



August 9, 2024

**Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry**  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Senator Richard Roth**  
Chair, Senate Health Committee  
California State Senate  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Senator Angelique Ashby**  
Chair, Business, Professions and Economic  
Development Committee  
California State Senate  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **CA AB2223**

Dear Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry, Senator Roth, and Senator Ashby,

On behalf of the Veterinary Cannabis Society (VCS), a 501(c)(3) non-profit with over 100 veterinary professionals globally, we are writing to express our concerns regarding AB2223, which seeks to limit intoxicating cannabinoids in industrial hemp products. Our society strongly supports the use of natural cannabinoids, such as CBD and THC-9 found in full-spectrum industrial hemp, in over-the-counter pet products for treating conditions like cancer, arthritis, seizures, IBD, and anxiety in pets.

The proposed limitations in AB2223 on THC content, including naturally occurring THC-9, would inadvertently deprive thousands of pets in California access to vital medicinal products. **It is crucial to note that there is no "recreational use" of cannabinoids in industrial hemp (<0.3% THC) for pets; these products serve purely medicinal purposes and form a multi-million dollar industry. Equally critical, pet parents seeking hemp derived cannabinoids as medicine for their pets DO NOT FREQUENT DISPENSARIES. Nor should they have to.**

The THC limits proposed—0.25 mL per dose and 1.25 mg per package—are insufficient for maintaining medical applications for pets. **Many animals will be cut off from products that are providing anti-convulsant, anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-anxiety and overall wellness and improved quality of life.**

While VCS supports the restriction of synthetic cannabinoids in industrial hemp products in California, we advocate for the allowance of naturally occurring THC-9 in full and broad-spectrum hemp products. Denying this would force thousands, if not millions, of pet parents to lose access to powerful natural solutions for their pets' wellness.

Additionally, AB2223 could address human consumption concerns by excluding industrial hemp products containing more than 60% inactive oils (such as MCT oil) from THC limitations. This would prevent arbitrary restrictions on medical uses for pets, as humans would not consume such products.

VCS firmly supports eliminating synthetic cannabinoids in hemp products for Californians but opposes removing natural wellness products for canines and felines. We respectfully request an opportunity to present further data and personal stories before any vote on AB2223.

Thank you for considering this critical issue impacting countless pet families across California.

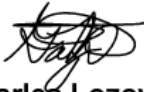
**Dr. Trina Hazzah, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology), CVCH**

President and Chairwoman, Veterinary Cannabis Society



**Dr. Gary Richter, DVM**

Vice President, Veterinary Cannabis Society



**Charles Lozow, Esq.**



Chair, Advocacy Committee, Veterinary Cannabis Society. On behalf of all VCS members and concerned California pet parents.