

07/28/2021

To: Oregon Cannabis Commission Members

From: Anthony Taylor, Chair, Oregon Cannabis Commission

Re: Cannabis Regulators Association - CANNRA

This letter is regarding membership of the Oregon Cannabis Commission (OCC) in the national Cannabis Regulators Association ([CANNRA](#)), and outlines this commission's qualification under their membership criteria.

Organized in November 2020, CANNRA was formed to provide:

*"a much-needed forum for regulators to engage with each other to identify and develop best practices and model policies which safeguard public health and safety, while promoting regulatory certainty for industry participants. CANNRA is a resource for policymakers, elected official, researchers, and other stakeholders to engage with regulators from across the country and receive unbiased information and recommendations regarding the impact and implementation of cannabis policies."*

Membership is currently limited to "regulators and representatives from relevant government offices," and "not available to cannabis industry participants or advocacy organizations." Preliminary inquiries regarding OCC membership, raised concerns that since the OCC is not "regulators and representatives from relevant government offices," our application would not be considered.

The OCC is a Governor appointed advisory body to both the OLCC and OHA, the "relevant government office." The OCC with experts in these areas, may qualify under four of the 14 categories for regulators and representatives from relevant government offices: Medical Marijuana Industry, Medical/Clinical Cannabis Research, Public Health Education and Awareness, and Monitoring and Surveillance of Cannabis Use.

We know that states adopting adult-use programs in concert with an existing medical program are facing many of the same issues Oregon continues to face in integrating both medical and adult-use programs. The OCC offers a unique and valuable perspective in this area that may provide insight into this difficult area of regulation

To better serve the OHA and the OLCC in our advisory role, I am submitting for my fellow commissioners consideration that the OCC submit an application for membership in the Cannabis Regulators Association. I would also request for your consideration that the OCC seek the OLCC and OHA support this application in a letter on our behalf encouraging the membership committee to consider the addition of our unique perspective in helping shape national cannabis regulatory policy as it relates to medical cannabis program participants who may be affected by regulatory changes considered by this organization.