

TMCTA

Tennessee Medical Cannabis Trade Association

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CONTACT: David Smith
(615) 879-8729
David.Smith@tmcta.com

TMCTA APPLAUDS MTSU'S TENNESSEE CENTER FOR BOTANICAL MEDICINE RESEARCH

U.S. Medical Cannabis Industry Projected to Reach \$20 Billion in the Next Six Years

MURFREESBORO – The advanced research programming on non-psychoactive cannabinoids conducted at Middle Tennessee State University's (MTSU) Tennessee Center for Botanical Medicine Research (TCBMR) provides a strong foundation for Tennessee to become a global player in the rapidly growing medical cannabis research community.

Known for health care innovation, Tennessee could lose out on market share of a medical cannabis industry projected to hit \$20 billion in the next six years, as states with medical cannabis laws have seen deaths from opioid overdoses drop by 25 percent and the number of painkiller prescriptions fall by 23 percent.

More than 55 legislators, including House Speaker Beth Harwell, researchers and advocates attended a presentation and tour on Monday to learn more about the center's world-class research on non-psychoactive cannabinoids, which are derived from hemp, for various purposes including medicinal.

"This is a significant economic development opportunity for all of Tennessee, and the Tennessee Medical Cannabis Trade Association is proud to have initiated this event to showcase these scientific advances," TMCTA Executive Director Glenn Anderson said. "Having a well-developed research facility and professional faculty like this is a tremendous asset to keeping Tennessee's health care industry in the forefront of pioneering medicine. The medical research and applications of cannabis are exploding worldwide because it works. Tennessee should not be left behind."

In addition to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, more than 20 major medical association now support accelerating cannabis research to relieve chronic pain and a long list of hard-to-treat medical conditions. For more on the effort in Tennessee to make medical cannabis an option for those with debilitating health conditions, go to tmmedicalcannabisonly.org.

About TMCTA

The TMCTA is the leading group of business entrepreneurs, researchers and patient advocates supporting the Medical Cannabis Only bill, [HB 1749/SB 1710](#), in the state legislature this year.

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