



Arizona State Legislature

1700 West Washington

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

August 8, 2014

Dr. Ann Weaver Hart
President, The University of Arizona
Old Main, Room 200
1200 E. University Boulevard
Tucson, AZ 85712-0066

Dear President Hart,

I am writing to express my sincere support for the efforts of Dr. Sue Sisley's Institutional Revenue Board-approved study of the effects of cannabis on veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). As a legislator representing a vibrant veteran constituency, I was disappointed to learn of the termination of Dr. Sisley and the intervening consequences this will have on the important research being pursued by the University of Arizona.

Any effort to improve the prognosis of returning veterans suffering from PTSD is commendable. To that end, I wholeheartedly supported Dr. Sisley's efforts during the 2014 legislative session to advocate for state funding needed to conduct this objective clinical research on the safety, efficacy and adverse events associated with marijuana. The legislation received bipartisan support and passed the House nearly unanimously. The bill was stymied in the Senate. Had that not been the case, I am confident that the bill would have passed and the University would have been eligible to receive state funding from the Biomedical Research Institute in furtherance of the study.

I am troubled to learn that Dr. Sisley's termination may have been politically motivated, especially in light of the importance of this worthy cause and the objectivity in her approach. Dr. Sisley has spent several years building the foundation on which this study exists, all while maintaining an exceptional record with the UA College of Medicine in the performance of her regular job responsibilities, which included years of treating veterans for PTSD.

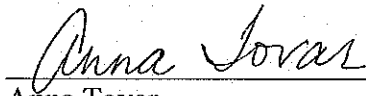
The University of Arizona has great potential to lead the way in medical marijuana research for PTSD, as this is the only existing federally-approved study. It would be a tremendous loss to the University, the State, and our nation's veterans to lose Dr. Sisley and the research efforts she has so effectively pursued. I strongly urge you to reinstate the study under Dr. Sue Sisley's direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lela Alston".

Lela Alston

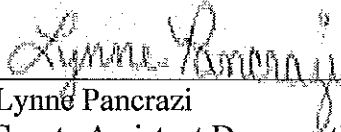
State Representative, District 24



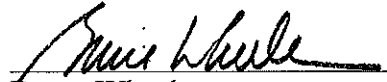
Anna Tovar
Senate Democratic Leader
State Senator, District 19



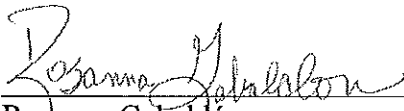
Chad Campbell
House Democratic Leader
State Representative, District 24



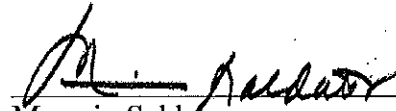
Lynne Pancrazi
Senate Assistant Democratic Leader
State Senator, District 4



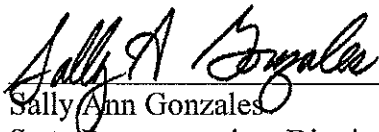
Bruce Wheeler
House Assistant Democratic Leader
State Representative, District 10



Rosanna Gabaldón
State Representative, District 2



Macario Saldade
State Representative, District 3



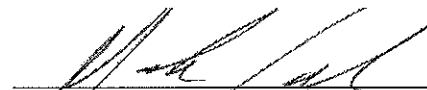
Sally Ann Gonzales
State Representative, District 3



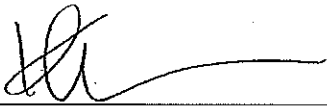
Barbara McGuire
State Senator, District 8



Lupe C. Contreras
State Representative, District 19



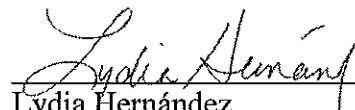
Mark Cardenas
State Representative, District 19



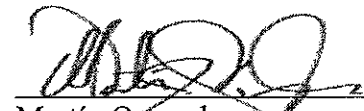
Katie Hobbs
State Senator, District 24



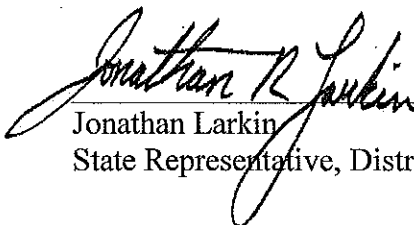
Catherine Miranda
State Representative, District 27



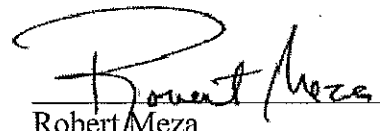
Lydia Hernández
State Representative, District 29



Martín Quezada
State Representative, District 29



Jonathan Larkin
State Representative, District 30



Robert Meza
State Senator, District 30