

Letter of Support - Cannabis Research Center Funding

May 8, 2025

To the Members of the Higher Education Conference Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the inclusion of funding for the Cannabis Research Center in the final higher education budget bill.

This initiative is essential for ensuring that Minnesota has accurate, science-based data to understand the short- and long-term impacts of cannabis use, particularly as it relates to public health, youth prevention, education, and mental health. As someone engaged in youth and family services and prevention work, I believe this research will help shape smarter, more effective policies that protect young people while also supporting public education efforts statewide.

The Cannabis Research Center would not only provide clarity around cannabis-related risks and health outcomes, but also strengthen Minnesota's leadership in evidence-based public health planning.

I respectfully urge the committee to retain the House language that includes this important funding.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Evans

Wraparound Coordinator

PACT for Families

2200 23rd St. NE

Willmar, MN 56201

Board Member, Minnesota Prevention Alliance