

# **Senate Health and Human Services Committee**

*Kyle Baker 271-2609*

**SB 26**, relative to the definition of "facility caregivers" under the use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes law.

**Hearing Date:** January 10, 2017

**Time Opened:** 3:00 p.m.

**Time Closed:** 3:15 p.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Hennessey, Gray, Avard and Bradley

**Members of the Committee Absent:** Senator Fuller Clark

**Bill Analysis:** This bill clarifies the definition of "facility caregiver" for purposes of the use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes law.

**Sponsors:**  
Sen. Reagan

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**Who supports the bill:** Dan Stockwell; Robert Reinhard; Anthony Parrinello, Temescal Wellness; Gail Devoid; Dan McGuire, NH Liberty Alliance; Rep. Al Baldasaro, Rock 5; David Stockwell MD

**Who opposes the bill:** None

**Who is neutral on the bill:** John Martin, DHHS

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Senator Reagan – Senate District 17**

- This bill simply adds Community Living facilities to the definition of facility caregivers for the purpose of assisting patients with the use of thereapeutic cannabis.

**Rep. Baldasaro – Rockingham 5**

- Supports this change. Would be curious to see if it would be possible to add the State Veterans Nursing Home to this list because of the benefits we are seeing in the use of medical cannabis for veterans.
  - o Senator Bradley – Would also be curious to see if this is possible. Might be an issue with the federal funding the facility receives.

**Anthony Parrinello – Executive Director, Temescal Wellness**

- While running the day to day operations of Temescal Wellness he has heard from many different types of living facilities including the community living facilities we are discussing to day.
- These facilities would like to be able to assist their patients in the therapeutic use of cannabis.
- Alternative treatment centers have gone into living facilities and given training classes to staff on how to properly assist patients with treatment.

**Summary of testimony presented in opposition:** None

**Neutral Information Presented:**

**John Martin – DHHS**

- After the therapeutic cannabis law passed there was a lot of interest from different living facilities in the state.
- The problem was that nowhere in current law does it state that these facilities can possess cannabis for qualifying patients.
- We have changed the law to add certain types of living facilities to be able to possess cannabis for the purpose of assisting patients in its therapeutic use.
- This bill would add community living facilities to this list.

**Future Action:** Ought to Pass

KRB

Date Hearing Report completed: January 13, 2017