Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs Opposition to SB 135 March 16,2023

Chair Thompson and committee members,

In reference to SB 135, this *should* concern us all! The use of cannabis for any reason should remain illegal in Kansas. The Federal Government of the United States of America classifies cannabis to be a schedule 1 drug which makes it illegal to possess, distribute, or sell in any amount or form. A schedule 1 drug is a drug that has a "high potential for dependency and no accepted medical use." Other drugs in this classification are ecstasy, heroine, and LSD.

Legalizing of cannabis will impact our banks by the federal regulations they must operate under. Federal banking regulations restrict and prohibit "banking services to state-licensed cannabis businesses, and even to other companies which sell services and products to those businesses, could find themselves subject to *criminal and civil liability* under the Controlled Substances Act and subject to regulatory sanctions under certain federal banking statutes."

Opening this 'Pandora's-box" is a bad idea, for our families, our economics, and our communities. Just because 'everyone else is' is not an acceptable reason. Let the states of Kansas, Nebraska and Idaho stand strong and "JUST SAY NO" to legalizing cannabis.

Thank You for your time and attention.

Respectfully,

JoLynne Voet Oketo, KS