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March 30, 2021

Allison V. Beam  
 Acting Secretary of Health  
 Pennsylvania Department of Health  
 625 Forster Street  
 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Department of Health – Proposed Regulation No. 10-219  
 Medical Marijuana  
 28 PA. Code Chapters 1141-1230

Dear Acting Secretary Beam:

I am writing on behalf of the 16,000 residents of Wynnefield to comment on Proposed Regulation No. 10-219, Medical Marijuana, 28 PA. Code Chapters 1141-1230. We have interest in this Regulation because we are a neighborhood of multi-generational homeowners who have invested not only money, but time and heart into building community. To make decisions of this magnitude without community input is short-sighted and potentially devastating to what we have spent years building. We are the experts in what takes place here as well as the availability of resources and services. We should be provided an opportunity to weigh in PRIOR to final decisions being made.

We support the Department updating the regulations to include the following for future medical marijuana permit applications:

- Making community impact statements mandatory for all medical marijuana permit applications
- Requiring a description of both the potential positive and negative impacts of a facility; and
- Requiring, dispensary operators to submit community supports and/or opposition letters.

As members of the Wynnefield Community in Philadelphia County, we have firsthand experience with what takes place when Community members are not provided the opportunity to offer input regarding dispensaries permitted to operate in the area. Without any community notification or input,

two permits were issued by the State for dispensaries to operate less than 1 mile apart, both within our Community. Unfortunately, this has been the experience of many black and brown Communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We agree that medical marijuana is an important option of care but would have welcomed an opportunity to voice our concerns & have them addressed by operators as part of the decision making process. .

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide my comments at this time. I look forward to seeing greater community input in the medical marijuana permitting process moving forward.

Sincerely,



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