



April 9, 2019

*Wayne A. Smith*  
President & CEO

The Honorable Anthony Delcollo  
411 Legislative Avenue  
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Senator Delcollo,

*Alfred I. duPont Hospital  
for Children*  
Roy Proujansky, MD,  
Chief Executive of  
Nemours Delaware  
Valley Operations

The Delaware Healthcare Association (DHA) would like to communicate our concerns with SB 24 and SB 59, which amend Title 16 of the Delaware Code relating to Medical Marijuana. While we appreciate your efforts to address the medical needs of Delawareans, we regretfully oppose these bills in their current forms.

*Bayhealth*  
Terry Murphy,  
President & CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and advocates for policies that create an environment for enabling every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.

*Beebe Healthcare*  
Jeffrey M. Fried  
President & CEO

SB 24 would allow a patient to qualify for a valid registry identification card to purchase and use medical marijuana for any condition as long as a physician certifies the benefit. The Act also removes the requirement that only certain specialists may certify the use of medical marijuana if the patient is younger than 18 years old. DHA is concerned with the proposed expansion of medical marijuana use to treat conditions beyond what is currently allowed based on scientific evidence. DHA also opposes eliminating the requirement that a pediatric specialist certify medical marijuana use for treatment of minors. Medical marijuana may impact the developing brain of a child differently than an adult, which is why a pediatric specialist with expertise in children's health is most appropriate to recommend medical marijuana to individuals under the age of 18.

*Christiana Care Health  
System*  
Janice E. Nevin, M.D.  
MPH  
President & CEO

*Nanticoke Health Services*  
Steven A. Rose, RN, MN  
President & CEO

*Saint Francis Healthcare*  
Daniel Sinnott  
President & CEO

SB 59 would allow nurse practitioners and physician assistants to recommend medical marijuana for patients. DHA opposes this legislation as it may further expand the use of medical marijuana in Delaware when more scientific evidence is needed on whether the benefits outweigh the risks.

*Delaware Healthcare  
Association*  
Wayne A. Smith  
President & CEO

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the legislation, but regretfully cannot support SB 24 or SB 59 at this time. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me on this or any other health-related legislation in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wayne A. Smith'.

Wayne A. Smith  
President & CEO