



February 22, 2021

The Honorable Richard Roth
Chair, Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee
State Capitol, Room 2053
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 544 (Laird) Cannabis: quality assurance and testing.
NOTICE OF SUPPORT**

The California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA) is pleased to support Senate Bill 544 by Senator John Laird. This bill strengthens California's cannabis testing regulations by directing the Bureau of Cannabis Control (Bureau) to establish specific definitions and standards for all compounds and contaminants that are required to be tested under law.

Under existing law, all cannabis and cannabis products sold in California must be tested by a licensed cannabis testing laboratory, which not only determines cannabinoid levels and other important chemical information, it also ensures there are no pesticides, foreign materials, or other contaminants that exceed action levels prescribed in regulations. However, testing standards and definitions for these compounds, and the specificity at which to test for them, varies greatly in regulations. As such, there is a lack of uniformity in how the state defines testing standards, and what levels to test these standards at. Particularly in light of the VAPI crisis, it is imperative that California ensure its cannabis testing standards are specific and objective across the board. SB 544 seeks to remedy these disparities in standardization by requiring the Bureau, by January 1, 2023, to establish specific testing standards for all contaminants and compounds required on a certificate of analysis (COA).

SB 544 will bring greater accountability, accuracy, and transparency to the cannabis testing process and the supply chain as a whole. For these reasons, CCIA is pleased to support SB 544 and requests your AYE vote when it is heard in the Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Robinson
Executive Director

Cc: Senator John Laird, 27th District
Members, Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee
Sarah Mason, Staff Director, Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee
Kayla Williams, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus