



Legislative Building

Washington State Legislature

Olympia, WA 98504-0600

January 19, 2022

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Inslee,

The forthcoming vacancy on the Liquor and Cannabis Board presents an incredible opportunity to appoint an individual that brings a behavioral health and prevention lens to the work of regulating the sale and advertising of cannabis, alcohol, tobacco, and vapor products. We the undersigned enthusiastically support the appointment of Jim Vollendroff to the LCB.

Jim has led a decorated career in the behavioral health field, spanning prevention, treatment, recovery support services, and public policy for both mental health and substance use disorders. Jim worked in direct clinical substance use disorder treatment at Providence St. Peter's hospital for many years, before joining the King County Behavioral Health and Recovery Division (BHRD). He ascended to the Director of BHRD, managing the entire behavioral health system for low-income residents of our most populous county, including crisis services. Most recently, Jim was hand-picked to lead and launch the Behavioral Health Institute (BHI) at Harborview/UW Medicine. Under Jim's visionary leadership, the BHI went from an unheard-of entity to a highly regarded center of excellence upon which the legislature relies, in a period of just a few years.

In addition to the wealth of professional expertise that Jim brings, we deeply value his lived experience as a person in recovery from both mental health and substance use challenges and as a biracial member of the LGBTQ community. We applaud Jim for his decades of service in behavioral health care in Washington and can think of no one better suited to join the Liquor and Cannabis Board at this crucial time.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Handwritten signature of Manka Dhingra in black ink.

Senator Manka Dhingra

Handwritten signature of David Frockt in black ink.

Senator David Frockt

Handwritten signature of Karen Keiser in black ink.

Senator Karen Keiser

Handwritten signature of Jamie Pedersen in black ink.

Senator Jamie Pedersen



Speaker Laurie Jinkins



Representative Dan Bronoske



Representative Lisa Callan



Representative Frank Chopp



Representative Eileen Cody



Representative Lauren Davis



Representative Davina Duerr



Representative Mari Leavitt



Representative Nicole Macri



Representative Tina Orwall



Representative Gerry Pollet



Representative Cindy Ryu



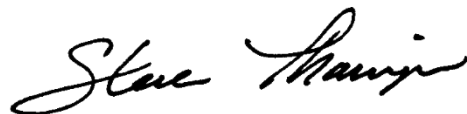
Representative Tana Senn



Representative Tarra Simmons



Representative Jamila Taylor



Representative Steve Tharinger



Representative My-Linh Thai



Representative Amy Walen
