



April 12, 2022

The Honorable Marc Berman
Chair, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
1021 O St. Ste. 6130
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT: AB 1885 (Kalra): Cannabis and cannabis products: animals
NOTICE OF SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Berman:

The California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA) is pleased to support of AB 1885 (Kalra), which prohibits the Veterinary Medical Board from disciplining a veterinarian for recommending cannabis for animals for potential therapeutic effect or health supplementation purposes and requires the Board to adopt guidelines for veterinarians to follow when recommending cannabis by January 1, 2024. AB 1885 further permits the manufacture and sale of cannabis pet products as prescribed under the Medicinal and Adult Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) and requires that cannabis products intended for animals comply with concentration and other standards adopted by regulations of the Department of Cannabis Control.

While research on the effects of cannabis on animals is limited by cannabis' federal status as a Schedule 1 drug, several studies have identified cannabis as an effective treatment for pain, anxiety, inflammation, nausea, loss of appetite, and seizures in dogs. Yet, veterinarians and pet owners currently provide therapeutic cannabis for pets at their own risk.

Existing law prohibits the sale of cannabis products with appropriate labels or instructions to guide pet owners on the proper application and dosage for their animals. Manufactures of cannabis products designed for pets have been the subject of enforcement actions by the California Department of Public Health and the Department of Cannabis Control. Veterinarians are limited to discussing cannabis therapy options without offering clear recommendations about specific products or dosage.

AB 1885 ensures access to safe, regulated, and tested cannabis for pet patients by bringing all cannabis products intended for animal consumption under the MAUCRSA regulatory framework. This will allow therapeutic products intended for pet consumption to be sold with clear labeling

and instructions for use, so that pet owners can easily identify the right products for their pets and be sure that they are dosing correctly. It will also assure pet owners that they are purchasing therapeutic cannabis products that have been tested under MAUCRSA's rigorous testing protocols. Lastly, AB 1885 will provide assurances to veterinarians who recommend the use of cannabis for their pet patients that they will not be disciplined by the Veterinary Medical Board when recommending for potential therapeutic effect or health supplementation purposes.

For these reasons, CCIA is pleased to support AB 1885 and respectfully requests your AYE vote when it is presented in the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact CCIA's legislative advocate, Amy O'Gorman Jenkins, at 707-291-3270 or amy@precisionadvocacy.co.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

LINDSAY ROBINSON
Executive Director

Cc: Members, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Assembly Member Ash Kalra
Annabel Smith, Consultant, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Bill Lewis, Republican Consultant, Assembly Business and Professions Committee