



March 13, 2019

Mr. Jonathan Miller
Frost Brown Todd, LLC
Lexington Financial Center
250 West Main Suite 2800
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

Dear Mr. Miller:

Dr. Hellerstedt has forwarded your letter dated February 1, 2019 on behalf of the U.S. Hemp Roundtable regarding the scheduling of hemp, to me for response. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has been reviewing the 2018 Farm Bill, its scope and our obligations, including the removal of hemp from the schedule of controlled substances.

Based on requirements in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (aka the Farm Bill) and Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481, DSHS Commissioner, Dr. John Hellerstedt signed an amendment to the Texas schedules of controlled substances, removing hemp from the schedules. The de-scheduling is consistent with federal law and the obligations of the commissioner.

The amendment has been sent to the Texas Register for publishing on March 15, 2019, and will become effective 21 days from publication.

There are several bills currently filed by the Texas Legislature that relate to hemp. The DSHS Consumer Protection Division is monitoring the bills as it relates to its consumer protection obligations. We will continue to monitor the legislative process and take appropriate actions based on legislative decisions.

Please feel free to contact my office with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Pahl".

Stephen Pahl, Associate Commissioner
Consumer Protection Division