

Public Hearing Serving Size and Age for Industrial Hemp (DPH-24-005)-20250728_100015-Meeting Recording

July 28, 2025, 5:00PM

1h 26m 21s

● **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** started transcription

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 0:13

Good morning, everybody. If you can't hear me, just let me know in the chat. Or you can take yourself off mute. We'll get to the public comments. We just have a couple of opening statements to read through.

My name is Michael Boutros with the California Department of Public Health. I work in the Office of Regulations. Under the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, this is the time and place set for the presentation of statements, arguments, and consideration, orally or in writing for or against the changes proposed in the Department of Public Health's proposed regulation for: Serving Size and Age for Industrial Hemp (DPH-24-005). The notice of this hearing was published on the Department of Public Health's website and sent by e-mail to interested groups and individuals.

And again, if you can't hear me please unmute yourself and let me know.

The California Department of Public Health considers these proceedings to be quasi-legislative hearings in which it is carrying out a rulemaking function delegated to it by the Legislature. As such, witnesses presenting testimony and comments at this hearing will not be sworn in. We won't be engaging in cross examination of witnesses or otherwise debate or discuss the issues which may be presented at today's hearing. We shall take under consideration all written and oral statements, arguments, or contentions submitted or made during this hearing. We are also recording and transcribing this hearing today.

In order to accurately record this hearing, please remember the following:

- Make sure all answers and comments are verbal. Using words and not gestures when speaking.
- Allow each speaker to complete their sentence before responding.

The transcript and all statements presented during this hearing will be included in the official rulemaking record. Persons wishing to view the official record may contact the Department's Office of Regulations. The e-mail address, address and phone number are shown in the notice for this hearing and I will also post it in the chat as well.

When we get to the public comments for anyone wishing to speak, please use the raise your hand feature in Microsoft Teams. That should be right up on the top bar of teams and then wait for the hearing officer to call on you to present your comment. If you are calling in via phone number, you're going to be called on by the last four digits of your phone number after we have called on all the on-screen participants. To unmute yourself if you are on Microsoft Teams, you can click the mic mute button. If you're on the phone you can actually just press *6 and that will unmute you. And then press *6 again and mute yourself after your comment.

At the beginning of your comments, please state your name and the organization you represent, if any. We'll also put some reminders in the chat as far as how to unmute yourself.

If you have questions, or if you run into any issues with yourself, you can just post in the comment and we can try to address and help you out.

With me on the panel for this hearing is Dawn Basciano with the Department's Office of Regulations. At this time, Dawn will present the Department's exhibit.



Basciano, Dawn@CDPH 4:11

Thank you, Michael.

Exhibit A includes the regulatory proposal to be heard today, together with the public notice of the hearing. The proposal was duly noticed prior to today's hearing. Copies of the notice were sent by e-mail to all interested parties whom so requested.

In addition, the notice, regulation text, initial statement of reasons, and other supporting documents are available on the Department's Internet website.

Now I will turn it back over to Michael.

I think you muted, Michael.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 4:54

Thank you.

In order to provide equal opportunity for individuals to speak, we're going to ask that you limit your comments to three minutes per speaker. We will try to give sort of a warning with about 30 seconds left and then call time at the three minute mark. You may submit, and we will accept written materials for the record as previously instructed. The public hearing today will conclude at 12:00 PM and there we may not be able to accept all verbal comments in the time frame provided. However, CDPH Office of Regulations will continue to receive written comments via e-mail, mail, and fax through the rest of today.

I'll also post that information in the chat and state at the end of the hearing, just as a reminder, all oral testimony today will be recorded via Microsoft Teams and therefore will be considered along with written testimony as received during the public comment period. All comments are considered equally on their merits, regardless of how they are submitted.

So at this point, if anyone would like to provide public comment, please use the raise your hand feature. If you're calling in via phone, we will call the last four digits of your phone number after we go through the on-screen participants.

Uh, let's see.

First Speaker Ellen, if you want to unmute yourself.

We can hear you.

EK **Ellen Komp** 6:33

Oh, you can thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 6:34

Yeah, yeah, no worries.

EK **Ellen Komp** 6:36

Hi, this is Ellen comp.

I'm deputy director of California Normal, which advocates for the rights, health and safety of California's cannabis consumers.

We support the intent of CDPH's proposed regulation to prevent the sale of intoxicating hemp products in smoke shops, liquor stores, gas stations, especially in a manner accessible to minors.

However, we believe the definition of non-intoxicating hemp products is overly restrictive in requiring the products have quote no detectable amount of THC as this wrongly excludes medicinally useful high CBD extracts with negative psycho-activity. We recommend that the regulation be modified to follow the Colorado Department of Public Health's definition of non-intoxicating hemp which protects high CBD hemp extracts whose CBD to THC ratio is at least 15 to one and whose total THC content per dose does not exceed 1.75 milligrams, which is less than enough to produce a detectable high. One dose should be interpreted to mean one full piece of an edible or one full container of an extract or beverage.

Thanks. That's my comment.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 7:59

Thank you for your comment.

And you can hit the raise hand button after comment and it will lower your raised hand as well.

And then I just wanted to clarify 3 minutes per speaker.

Just making sure if I didn't say it earlier, it is 3 minutes per speaker and we will try to give a reminder with about 30 seconds left into your 3 minutes.

So our next speaker is Lynn Silver, if you can unmute yourself.

LS **Lynn Silver** 8:36

Thank you.

My name is Doctor Lynn Silver. I'm a pediatrician, director of the getting it right from the START program at the Public Health Institute. I also formally chaired CDPH's convened California high potency cannabis think tank scientific committee in 2024.

First, I want to strongly express our support for the urgently needed 2024 emergency regulations. The discourse of legalizing hemp was rope, not dope. Instead, the hemp industry careened headlong into dope, not rope, and not even CBD, not rope.

They have engaged in a shameless no holds barred campaign to flood the market with dangerous, highly intoxicating, ultra-high dose cannabinoid products, mostly using a wide array of novel chemically synthesized compounds which have neither been tested nor approved for human ingestion.

These products are marketed with cartoon food names, packaging, and bright colors blatantly appealing to kids.

All while containing substances like THCP which is over 30 times more potent than D9, often in smoke shops across the street from schools, as has been widely documented, by efforts such as the LA Smoke Shop project. Products like shockwaves contain 500 milligrams of multiple THC variants in a single gummy 5000 per package, 50 times the legal cannabis limit. Both hemp manufacturers and California cannabis company hemp partners like STIIZY have been churning these out.

Some are illegal edibles, but many are illegal inhalable products. We don't know how many of the inhalable products, illegal since passage of AB45 are legally manufactured in our state. Medicinally useful CBD products with modest THC can be sold through the legal cannabis system. It is not necessary to allow their sale in every smoke shop and vape shop and tobacco retailer in the state.

To permit patients who may, with a small number of patients who may require these products to have access, CBD is also available through FDA approved medications.

These regulations must be maintained and strengthened.

Specifically, they should also be amended to clearly define the prohibited inhalable products to include flower pre rolls, infused pre rolls, vaping cartridges, and devices with wax, resin, butter, shatter, and others. And to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating inhalable hemp with detectable THC in any form. These products are poisoning young children at record rates and serving as roots of initiation for cannabis consumption for preteens and teens, and causing the same or even more severe adverse effects they.

MD **Martin, David@CDPH** 11:11
30 seconds.

LS **Lynn Silver** 11:25
Are also undermining the legal cannabis industry. Please renew the regulations, strengthen them and enforce them.
Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 11:35
Thank you for your comment.
Next, speaker Rand Martin, if you can unmute yourself.

RM **Rand Martin** 11:44
Thank you, Rand Martin here on behalf of the US Hemp Roundtable.
I appreciate the time to comment this morning.

We urge the department to review published clinical studies that provide substantial direction about the non-intoxicating effects of industrial hemp products with low levels of THC. The emergency regulations unfortunately fail to recognize that there are different effects on consumers of those products with varying levels of THC. The result was to eradicate from the state's marketplace industrial hemp Wellness products that pose no public safety risk to consumers deprived millions of Californias of products they have relied on and harmed California companies that have faithfully

complied with the statutory framework of AB 45. It's also notable that the emergency regulations have cost the state approximately \$100 million.

J **Jenn A Therapeutic Alternative** 12:39
Yes.

RM **Rand Martin** 12:41
In annual sales tax revenue that I'd been receiving prior to those regulations going to affect, ideally, we recommend a 10 milligram THC serving size based on studies that will be outlined in the letter that we are submitting today to the department. That includes those studies and.

J **Jenn A Therapeutic Alternative** 12:48
Yeah.
You.

RM **Rand Martin** 13:02
Links to those studies, but alternatively.

I'm hearing voices. Is somebody talking?
OK.

But alternatively to the 10 milligram, we point to a couple of studies that have recently come out of Johns Hopkins University.

J **Jenn A Therapeutic Alternative** 13:18
I was.

RM **Rand Martin** 13:24
One of them a couple years ago.
One of them is pending very soon this year, both of which point to 3.7 milligrams of THC as being non intoxicating. Those would be an appropriate level for Wellness products. In industrial, excuse me, industrial hemp products, we would also urge you to consider as California normal has suggested, a ratio of CBD to THC of 15 to one. We have no additional comments relative to the age of 21.

We think 21 is an appropriate level. We think that should be maintained. In the regulations, we would also encourage you. I'm sorry I lost my place. Also encourage you to consider a package size of 30 30 servings per package so that consumers are not inconvenienced by.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 14:26
30 seconds.

RM **Rand Martin** 14:29
A large numbers of packages in order to meet their monthly need of their wellness product. For those reasons, we would encourage the changes that we have recommended. Thank you for your time.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 14:45
Thank you for your comment.
Next speaker, sister Kate, if you can mute yourself.

SK **Sister Kate** 14:54
Hi, can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 14:56
Yes, we can. Thank you.

SK **Sister Kate** 14:58
OK.
Hi. I'm Sister Kate and I'm going to speak fast since I only have 3 minutes.

First of all, all the problems that Lynn Silver just defined are horrible. But we're not doing any of those. We've been in business 10 years. We service old people, cancer patients. We sell gel caps for \$150.00 for 100 tablets and that is also already a problem to cancer patients whose medical won't cover it. We set out to operate in a very clean space, a very clean operation. We've done it for 11 years now, 10 1/2 years, and we sell nothing smokable. We have nothing in smoke shops. We sell nothing that gets anybody high.

We do not have gummies, or anything packaged and what I heard Lynn Silver just say is that you already know who's breaking these rules. You already know who's putting the vape pens into the kids hands. You already know who the bad players are, but you guys just wrote behind closed doors in October, and I have put in a records request. I want to see every piece of correspondence behind this bill because this is corruption at its worst. Three men went behind closed doors and consolidated our industry so that there could be no fair hemp industry in California.

Not only that, we have been trying for 10 years to get our CBD into dispensaries and they've all told us the same thing. Our clients don't care about CBD. The dispensaries prioritize getting high over getting well. The Public Health Department prioritized getting high over getting well by doing those licenses before they did hemp and we've been operating for 10 years with nothing smokable. Nothing. In kids hands, nothing eligible.

What you're telling me is that you know who broke the rules and you know how they broke the rules. Packaging to kids, you exactly know the companies. So instead of doing what the alcohol industry would do is go shut down the operators who are selling to kids, smokable products and hot CBD that's over the limit. You wiped us out of business. You took group of women who are dedicated to non-psychoactive. We're doing it with CBD.

We're running with much. (Audio cutting in and out in this segment)

Well, and you put it in the hands of.

And told them we cannot exist you.

Know, but there's no fair.

MD **Martin, David@CDPH** 17:37

30 seconds.

SK **Sister Kate** 17:38

(Audio was cutting in and out this segment)

There's no fair.

All of you. You can't split apart to where I was required.

Does.

Or do you want to?

I say the emergency rule was done.

To our immediate fired after he made this rule and the rest of the puppets in the Public Health Department are standing up for this because they'd rather manage 10 licenses than 100 and they'd rather manage 10 companies than 100. I'm done.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 18:16

Thank you for your comment.

SK **Sister Kate** 18:16

It's corrupt.

No one's gonna listen to it.

It's corrupt, not following.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 18:24

Next speaker.

Sarah Armstrong, if you can unmute yourself.

SA **Sarah Armstrong** 18:32

Good morning.

I am Sarah Armstrong.

I represent Americans for safe access in Ventura and Los Angeles counties.

I'm also their California legislative coordinator, founded in 2002.

We are the nation's oldest largest national organization for medical cannabis patients, and those engaging in research and advocacy relating to therapy, the cannabis.

We are deeply concerned that while we fully support an end to hemp abuses, that this intention to curb access to intoxicating drug products unintentionally eliminates access to life saving full spectrum CBD therapies relied upon by thousands of Californians, particularly children, with seizure disorders. We urge the department to include a carve out for orally ingested full spectrum CBD products.

Painting a CBD/THC ratio of 15 CBD or higher to 1% of THC. These products are non-intoxicating, have no recreational appeal, are not packaged or sold to the adult use community, and cannot be economically produced in California cannabis licensing

system.

We are asking for a small targeted assumption, nothing more than the right for patients to keep their medications.

And continue using the medicine that has worked for them when nothing else has. As a distinguished medical cannabis doctor, John Goldstein has opined eliminating these products would criminalize desperate patients trying to preserve quality of life. As is proposed solution for narrowly targeted, tailored assumption that protects patient access without undermining the public safety goals of the regulation. The organization is requesting that the following language be added except for full spectrum tenanoid oil based products intended for medical use with a ratio of 50% or higher CBD to 1% THC.

The governor and legislature should also address the root causes of the unregulated cannabis market, namely the crushing tax structure, the lack of incentives for businesses to serve patients in the absence of federal action. We need Congress to pass national medical cannabis legislation.

This issue.

Of.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 21:20
30 seconds.

SA **Sarah Armstrong** 21:22
A well meaning.

Series of regulations which Inadvertently hurt some very vulnerable, very desperate people who, because they suffer from seizures, they endure a lifetime of unhappy, painful existence or death.

It's overkill and I hope that the department will consider the care that we suggested.

Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 21:51

Thank you for your comment.

Next Speaker, Jennifer, if you can come off mute.

JS **Jennifer Sernas** 21:59

Thank you.

OK.

Good morning, everyone.

Today I'm here on behalf of the Coalition for Prevention and Awareness in LA Metro, known as Coal. PALM.

We are prevention providers and service planning area for whose residents are predominantly low to mid income families who are vulnerable to drug related harms. We conducted over 88 smoke shop visits which brought us insights that emphasize a strong need for the regulation of intoxicating hemp products. The shops visited, hold a valid tobacco retailer license, which should limit them to selling only authorized products. However, our observations indicate that there is an abundance of edible and inhalable hemp derived products, as well as items with the various combinations of cannabinoids. Many of these shops have minimal age signage and openly welcome the general public. The market for hemp products is constantly evolving with many containing THC levels well above 0.3%.

During our visits, we encountered items that feature colorful packaging and mute appealing flavors like passionfruit, orange, guava, and Caribbean breeze. Camisa contain a total of 100 milligrams of THC per package were observed, as well as products that lack the clear dosage. Additionally, D8 THC is heavily promoted as a quote UN quote less harmful alternative despite limited research. Other products like floats, gummies, combine mushrooms, and THC cannabis use among adolescents is a big concern in our community.

The widespread availability of hemp direct products that lack clear dosage labeling and are sold in locations with minimal oversight or age restrictions, creates opportunities for youth consumption and health risks. There should be a clear understanding of prohibited items on the retailer side, including resources that

promote safe practice. For vendors as a coalition, we strongly encourage the firm oversight of products and intoxicating cannabinoids in order to keep our vulnerable population safe. We are the coalition. We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed regulation.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 24:02

Thank you for your comment.

Next speaker Kelly McCormick, if you can unmute yourself.

I can't hear you yet, Kelly.

Still not getting sound. Let me see.

It might be just a setting on the teams. Sometimes if you go to.

There's the three dots with more and then audio settings.

I can also put the call and phone number 2 into the chat. When you do that.

Kelly, you want to try speaking again?

See if I can hear you.

No audio yet.

Do you want to try?

Maybe just dialing by the phone and I can pick you up after the next speaker, OK?

Sounds good.

OK.

Let's see next speaker.

Barbara Gordon.

If you can unmute yourself.

BG **Barbara Gordon** 25:38

Thank you. Barbara Gordon in San Diego, advocating for youth.

I want to express my strong support for making these regulations as restrictive as possible for these products. These products have dangerously high levels of intoxicating THC, both Delta 9 and a wide range of intoxicated other THC products such as D8 and D10. Some products are as much as 30 times more potent than D9 THC products. These products are especially high risk. These products are available in our community and have provided a major way for our underage youth to initiate their marijuana use. They are being widely seized in our school as minors have access to these products. They are sold in smoke shops that are near our schools, again

making these products as restrictive as possible is my wish.
Thank you for letting me speak.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 26:54

Thank you for your comment.
Kelly will go back to you.
I don't know if you were the the last two digits of your phone number 5/3.
You just call it. OK, wait, try unmuting yourself.
Sometimes you press *6.
We'll see if that works.
Want to try speaking?

+17***53** 27:30

Hello, this is Kelly McCormick.
Can you hear me this time?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 27:33

Yep, we can hear you.

+17***53** 27:34

Oh, excellent.

All right. I'm a public health educator and parent, and I urge your support for the 2024 Emergency Regulations on the sale of intoxicating hemp products in any form. Most importantly, hemp foods, additives, drinks and supplements intended for human consumption should have no detectable levels of THC. All cannabinoids should be included in the definition of THC. These products are dangerous and highly intoxicating. The ingredients and potency of hemp products often are mislabeled and contain dangerous ingredients. In addition to the highly concentrated hemp intended to get people high. Furthermore, the products are marketed and packaged to appeal to youth using cartoon characters, bright colors, and flavors popular with young people. These products are frequently sold in convenience stores without age restrictions and are ending up in the hands of middle schoolers and teenagers.

I support everything that Doctor Lynn Silver said earlier as well, and I thank you for taking the extra effort to be able to hear my comments today. I appreciate it.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 28:48

Yeah. Thank you for your comment.
Next up we have Lauren.
Can I meet yourself?

LM **Lauren Mendelsohn** 28:58

Yes, thank you.

I want to thank everyone for taking the time today. I want to thank the department for putting this hearing together, but I do want to express my concern with the regulations as written. I do not think that a very small, perhaps less than 3 milligrams of dose of THC is intoxicating, and I do not see any scientific data in the department's impact analysis that supports that the cannabis market is very limited in California and there are lots of patients who rely on these products to get their medicine and consumers who cannot afford to buy products on the very expensive and highly taxed regulated market. I also wanted to draw the DEP and the public's opinion to the fact that the standard of regulatory impact analysis that the department produced itself showed that this is the has the worst and most impact of all of the alternatives that were presented.

So I think that this would fail an APA challenge due to lack of necessity and I highly encourage you to rethink this proposal.

MD **Martin, David@CDPH** 30:03

30 seconds.

LM **Lauren Mendelsohn** 30:07

Thank you for patience and the public.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 30:13

Thank you for your comment.
Next speaker Anna Nicole speaking. Unmute yourself.

Anna-Nicole Genislow 30:24

AG

Good morning.

Thank you for the hearing.

My name is Anna Nicole Genislow, community engagement coordinator with social model recovery systems, also known as SMRS, and I'm here on behalf of the United Coalition ease Prevention project, also known as UCEP, a program active in substance abuse prevention work for nearly 30 years, and we strongly support making the emergency order banning of intoxicating hemp to derive THC products permanent.

We are also representing Skid Row, a historically disenfranchised part of Los Angeles, where community members experience exacerbated mental health challenges and substance abuse risks. There are at least 9 24-hour smoke shops in or adjacent to Skid Row to the Skid Row community, where multiple incidents of violence, including several homicides, raising added health and safety concerns. Such instances have impacted youth and young children in the community who have expressed to us that exposure to intoxicating hemp derived products already, you know, regulated sale of hemp direct THC products high in multiple cannabinoids is connected to a myriad public health risks. A permanent ban on intoxicating derived THC products is a necessary step to prevent access, restore safety, and increase owner and operator Accountability. Thank you so much for the opportunity to comment.

BM

Boutros, Michael@CDPH 31:50

Thank you for your comment.

Next speaker Rich Ferguson, if you can unmute yourself.

Yeah.

RF

Rich Ferguson 32:05 OK.

Can you hear me?

BM

Boutros, Michael@CDPH 32:06

Yes, we can. Thank you.

RF **Rich Ferguson** 32:09

Awesome. Thank you.

Good morning and thank you for allowing me to speak.

My name is Rich Ferguson.

I've proudly worked in the cannabis license for California licensed cannabis field rather for years, and I'm here today because we're facing a serious problem that threatens both the public safety and the future of the legal cannabis market and that's the unregulated sale of intoxicating hemp products in California.

And I want to be clear, like we're not against hemp. We would love to sell hemp derived CBD products and Wellness products in our licensed shops, but it needs to be done under the same rules and regulations as cannabis. The ones that people of California voted for under Prop. 64 and right now we're seeing a flood of intoxicating hemp derived cannabinoids. It's not the 3% THC that some of the comments you know you've heard from other people. It's D8 D10, HHC, and THCP, among many other intoxicating cannabinoids and they're being sold in gas stations, smoke shops, and online convenience stores.

It has no testing, no age restrictions, no track and trace, no dosage control, and no tax compliance, you know, and that's not the vision we had for Prop. 64 when we did this. Meanwhile, those of us in the legal market were heavily taxed, forced to comply with strict lab testing packaging we're required to have age verification and keep track and trace of every sale as we should operate in a tightly regulated system. This isn't just unfair, it's dangerous, and it's killing our regulated market. People can literally go online and buy psychoactive THC analogs made from hemp and have them shipped to their doorsteps, even kids. These products are even stronger than what's available in dispensaries, and they're completely untested and unregulated. Some of the inputs are unhealthy too, let's be honest. There's a massive loophole that's being exploited and the intent of the 2018 farm bill was to legalize industrial hemp, not to create a shadow cannabis market outside of Prop. 64. And that's what's happening. There's no doubt about it.

We're asking for a level playing field if a product is active it needs to be: one, mandatory lab testing, two, age gated retail, three, track and trace compliance, and four, taxation support local programs. This is something we already agreed on you know, as a state, we voted. So let's protect consumers, restore integrity to the system, and give legal operations a fair chance if we don't act now, we're watching the regulated industry, the one we all vote to build.

MD **Martin, David@CDPH** 34:36
30 seconds.

RF **Rich Ferguson** 34:37
Undermined and and it'll be undermined by unregulated hemp sales, you know. So thank you very much and I take a little bit of offense saying that dispensaries chose getting high over Wellness. It's the dispensaries that have been operating since 1996 that allowed you to have the hemp bill in the 1st place. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 34:50
30 seconds left.
Thank you for your comment.
See, next speaker. We have rich.
Actually, we just had rich sorry about that.
Next speaker we have Michael.

MJ **Michael Jung (IPS)** 35:11
Good morning, everyone.
My name is Michael Young and I am the program manager at Institute for Public Strategies.

We are a public health nonprofit organization that works to reduce health disparities in vulnerable populations through system change and education. So our agency has been collaborating with the local coalition called the Westside Impact Project, as well as other schools on a smoke shop campaign to really help us understand the trends of these intoxicating hemp products being sold in the LA County neighborhoods so in West LA, where we work, where our agency works, our staff visited over 20 smoke shops and what we found was that more than 85% of these smoke shops were

selling synthetic KHC products, including D8, HHC and THCO.

And from our observations, these products are packaged in very bright designs that mimic popular candy brands such as Mike and Ike's or Airheads and they're currently being sold near schools and other youth-oriented areas. And it's to the point where parents and school faculty really express their concerns about the proximity, about the resemblance to candy products, and really the appeal to the youth and the young adult population. It's really important to note that these intoxicating products really come from the same plant as marijuana, and the difference is while marijuana is legal, intoxicating hemp products are not regulated by the FDA. Many hemp products are not safely tested. They're not checked, monitored, so therefore you don't know how strong they are or what's in them really.

And that's why hemp products can cause these severe psychological effects, such as euphoria, anxiety and impaired coordination and memory skills. So the purpose of you know my public comment today is really to share this information with the department to consider when reviewing and making a better informed final decision. So thank you for your time and allowing me to kind of share these observations. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 37:14

Thank you.

Next Speaker Ann Riddle, if you can come off mute.

AR **ann riddle** 37:28

Good morning.

Can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 37:31

Yes, we can. Thank you.

AR **ann riddle** 37:33

Thank you and thank you for this opportunity.

I'm the legislative vice president of our coastal PTA and we have followed this issue for years. As you can imagine, we were thrilled when there was an emergency prohibition of intoxicating hemp products put in place last fall, and we are thrilled with the opportunity that this might become permanent. We feel it's necessary that this ordinance does not have anything that's ambivalent about it. We don't have the capacity here in the state of California to do the type of enforcement that we know would make life easier for all of us, be it in or out of the marijuana marketplace, let alone the hemp marketplace. And we clearly don't know anyone who's ever been. In a smoke shop or in a gas station or Mini Mart knows that these products have been put together so that they're appealing to young people. And they all contain some sort of THC, A byproduct, or analog. And there's no surprise there.

We have to recognize what the world looks like. These are products they're being made on purpose to sell and capture those young people who are just looking for a diversion and then find themselves caught up in a pathway to a much larger problem associated with addiction. I wonder about this. Lots of patients' statements. I don't mean to be offensive. But every survey we've ever participated in or seen or those on the grounds of social media, Oh my gosh, social media this morning was really active and indicates we're not talking about patients. We're talking about our young people. I even wonder about the age of 21. I think it probably ought to be 19. From what we're seeing from social media.

So thank you to California Department of Public Health and all of you who work there to understand what we as parents who work with youth face every day and we only want what's best for our young people and do not want them burdened with this pathway that these THC intoxicating products made from hemp products are producing here in our world. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 39:51

Thank you for your comment.

Next Speaker, Ed, are you able to unmute yourself?

E **Ed** 40:03

Hello and good morning.
Thanks for having me.

I represent a local CBD manufacturer and I'm also the senior account manager for the company here in the Sacramento area. I've been in the space for about the past three years and I realized it was a pretty unfair playing field being a sales Rep out there going wow, everyone's just putting out whatever they want and we're not. This is going to be a challenge.

So I am thankful for CDPH and you guys stepping in. I do appreciate. Those changing so that folks know that, you know, products either have zero THC 21 and up etcetera, etcetera. To be honest, I don't know what the serving size of five might be or represent. If that will be it. I don't think a serving size of five quite does the trick. It kind of depends on the product per say, but anyways just thought about that. And then as far as .3% THC, you know can a grain of salt or of two salts kill someone with with certain products out there and substances?

So, it is very, very important to have. In certain instances, for certain folks, the .3%, because they're not looking to get high, this can be life saving, life changing for pets and animals. So, we'd appreciate it if the .3% could be in there somewhere, if anywhere it's really for the patients and I never got in this business to make money. It still brings me joy every day to help anoint someone's pain, inflammation, insomnia.

Thank you for your time today.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 42:06

Thanks for your comment.
Next speaker I have is Kimberly.
Are you able to unmute yourself?

KC **Kimberly Cargile** 42:22

Yes. Can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 42:24

Yes, we can. Thank you.

KC **Kimberly Cargile** 42:25

OK, great.

Hello, I'm Kimberly Cargile.

I'm a consumer rights advocate and the CEO of a therapeutic alternative, a state licensed cannabis dispensary in Sacramento. I'm also currently enrolled in the University of Maryland School of Pharmacies Master's degree program for Cannabis Science and Therapeutics.

I have several complaints regarding the current state of the hemp industry in California. First, the unlicensed, untested and untaxed hemp market provides a false sense of trust for consumers. These products are often not tested for contaminants and the cannabinoid level listed on the package is often not actually the content in the bottle. Some businesses in the unlicensed hemp market are causing problems that the cannabis industry is being blamed for, such as selling to children where overdoses do occur.

To package mislabeling and unsafe synthetic cannabinoids, these complaints are actually causing harm to patients because local governments are continuing to ban in certain areas because of these complaints. The hemp industry is taking tax dollars from the state of California and cities across California because these businesses do not pay cannabis excise tax or city cannabis business taxes. The current state of the hemp industry undermines the regulated cannabis market and has reduced sales drastically, causing harm to many small business owners. Products should be allowed to be sold at state licensed dispensaries in order to lower the cost for patients, and provide state licensed third party lab testing for the products. Regulations for the packaging that will provide.

What is in the? What is on the package is actually in the package.

And safe access throughout California. Our cannabis consultants at a therapeutic alternative are some of the most educated people in California regarding the

endocannabinoid system and Phyto cannabinoids and yet we are not allowed to sell hemp products. Please update the regulations to provide a level playing field for the cannabis industry and the hemp industry alike. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 44:19

Thank you for your comment.

Next speaker is a phone number.

Ending in 3049, are you able to unmute yourself?

You can use *6 on your telephone or on the teams if you're able to.

Phone number ending in 3049 are you able to mute yourself?

3049.

OK.

We'll move on to the next speaker and I'll go back to the phone numbers again once we go through the individuals with their hands raised next speaker.

+16***49** 45:10

Hello can can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 45:13

Oh yeah, we can hear you now.

Can you just state your name and then feel free to start your comment?

+16***49** 45:15

OK, good.

Perfect. Yes. My name is Elizabeth Mack, and I'm a registered nurse in cannabis clinicians who have spent the past decade educating patients, families and providers about safe, effective cannabinoid therapies.

I'm here today to express concern regarding the proposed regulation and the impact it may have on patient access to full spectrum hemp derived products here in California as a healthcare professional working with chronically ill and aging populations, I've witnessed first hand the benefits of full spectrum hemp CBD products, particularly those that retain trace federally compliant levels of THC under the .03%.

These formulations provide enhanced therapeutic efficacy through the entourage effect supporting outcomes in areas such as pain relief, anxiety reduction, sleep restoration and inflammation control. For many patients, CBD isolates is simply not enough and lacks the broader therapeutic synergy that whole plant preparations offer.


The endocannabinoid system, specifically CB1 and CB2 receptor modulation, is not adequately activated by isolate products alone. If these laws are enacted, the entire Wellness infrastructure I've spent years building to support patients will be at risk. I've helped countless individuals reduce or eliminate pharmaceuticals using high quality full spectrum hemp products. Today, the dispensaries do not sell high CBD products, often because the market has shifted towards a recreational focus. It is very difficult to help patients find the products they need for healing and Wellness.

I understand and support the states intent to protect consumers from synthetically altered intoxicants and regulate unregulated products. I too, would love to see chemically manipulated cannabinoids removed from store shelves.

There needs to be enforcement that bans hemp derived intoxicants. However, I respectfully urge the department to reconsider. The unintended consequences of banning or over regulating federally legal non intoxicating full spectrum hemp CBD products with 0.3% or less THC, the types of products I support, are not marketed to children, nor are they disguised as adult use cannabis.

My intent is to offer a healthcare perspective on how these full spectrum CBD products are used responsibly by patients and providers alike to reduce reliance on pharmaceuticals and improve quality of life by limiting access to full spectrum hemp, we risk pushing patients back towards pharmaceuticals or.

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 47:55
30 seconds.

 **+16*****49** 47:58
These are not gray market products. They're federally legal and responsibly used by clinicians like me to support vulnerable populations. I urge the department to protect

patient access to these critical tools of care. Thank you for your time and consideration.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 48:13

Thank you for your comments.

Next commenter Maurice. If you can meet yourself.

MT **Maurice Tafolla-Cunningham** 48:26

Hi, good morning.

My name is Maurice Tafolla Cunningham.

I run a cannabis consulting firm, and I have clients who are operating in the licensed cannabis industry and the hemp industry because hemp and cannabis are the same thing.

I'm calling in today because I want to voice my opposition to this proposal as it is written. While I agree that we need to make sure that young people and put in age restriction on these types of intoxicating cannabis products that are out. I don't agree with the rest of it because it either doesn't make sense or it shows that we California and CDPH cannot effectively regulate cannabis in the state.

So first you're putting a serving size limit of five on hemp final food products that have no THC in them, and that only hurts people who are in the CBD space or selling like final form food products that are like hemp hearts.

So I don't really understand that portion.

Second, according to CDPH, his own analysis of this whole situation, It's gonna cost California \$3.14 billion in lost revenue, and it's gonna be supplemented. This hemp industry in California is gonna be supplemented by the black market. So that just shows that California is unable to regulate. You're saying that it's gonna happen anyway, so you're really just waving a white flag and you're not doing anything.

Finally, you know it just kind of doesn't make sense with respect to how we we can't as you know, the biggest cannabis market in the in the country effectively regulate cannabis IA 100%. I get that the licensed cannabis folks are hurting because hemp

like this, is out there outside of a licensed marketplace so we need to bifurcate the market. We need to set some THC levels that are lower. Like 5 per like 5 milligrams of THC per food product, like in a drink or a gummy and have that be at a licensed place that gets a license from the CDPH with registered products. And then you can have your cannabis dispensaries that have your other products out there exist at the same time that have higher doses of THC in them, so you can actually keep these businesses in California and have different outlets for consumers looking for different types of products while avoiding an outright ban because you're outright ban right now is going to cost us money.

It's going to put undue restrictions on folks who are nowhere even close to THC.

MD **Martin, David@CDPH** 51:01
30 seconds.

MT **Maurice Tafolla-Cunningham** 51:04
And it's gonna cost a lot of money, and you're gonna show the rest of the country, California, that you can't effectively regulate cannabis. Meanwhile, Oregon to the north is able to do this. They've bifurcated the market and they're having THC drinks in grocery stores and you know, the state isn't burning down. So figure it out CDPH.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 51:27
Thanks for your comment.
Next we have Haley. If you can unmute yourself.

H **Haley** 51:47
Hi there.
Can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 51:49
Yes, we can. Thank you.

H

Haley 51:50

Perfect. So my name is Haley Andrew.

I'm a cannabis consumer rights advocate and a CEO of Dixon Wellness Collective.

We're a smaller cannabis dispensary in Dixon, CA.

I've been in the industry since 2009 and I've dedicated my career to ensuring safe, affordable access to cannabis through compliant and community focused retail operations. I'm writing to express deep concerns about the current state of the hemp market in California, which is having serious and harmful impacts on licensed cannabis businesses like mine and the other consumers we serve. The unregulated hemp industry is flooding the market with untested, unlicensed and untaxed products, many of which mislead consumers with inaccurate labeling and are often not tested for contaminants. This gives a false sense of security to the public while bypassing the strict and costly compliance protocols the licensed cannabis industry must follow.

What's more troubling is that many public safety concerns that are being blamed on cannabis, such as sales to minors. Accidental overdoses and dangerous synthetic cannabinoids are actually coming from the unregulated hemp space. These issues are being used by local governments as justification to ban state licensed cannabis operations, creating a ripple effect that directly hurts compliant businesses and consumers alike. Additionally, the state and cities are losing critical tax revenue because these hemp operators are not required to pay the cannabis excise tax or local cannabis business taxes. This undermines not just the legitimate cannabis businesses, but also the broader ecosystem of the public programs that those taxes are meant to fund. The unregulated hemp market is cannibalizing our sales and making it even harder for our small operators like myself to stay open, especially in today's economic environment.

This isn't just about fairness, it's about survival. I strongly urge regulators to create a level playing field between cannabis and hemp. Hemp products should be required to undergo the same rigorous testing and labeling standards and should be permitted for sale and state licensed cannabis dispensaries where we have trained

staff who can educate consumers and ensure safe use. Thank you for your time and I hope that you have a great day.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 54:06

Thank you for your comment.

Next speaker, we have Becky. If you cannot meet yourself.

BB **Becky bbbbfdjsfhkjsfhs** 54:19

Good morning.

My name is Becky Rapp and I'm a parent and community advocate for good public health policies.

I'm here to express my strong support for banning the sale of intoxicating hemp products in California. These synthetic and chemically altered cannabinoids like D8 and D10 are being sold openly in our communities, they're marketed as legal and they're intoxicating and untested, and they're ending up in the hands of kids. There are two smoke shops within a mile of my home that are selling these products. I've seen them packaged like candy with bright colors, cartoon branding and flavors named blue Raspberry and Peach rings. There are no ID checks, no warnings and no regulation. Anyone can walk in and buy something that gets them high, and that's just unacceptable. The temporary emergency ban is a good start, but clearly enforcement seems impossible. Anything temporary will not be received as law and what we need is law and 0 tolerance.

These are not harmless CBD products. They're lab manipulated chemicals designed to mimic the effects of THC, with no potency limits and no testing for contaminants. The California Department of Public Health has a responsibility to close this dangerous loophole. If a product is intoxicating, it should be banned.

Period. We cannot keep allowing these shops to operate in the shadows, exposing our children and neighborhoods to unregulated drugs. Please act swiftly to protect public health and support a full ban on intoxicating hemp products. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 56:09

Thank you for your comment.

Next speaker we have Jen if you can unmute yourself.

J Jenn A Therapeutic Alternative 56:18

Good morning, everyone.

My name is Jen and I've worked in the cannabis industry for over 10 years. During this time, I've seen firsthand the healing potential of both cannabis and hemp, and I believe in what these plants can offer. But I've also seen where the system is falling short, especially in the unregulated hemp market. Every week I meet with consumers who come to us after having a confusing or a negative experience with hemp products they've bought elsewhere in our community. They were looking for relief. Often it's for serious medical issues and instead they were met with mislabeled products, unexpected effects and no real guidance from the staff. I don't think the problem is it's not hemp.

The problem is the lack of clear regulations around it. There's no consistent testing to ensure what's on the label is actually in the product. No safeguards around pesticides or chemical residues, and often the people selling these products aren't trained in how they work or how to guide someone through their issues and their use of the product, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to do better by implementing reasonable science based regulations we can support a hemp industry that's safe, transparent and built to truly help people. We can protect consumers while we uplift the growers.

The professionals who are doing it right, and the manufacturers that want to be here to help people, I believe in hemp its future. But to get there we need standards that put people first. Thank you.

BM Boutros, Michael@CDPH 57:49

Thank you for your comment.

I'm gonna read through the phone numbers now to see if any of the individuals on the phone would like to come off you and comment. Just a reminder, if you're on the phone, if you hit *6 you should be able to unmute yourself.

Or you can try in the teams app hitting the MIC button, but I'm gonna read the last four digits.

And then pause to kinda allow you time to unmute.

So for the first phone number, I'm gonna ask to see if you wanna provide comment.
Ending in 5225.

It's phone number ending in 5225. If you want to speak please hit *6 and mute yourself.

Again, 5225, if you would like to speak, please unmute yourself by hitting Star six and I'll just pause for a few moments.

Move on to the next phone number.


Should have won, I thought.


They raised their hand.


So I'll go with that one.

5607 are you able to unmute yourself?


5607.

 **+17*****07** 59:26
Can you hear me?

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 59:27
If you hit star six. Yeah, I can hear you.

 **+17*****07** 59:29
OK.
Good morning.
My name is Nicole Robles Turner and I am a true believer.

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 59:31
Troy.

 **+17*****07** 59:34
I represent CVCAN, which is the Coachella Valley Cannabis Alliance network.
I volunteer on their health and Wellness committee.

Hemp has an incredible potential to support health and Wellness from high quality CBD products that reduce anxiety, inflammation to natural supplements that promote sleep, focus and balance. But without clear, consistent regulations being overrun by bad actors, those who cut corners, mislabeled products, or introduced

unsafe formulations into the market, we need smart science based regulations that protect consumers and uphold integrity of this healing plant. Strong standards around testing, labeling, and manufacturing that ensure only trusted, transparent products thrive and that patients and everyday users can feel confident and what they're putting into their bodies.

Responsible hemp businesses welcome regulations because they build public trust and help the industry grow in the right direction. Let's safeguard the Wellness of our communities while supporting innovation and access to fair, effective oversight. My recommendation would be to have a discounted hemp license that allows for the sale of health and Wellness hemp products and our dispensaries and other licensed retailers. We need to go back to our roots with this beautiful God-given plant. Thank you for your time and May God be with us.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:00:51

Thank you for coming.

I'm gonna finish going through the phone list and then I'll go back to anybody raising their hand.

So next phone number.

6105 If you would like to speak 6105, just select *6 on your phone.

6105 can you hear us?

Do you wanna speak?

OK.

I'll move on to the next phone number.

Last four digits 7386.

7386 If you would like to speak, you can select *6 to unmute yourself.

+17***86** 1:01:45

Hi, my name is Annie Aubrey.

I am an licensed cannabis operator in Placerville, CA.

I would also like to agree with those folks that are saying that we need a regulated hemp market. We haven't established a regulated cannabis market in California. Cities have put through ordinances the state has put through ordinances that we have to follow to sell these types of products to 21 and over or 18 with a medical

license. I have since opening four years ago, had three smoke shops pop up within a block of me because they can sell these unregulated products to the community without ID, without regulations, without the taxes, the city loses out and so does the state. Whenever we call into any public comment with the DCC, we are met with tons of calls from parents saying that their children are getting a hold of these cannabis products. They make us look bad.

We are not the culprits of what these children are getting in their in their environments because they cannot get into our stores without a valid ID. Passing a security guard. Passing the regulations and anything that comes from us is tested and regulated. I highly urge regulations on the hemp product. It is the same plant. They can come into our industry. Our industry is struggling. 60% of the businesses have gone out of business. We need the hemp market to be regulated and under the same umbrella, because this is not working. It's we're losing a established market. We are hurting people and we are hurting the kids.

Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:03:30

Thank you for your comment.

I'm gonna read over the last two phone numbers and then I will get to the individuals with their hands raised.

+17***86** 1:03:39

Where's your ball? Get it.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:03:39

Let's see.


+17***86** 1:03:41


Where is it?


BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:03:42

OK.


I think someone's on.

 **+17*****86** 1:03:42
Where'd you put it?

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:03:48
Last four digits of the phone number 5430.
If you can unmute yourself either on the top right of teams, or you can select *6 on your phone again last four digits 5430.
5430 If you would like to speak, just please unmute yourself.
OK.
I'll move on to the last phone number, 7960.
7960 If you would like to speak, please unmute yourself by selecting *6.
Looks like you're off mute.

 **+19*****60** 1:04:36
Thank you, Rich Miller.

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:04:39
Yep.

 **+19*****60** 1:04:40
Thank you very much.
Rich Miller, on behalf of American Alliance medical cannabis, I've been working with patients for the last 35 years and I know the importance of cannabis and as many of the speakers have discussed earlier, it's very important that we have oversight and patient protections. And with that, overcomes with regulations not only by the state, but on the local entities. It's imperative more now than ever, as over the last five years we've seen a number of patients come down with the number of symptoms associated with intoxicating products. It's now more imperative that ever that we put this regulatory stance at ease and regulate it just like we would with the cannabis industry.

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:05:36
7960 I think.

You're can you keep speaking.
Because I think we lost some of the voice.

+19***60** 1:05:45

Sorry, so as I was saying, we need oversight more now than ever.
So I please ask that you put this in the regulatory system just like you would with medical cannabis and the consumer based cannabis products.
Thank you for your time.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:06:00

Thank you for your comment.
And then let me check one more phone number I think joined and then I'll get to Jackie and Katie. After that last four digits of your phone number 9504.
9504 If you would like to speak please select *6.
9504 If you would like to speak, just please unmute yourself.

+17***04** 1:06:31

Hello, can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:06:31

Oh, we can hear you. Yeah.

+17***04** 1:06:34

Great. Thank you.

So my name is John browser from Trinity County and I think it's really important that any intoxicating hemp be treated and regulated in parity with commercial cannabis in California otherwise, it only serves to undermine all the you know the. Protections environmental whole youth. And basic safety of of the citizens of California it. Did having them on separate regulatory schedules just makes no sense.

So I'm against inverting hemp into the cannabis commercial cannabis supply chain, unless we can have those protections that are, you know, extensive and very expensive to implement and and the the current scheme only serves to undermine the the commercial cannabis statute and regulations and and the people that are doing everything they can. Follow those rules. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:08:00

Thank you for your comment.

I want to now go back to the participants with their hand raised.

Jackie, if you're able to unmute yourself.

JH **Jakki Hernandez** 1:08:14

Hello, can you hear me?

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:08:16

Yes, we can. Thank you.

JH **Jakki Hernandez** 1:08:17

Thank you for having me.

My name is Jackie Hernandez.

I am a medical cannabis patient in California as well as a compliance consultant throughout the country.

I'm going to use the government's standard terms as marijuana and hemp instead of just using the blanket term cannabis, because cannabis is actually encompassing both. I would like to say that bans do not protect people, they just eliminate oversight as you currently have oversight but are not doing the enforcing.

This is where many of the callers are calling to complain about with this emergency ban. It also shows nothing has changed. We are one, still getting products delivered into California with no age gates. Two, we are still having stores selling these products that shows a ban does not work. It doesn't disappear. It disappears from the enforcement reach. There are no age checks, no label checks, no lab tests. No way to recall or hold anybody accountable.

Regulation gives us tools bans leave us blind. I believe that if we have an integrated hemp regulated system, it's actually a practical path forward. CDPH should create a hemp license as what happens in many states, including Minnesota. Minnesota has a very great program where hemp can have its own lane and also where dispensaries can have their own lane when it comes to adult use. Higher doses, if we have a dose based marketing system, there could be a hemp tier with one level and there could

be a cannabis tier with another level.

They do not have to mix over the cannabis tier can be able to have higher than the 50 milligram per package limit that I believe a good tier is for hemp. If you see it this way, then even cannabis licenses can go ahead and get a hemp store. Nothing prevents cannabis License from doing so all products in the hemp division should also be lab tested by Isos 17025 certified facilities. They should carry COA with Q Rs on the labels. Everything should be appropriate, just like we have to do in the cannabis industry.

The label should not be for appealing to kids, even if you're a manufacturer, everything should be licensable. You should be able to have an accurate cannabinoid content. You should be able to have ingredient disclosures and allergy warnings. There should be 21 in label 21 plus label warning on top of the packaging. The hemp product registration businesses it should be including who's manufacturing the product, what is being sold and where the product is being distributed.

MD

Martin, David@CDPH 1:10:50

30 seconds.

JH

Jakki Hernandez 1:11:01

There should be a path to follow, just like we have in cannabis. There is no difference. There should be parity, parity, parity, parity if the state issued a hemp retail license, the product listing portal, you could be able to find all the SKU's on that product listing Portal. We can track any of these deaths and sicknesses that you're claiming to be happening. They would be traceable instead of just fiction.

MD

Martin, David@CDPH 1:11:24

Time is up.

JH

Jakki Hernandez 1:11:25

I believe there should be a sales tax and excise parity.

I believe that this model beats bands because it preserves legitimate access.

It protects public health, it supports compliant businesses, and it closes enforcement loopholes.

Please hemp should have a lower dose, broader access same safety standards.
Cannabis should be higher dose controlled access trapped in tax.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:11:46

Thank you.

Thank you for your comment.

JH **Jakki Hernandez** 1:11:47

Thank you for my time.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:11:49

Thank you.

Next speaker we have Katie if you can unmute yourself.

KP **Katie Poponyak** 1:12:00

Good morning.

My name is Katie Poponyak and I'm a counselor.

I support the permanent. You know, I support making permanent proposed regulations prohibiting these intoxicating hemp products. I've never seen them do any good for anyone. See a lot of youth using them inappropriately and people with mental health issues. These products include safety for human ingestion and has never been properly assessed, are not safe for anyone in my opinion, and they must remain prohibited as your agency did so last year.

Track and Trace has never worked.

We don't need hemp products, intoxicating anyone anymore. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:13:01

Thank you for your comment.

Just double checking my phone numbers.

I believe I've called on all of those.

If there's anyone that hasn't commented yet that would like to comment for the three minutes.

You can do so by raising your hand in Microsoft Teams.

Or if you're on the phone, you can select star six and then it yourself. For those that


have not commented yet.

So just kind of wait a couple minutes, see if anyone wants to comment.

And then I'll come back off mute.

6105 be able to mute yourself by selecting *6.

6105 are you able to mute yourself?

 **+15*****05** 1:14:18

Hello, thank you so much for the time.

My name is Liana Nodar and I've been in the cannabis market for over five years, but the retail market nationally for over 20.

I would like to support the regulation of hemp products. Hemp access is extremely important and I would say vital to our community for a low cost supportive medicinal product. It should be regulated like anything that is consumable and it should be able to be offered through the valid retailers where you can track and help regulate product and how it is given to consumers. Please, please, please fund the regulation and that should include regulation of retailers that offer anything that claims to be hemp, THC, cannabis or anything they're under much like the previous commenter under marijuana and cannabis and hemp.

It all needs to be regulated and defined by the state to protect the people that you serve. Thank you so much for the time.

 **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:15:29

Thank you for your comment.

Just wanted to check if there's anyone that has not commented yet for the three minutes. If you would like to comment during the public hearing, you can select the raise your hand button in Microsoft Teams.

Or if you're on the phone, you can select star six and then you yourself.

Phone number 7234.

Can you try selecting *6 W yourself?

7234 If you would like to speak.

You can select *6 to mute yourself.

OK, if there's anyone that has not provide public comment for the three minutes that would like to do so you can select to raise your hand feature.

In Microsoft Teams.

And I'll just pause for a few minutes to see if any anyone else that has not commented yet would like to.

+18***34** 1:17:51

Hello, can you hear me?

BM Boutros, Michael@CDPH 1:17:53

Yes, I can 7234 if you want to state your name and provide comments.

+18***34** 1:17:57

Yes.

OK.

Yes, my name is Terry Anskelli.

I strongly support the CDPHS regulations to prohibit intoxicating hemp products in any form, and I agree that these regulations should require #1 Industrial hemp food, food additives, beverages, and dietary supplements intended for human consumption have no detectable total THC, #2A minimum age of 21 to purchase hemp in its final form, product intended for human consumption, #3 limits the number of servings in hemp products to five per package, and lastly, #4 all cannabinoids to be included in the definition of THC. Intoxicating hemp products are major pathways for underage use to initiate cannabore use. And they are widely sold in smoke shop baked shops, and gas stations, often near schools and in and around our neighborhoods. Thank you for hearing my concerns this morning.

BM Boutros, Michael@CDPH 1:19:09

Thank you for your comment.

Just a reminder, if you haven't spoken yet for your three minute comment and would like to do so, please use the raise your hand feature Microsoft Teams, or if you're on the phone and have it provide a comment yet you can select star six and unmute yourself.

Uh, we'll give it a few more minutes to see if there any updates. Wants to comment. That hasn't done so already, and if we don't get any more commenters, we'll move towards our closing remarks and reminders about the other comment period.

Just a reminder, you can select raise your hand to comment if you have it done so already, or *6 if you're on the phone.

Just a reminder, if you haven't already commented and would like to do so, select a raise your hand feature in teams or you can select *6 on the telephone. If you don't get any more public commenters.

In the next few minutes, I'll go ahead and move with closing remarks and we can conclude the hearing.

Sister Kate, you have your hand raised and I believe you commented earlier.

Did you have another question?

Sister Kate, did you have a question?

Lauren, did you have a question?

LM **Lauren Mendelsohn** 1:22:29

Yes.

I think that CDPH should create a hemp retail license that is a low barrier to entry. That's not that hard to get, but that way CDPH will have oversight on the sale of these products. Thank you.

BM **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** 1:22:52

Thank you for your comment.

I do see a question about the transcript.

Microsoft Teams usually produces the transcript.

Should be the same day, but just sort of depends.

On the timing of it.

So if you have questions on that, I'll give you the e-mail address. You can reach out to then.

We can provide sort of that response or timeline on that later.

It's sort of just depends.

What is there anyone else who would like to comment that already has not commented today?

OK.

Pause for one more minute again. If you haven't commented and would like to do so, please let the raise your hand feature.

In teams or select *6 if you're calling via telephone.

OK.

I don't see anyone else would like to comment today that hasn't already done so, so I proceed with our closing remarks and then remind us about the comment period and then I will stop the recording of the hearing and we can end the meeting.

The Counselor Department, Public Health Office of Regulations, will continue to receive written comments until today, July 28th, 2025 at 1415 L St. Ste. 500, Sacramento, CA 95814. By fax to 916-636-6220.

Where you also may e-mail your comments to regulations@cdph.ca.gov.

Since there's no additional request to speak, I hereby closed this hearing before I do so I just want to remind you that we are recording transcribing the hearing.

There was a request for the transcription. I would e-mail regulations@cdph.ca.gov.

Maybe tomorrow and sort of ask for that request and kind of we'll see when it can be produced. It sort of just depends on teams. But since there's no other request to speak from someone that has not commented already, I'm going to close this public hearing today and then just a reminder, you can continue to submit written comments via e-mail, mail or fax by the end of today.

Thank you for your time.

- **Boutros, Michael@CDPH** stopped transcription