



February 19, 2019

The Honorable Bobby A. Zirkin
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0864 – Contracts and Employment - Discrimination Against Medical Cannabis Patients and Caregivers – Prohibition – **Oppose**

Dear Senator Zirkin:

SB 0864 would prevent employers from disciplining or terminating an employee who is a registered qualifying medical cannabis patient if that employee has a positive drug screen for cannabis components or metabolites unless the employee used, possessed or was impaired on the premises of the place of employment or during the hours of employment.

Our objection to this bill is similar to our objection to SB 0863. Prohibiting an employer from disciplining or terminating an employee for use of an illegal substance should be the right of any employer, especially in terms of illegal substances. An employer should have a right to maintain a drug-free workplace. Prohibiting the discipline or termination for the use of a mind and behavior-altering substance should be within any employer's rights. In addition, stating that the law would not preclude such actions if the employee was impaired by marijuana/cannabis while at work or during work hours is an empty and useless and disingenuous nugget when no testing standard for intoxication exists, as there is for alcohol.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 600 members, opposes this requirement. We therefore request that you give this bill an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate Haven Shoemaker