

7901 4th Street N, STE 4404 St. Petersburg, FL 33702 admin@veterinarycannabissociety.org

October 10, 2022

<u>Via email</u>

Nicole Elliott, Director Matthew Lee, General Counsel California Department of Cannabis Control Ali Jamalian, Chair Kristin Nevdal, Vice Chair Advisory Committee CA DCC

Re: AB - 1885 (Signed by Governor Newsom Sept. 18, 2022)

Dear Gentlepersons:

As you are aware, AB 1885 was recently signed by Governor Newsom, which will allow California veterinarians to "recommend" cannabis to pet parents for use in connection with their pets' medical conditions. The new law goes into effect January 1, 2023 and requires the DCC to promulgate regulations for cannabis animal products. (See <u>B&PC §26130(e)(2)</u>).

The purpose of this letter is to offer to the DCC and the Advisory Committee the expertise of the <u>Veterinary Cannabis Society</u> ("VCS") in determining how to integrate AB 1885 into MAUCRSA and ultimately regulate cannabis products for pets in accordance with the bill. VCS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is product neutral, and has no financial stake in how AB 1885 is interpreted and applied. Its members include licensed California veterinarians who are leaders in this field and who routinely educate veterinarians, cannabis producers, and pet owners on both a state and national level about the safe and efficacious use of medical cannabinoids for animals. VCS also has an <u>Advocacy Committee</u> with legal and veterinary expertise in this area.

As presently enacted, VCS supports AB 1885 and believes that that implementation of this bill must address, at a minimum, three concerns: (1) protecting animals from unintentional harm resulting from medicinal cannabis use; (2) incorporating the veterinary profession's most current understanding of medicinal cannabis into any DCC regulations; and (3) protecting consumers from misleading or dangerous products.

As with all legislation, the details matter. In this case, the Department's role in crafting regulations will be paramount. It is for this reason that VCS respectfully offers the services of its members to confer with and assist the DCC and the Advisory Committee as they strive to fulfill the legislative responsibilities of AB 1885. Please feel free to contact VCS at any time during the

process of implementing AB 1885. We are here to help. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Trina Hazzah

Trina Hazzah DVM, DACVIM (Oncology), CVCH President, Veterinary Cannabis Society 501(c)(3) Federal tax ID 85-0986090 www.VCS.pet