



June 6, 2022

Ms. Monet Vela  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
1001 I Street, 23rd Floor  
P. O. Box 4010  
Sacramento, California 95812-4010

**RE: Public Comment - Proposed Amendments to Article 6, Clear and Reasonable Warnings for Cannabis (Marijuana) Smoke and Delta-9-THC**

Dear Ms. Vela

The California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA), which represent over 400 businesses across the state, respectfully writes in opposition to the proposed amendments to Article 6 of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, which add new sections (25607.38 – 25607.47) to the Clear and Reasonable Warnings under Proposition 65 specific to cannabis smoke and delta-9 THC exposure. These proposed additions will add significant cost pressures and workload to an already overburdened industry, particularly during a period of great regulatory and economic uncertainty.

California’s cannabis industry is one of the most highly regulated consumer industries in the state. Cannabis and cannabis products must follow stringent health and safety standards, including rigorous product testing for compounds and contaminants, labeling of all cannabis content, and myriad regulatory protections and label warnings to prevent access to minors. Moreover, since “Cannabis (Marijuana) Smoke” is already listed under OEHHA’s [“Chemicals Considered or Listed under Proposition 65”](#) for both cancer and reproductive health, cannabis operators already follow all current guidelines related to Proposition 65 warnings and disclaimers.

Costs incurred by legal cannabis businesses to accommodate such a substantial labeling change would be significant, as operators would need to remediate their current packaging and labels, or in some cases, generate new packaging altogether in order to fully capture the proposed text. This would come after repeated adjustments to meet ever-changing compliance requirements imposed by the licensing authorities for cannabis since the regulatory framework was first established for medicinal cannabis in 2015. For small businesses already operating on thin margins, these proposed amendments could impose unnecessary hardship and would not ultimately benefit the health and safety of California’s consumers, but only serve to contribute to higher barriers to entry for legal operators and encourage participation in the illicit cannabis market, which currently outnumbers legal cannabis operators 3-to-1.

Additionally, we are concerned that the cannabis industry's rigorous labeling requirements leave little room to accommodate these proposed amendments. As mentioned previously, all cannabis products sold in California must clearly disclose the product's batch number (for purposes of the state track-and-trace system), cannabinoid content, expiration date, unique product ID, and more. Considering the size of most cannabis product packages sold in California, it is unclear how cannabis operators could logistically accommodate these new proposed additions, particularly in light of OEHHA's other pending Proposition 65 amendments under consideration around [short-form warnings](#). Moreover, many of the disclaimers required under these proposed amendments - particularly those related to warnings around reproductive health and cancer - are already required to be disclosed under cannabis regulations. Simply put, the warnings proposed under this amendment are redundant.

Finally, these changes are being proposed at a time of great uncertainty for California's legal cannabis industry in particular. Not only is the industry grappling with the ongoing economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, all without qualifying for any federal relief or SBA loans, but operators are also faced with the continuing consolidation of the three cannabis licensing agencies into one Department of Cannabis Control. With this consolidation will come many potential new changes to cannabis regulation and compliance affecting all aspects of the supply chain. Yet another label change, the goal of which is already achieved through cannabis regulations, would just add greater confusion to an already uncertain time for the cannabis industry.

For these reasons, CCIA and our above coalition respectfully opposes these proposed amendments to Article 6 of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, at least until the cannabis industry is guaranteed a sure date as to when the many other regulatory changes operators are expecting, particularly those related to packaging and labeling, must be implemented.

Should you have any questions regarding our position, please contact Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lindsay Robinson".

Lindsay Robinson,  
Executive Director