State of New Hampshire

GENERAL COURT

CONCORD

MEMORANDUM

DATE:	**December 5, 2018**
TO:	**Honorable Chris Sununu, Governor** **Honorable Stephen Shurtleff, Speaker of the House** **Honorable Donna Soucy, President of the Senate** **Honorable Paul Smith, House Clerk** **Honorable Tammy Wright, Senate Clerk** **Michael York, State Librarian**
FROM:	**Representative James MacKay, Chairman**
SUBJECT:	**Formal Opinion of the Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Advisory Council** **RSA 126-X:9 II (d), Chapter 242:1 Laws of 2013**

Pursuant to RSA 126-X:9 II (d), Chapter 242:1 Laws of 2013, enclosed please find the Formal Opinion of the Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Advisory Council.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this document, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to thank the members of the council and also acknowledge all those who testified before the council and assisted the council in its work.

Enclosures

cc: Members of the Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Advisory Council
Jeffrey Meyers, Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services

Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Advisory Council
RSA 126-X:9, Chapter 242:1 Laws of 2013
December 5, 2018

RSA 126-X:9 11 (d), Chapter 242:1 Laws of 2013, charges the Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Advisory Council to issue a formal opinion on whether the program should be continued or repealed after a period of five years.

The Therapeutic Cannabis Program currently benefits 6,480 patients in 231 towns, cities and unincorporated places across New Hampshire. Participating patients seek treatment through the program for a number of symptoms, including severe, persistent muscle spasms, nausea, and pain which has not responded to other treatment. In surveys, respondents overwhelmingly rate their treatment as effective.

After receiving testimony and deliberating, the formal opinion of the council is that the Therapeutic Cannabis program is beneficial and should be continued.

Council Membership:
Rep. James MacKay, Chair
Rep. Bill Nelson
Sen. John Reagan
John Encarnacao, Department of Safety
James Vara, Office of the Attorney General
Stuart Glassman, NH Medical Society
Jill Hunter, Nurse Practitioner Association
Peter Gosline, Community Hospital Representative
Devon Chaffee, NH Civil Liberties Union
Richard Vincent, Qualifying Patient
Colette Horgan, NH Hospital Representative
Frank Dibble, NH Board of Medicine
Robert Duhaime, NH Board of Nursing
Andrew Shagoury, NH Association of the Chiefs of Police
Kenneth Nielsen, Public Member