

Legalization Points – Jeff Brinkman, Superior Cannabis Company

I am Jeff Brinkman from Superior Cannabis Company; we have been farming hemp since 2018 and have many of our family and other amazing employees working in our fields and in our 2 Minnesota retail stores and 1 Wisconsin location.

We employ 14 people and hope to grow our business with cannabis legalization and hemp derived product expansion. Our plans include adding additional retail locations, small manufacturing, and continuing development of small batch cannabis products utilizing our current in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Florida production partners. Our question is, will this bill allow us to continue to grow our hemp business without being encumbered by a legalization bill that mentions hemp 363 times in it's current form?

The current bill appears to hinder our long-term relationships with labs and manufacturers that are best in class, who are located in other states. These labs provided us with small batch manufacturing when many others would not provide those services given our limited productions size and production volumes. Some of these partners utilize proprietary technology that cannot be sourced elsewhere. We believe the import and export of our compliant hemp or products should not be hindered and the bill restrictions are inconsistent with interstate commerce laws and fair-trade practices.

The bill also limits hemp cannabinoids other than THC and CBD in several products and does not account for the natural spectrum of cannabinoids that exist in the plant. The current bill limits some of those cannabinoids down to the tenths of a single milligram severely limiting the effectiveness of some products.

We have numerous projects underway with local partners that would be substantially hindered by the current bills restrictions on hemp, some of which are not applicable in any other state.

On the marijuana portion of the bill, we believe the grow size is not reasonable for outdoor grows and does not encourage the practice of organic and regenerative practices, which are the most beneficial for our environment and consumers in Minnesota.

We are requesting allowances for organic and regenerative farming for 3-5 acres, along with an allowance of 3000 to 5000 square feet of indoor flowering canopy to provide outdoor growers not only a seasonal bridge, but to mitigate risk in the event of an outdoor failure due to disease, infestation, conventional chemical drift, weather or other threat to outdoor grows. We can never replace the true quality of product that mother nature produces, but there are inherent risks that need to be mitigated.

I appreciate your time and consideration, and feel free to reach out to me anytime to discuss. Thanks again and I hope we can get this done this year, without destroying small businesses in the process. We have been told we will have to sacrifice to get this bill passed, however that sacrifice should not mean jeopardizing current businesses, like ours that have struggled under Minnesota's frequent changes in regulations.

Thank you,

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