luigino Gamos  
Family and self  
Humble, TX

HB 3652 would allow certain family members and I with health issues that cause joint and back pain to be able to easily gain access to regulated cannabis products, and to be able to medicate ourselves when these health concern arise regardless of where we might be in the state of Texas.

Jermaine Miles  
Houston high  
Houston, TX

We the people ask you to please help us

Tressa Ellison  
Self  
Spring, TX  
Peace

Jennifer Lorcher  
self, office manager  
Austin, TX

In favor of regulating sale, possession, etc to ensure more users are receiving a pure product and drive down illegal sales.

James McGowan  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Adult use market is a great tax revenue source. The creation of a legal adult recreational market reduces black markets, making it safer for consumers. Markets with adult use see decreases in opioid use. It's good for business, bringing jobs from one of the highest growing industries to date. Adult recreational markets for cannabis are good for business, the community, and Texas.

Allison Gillard  
Self-Customer Service Representative  
Austin, TX

Legalizing marijuana would make my pain better. I have ankylosing spondylitis which causes my spine to fuse and makes all my joints inflamed and painful. I was diagnosed ten years ago and have tried every treatment for this disease. I am registered for the CUP program, but the amount of THC is not enough to relieve any pain caused by my disease, only my muscle spasms from fibromyalgia. I've been on opioids for seven years and it has effected my memory a great deal. I would love to be able to give up the opioids for good and just use THC for my pain. It's healthier and less dangerous than taking upwards of 60 mgs of straight oxycodone a day. I have visited states where THC is legal and have found their products very useful on my pain levels. People should be able to use what is available and helpful for their conditions and shouldn't be limited by politicians ulterior motives. My quality of life would improve significantly if I had better access to THC.

Dr. Pau Chabot, President  
Coalition for a Drug Free Texas  
McKinney, TX

As the president of the Coalition for a Drug-Free Texas, we are 100% against marijuana legalization. Drug cartels have moved into California and Colorado after pot legalization. Have you learned nothing from the failures of pot legalization in those states?

More kids enter rehab for pot than for any other drug. Legalizing pot sends a horrible message and will degrade our state.

Please educate yourselves on the dangers of marijuana. Take a stand and say NO to this bill!

Dr. Paul R. Chabot  
Retired U.S. Navy Commander

Parker Johnson  
Self  
Greenville, TX

I approve of this bill. This will literally stop illegal dealing. Use the tax money for good.

I personally do not use marijuana, but Texans should have the freedom to choose.

If alcohol, as dangerous as it can be, is so easily available, I don't understand what the deal is with weed. It has a negative stereotype from over 50 years ago.

Honestly tell me what you think is worse, drinking a 6-pack every night, or smoking a joint. I have personally been on the receiving end of what kind of abuse a parent heavily drinking every night, can do to their kids.

Richard Marines

Self- oil and gas

Houston, TX

10% tax and legalization of cannabis is more than fair. People want to heal and get off of these opiates. Give people their rights to choose

Roosevelt Granderson, CEO

Self/ Business owner

Hutto, TX

I would like to support this HB 3652 Bill.

Sara Stennett

None

Lubbock, TX

Please vote to approve the sale and use of cannabis in Texas.

Ryan Trammell, Retired Officer

Self/ most LEO

Concan, TX

I was medically retired from a police for an injury sustained on the job, not know it was due to Hypermobility Spectrum Disorder. I've lived in pain for most of life and at different times in my life been forced to take opioid pills for pain from injuries or surgery. Opioid abuse is rampant and as a police officer I saw the ramifications of the opioid epidemic almost daily. I can tell you from experience, opioids should be better regulated than a plant that helps millions with so many different ailments pharmaceutical companies are terrified. Isn't time we put Healthcare back in the hands of Texans? Do we need to discuss the money being lost to our neighbor states? How about the heavy monetary toll on our Law Enforcement and judicial services? We can't afford not to pass a bill like this. Gob bless amd have the day you deserve.

Versia Walker

Self

Houston, TX

This would help a lot in the community. This could save lives and help the mental health.

Stephen Jeanes

Self retired

Texarkana, TX

After using up all of the approved treatments for melanoma, I was able to cure my stage 3 recurring metastatic melanoma cancer using cannabis oil. I still use it to keep the cancer from returning and to mitigate the side effects from the immunotherapy and radiation treatments.

Joy Kelding

Self

Mckinney, TX

I am for approval of HB 3652

Shawn Hammond

Self

Houston, TX

Help Texas residents out with legal Cannabis so they don't have to leave the state to consume legally.  
Thanks.

Amanda Heacox

Self

Texas City, TX

For me personally, marijuana has helped me in so many ways, whether it's physical or emotional. It has calmed my anxiety to almost none. My daughter is severally autistic and also has seizures and the CBD oils have also calmed her down. We need this to pass to help others. It should be considered a drug, it is medicine plain and simple!

Rick Devaney

Self

Temple, TX

I overwhelmingly OPPOSE HB 3652. Please do not vote it out of committee. Thank you, we are watching.

Earsell Fitzgerald

Self

Richmond, TX

Please pass for the betterment of health.

Jayar Carbajal

Self

El paso, TX

I am from El Paso Texas and I vote for the Approval of HB 3652 bill to be accepted .

Mary Burt

Self, stay at home mom and artist.

Lubbock, TX

I am in full support of this bill. The legalization and taxation of cannabis products can only improve our local and state economy. People are going to surrounding states and spending exorbitant amounts of money to purchase cannabis products anyway, why shouldn't that money be going directly back into our communities?

Jeremy Story

Republican Party of Texas

Round Rock, TX

Oppose

As the chaplain of the Republican Party of Texas, I stand firmly against this bill. States that have passed similar laws find that crime increases and overall culture changes in their state negatively. Full legalization of cannabis is not the right method. This should be a controlled product. Any proven and medically substantiated medicinal uses should be limited and used through normal licensed pharmaceutical processes.

Margie Frasier

Self/retired

Temple, TX

I am opposed to HB3652 legalizing marijuana.  
Please do not vote it out of Committee

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Hearing Date: April 26, 2023 8:00 AM

Dre Raindle, President  
Royal Elite Cannabis LLC  
Austin, TX

This bill will truly help millions of Texas families and young entrepreneurs like myself. Please support this bill, you all have a great chance to make history in our state and gain the support of so many young voters. We are ready to move forward as a state build a stronger economy and lifestyle together.

Kimberleigh Gonzalez  
Self  
Lubbock, TX

My name is Kim Gonzalez, and I'm a resident of Lubbock, TX. I am represented by Rep. Carl Tepper and Sen. Charles Perry. I'm asking that the committee vote to approve HB 3652. Lubbock residents live 1.5 hours from Clovis, a city where marijuana is legal to be purchased for recreational and medicinal purposes. Texas is moving towards expanding the Compassionate Care Act to include additional diagnoses, and we are also a state that allows Delta 8 and Delta 9 products to be sold at local smoke and CBD shops in our cities. I, personally, know of many Lubbock citizens who routinely make the trip to Clovis, Hobbs, and even travel all the way to Colorado to purchase marijuana to manage their chronic pain, ptsd, anxiety, insomnia and other medical concerns. Furthermore, the parking lots at our local smoke shops in Lubbock are always full.

Legalizing marijuana in the state of Texas with a 10% taxation is no doubt a very popular prospect for citizens throughout the state and in Lubbock. It is time for Texas to follow the trend across the country and the world in ending the prohibition of a plant called marijuana and allowing our state to prosper by collecting the 10% tax that would be imposed. The passing of HB 3652 would allow citizens the autonomy and freedom to choose what is right with them.

Please vote yes to approve HB 3652. It's time for Texas!

Sean Strieder  
Self  
Lubbock, TX

I support the legalization of recreational cannabis products in Texas, as a citizen of Lubbock Texas.