

**Stephen Hoffman**

From: Gail Young <Gail.Young@phila.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 10:42 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: Dept. of Health-Proposed Regulation No. 10-219

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

April 5, 2021

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

Dear Acting Secretary Beam:

My name is Gail Young and I am President of the Wynnefield Heights Civic Association, a local community group in Philadelphia, PA. I am writing today to comment on Proposed Regulation No. 10-219, Medical Marijuana, 28 PA. Code Chapters 1141-1230. This regulation is of interest to me because I care deeply about my community, the things that take place in it, and the availability of resources and services.

For that reason, I am in support of 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 a member of the Wynnefield Heights community in Philadelphia County, I 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 community input, two permits were issued by the state for two dispensaries to operate just 10 miles apart, both within my community. Unfortunately, this has been the experience of many black and brown communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Again, medical marijuana is an important option of care but there are continued concerns that myself and others would have liked to have had the opportunity to express and possibly have addressed by operators.

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,

Gail E. Young
President of the Wynnefield Heights Civic Association
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