

**From:** [Ronald J. Leone](#)  
**To:** [Williamson, Annie](#); [O'Neill, Kevin](#); [Rogers, Wes](#); [Minardi, Lisa](#); [Robinson, Melissa](#); [Abrought, Remy](#); [Bunch, Eric](#); [Magana, Araceli](#); [McCoy, Keema](#); [Berry, Rita](#); [Hays, Madison](#); [Foster, Katrina](#); [Lucas, Quinton](#)  
**Cc:** [Cline, LaceShionna](#); [Downing, Story](#); [Foster, Katrina](#); [Santner, John](#); [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Hemp-Derived Products: Please Oppose Proposed Ordinance 251028  
**Date:** Monday, January 5, 2026 10:16:53 AM

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Dear Finance, Governance and Public Safety Committee, and the Kansas City City Council:

**I. MPCA.** My name is Ronald J. Leone, and I am the Executive Director of the Missouri Petroleum & Convenience Association (MPCA), a statewide trade association created in 1937 and located in Jefferson City, which represents many of Missouri's convenience stores, gas stations, truck stops, and petroleum marketers as well as their wholesalers, distributors, suppliers, and vendors.

**II. MPCA Opposes Proposed Ordinance 251028.** MPCA opposes proposed Ordinance 251028 which bans the sale of currently lawful and Federally authorized hemp-derived products in all licensed retail locations except for licensed marijuana dispensaries.

As you know, late in 2025 Congress passed a law that impacts hemp-derived products, and all indications are that Congress will further regulate hemp-derived products in 2026.

MPCA believes that limiting or banning the sale of hemp-derived products should only be done by Congress or by the Missouri Legislature so that all Missouri retailers and adult consumers are playing by the same uniform, consistent, and predictable rules and no Missouri retailer, simply because of their location, is put at a competitive disadvantage with other Missouri retailers not subject to County ordinances.

Please note that a bill similar to Ordinance 251028 which was supported by the Missouri Marijuana Monopoly and opposed by MPCA and many other groups failed to pass in Jefferson City in 2024 and 2025.

**III. Compromise: Regulate Don't Ban.** The vast majority of Missouri retailers who sell currently lawful and Federally authorized hemp-derived products do so responsibly and ethically.

MPCA respectfully requests that you wait for Congress or the Missouri Legislature to act, and in the meantime instead of a ban you offer a substitute ordinance that implements the following common-sense best practices for all retailers who wish to sell these currently lawful and Federally authorized hemp-derived products:

## **“Retailer Best Practices: Hemp-Derived Products.**

**Adults Only.** Always check IDs, and only sell to adult consumers age 21 and older.

**Reputable Producers & Wholesalers.** Only buy and sell quality hemp-derived products from reputable producers and wholesalers who:

Are located in the U.S.;  
Comply fully with industry standardized practices;  
Will guarantee in writing that their products are “Made in America”; and  
Will guarantee in writing that their products comply fully with state and Federal law for testing, safety, potency, packaging, and labeling.

**Storage & Display.** All hemp-derived products except for beverages should be displayed on or behind the counter or in a locked display case.

Hemp-derived beverages should be displayed and if necessary refrigerated separately from other beverages and with appropriate signage to avoid any consumer confusion.”

**IV. Next Steps.** MPCA’s position can be summarized as follows: “Say YES to reasonable regulation, and say NO to bans and the Missouri Marijuana Monopoly!”

Please know that MPCA is ready, willing, and able to meet and work with you and your staff to find a compromise solution that allows your small business constituents and adult consumers to continue to sell, purchase, and enjoy these currently lawful and Federally authorized hemp-derived products.

Please let us know your thoughts and your availability to meet, and thank you.

Ron

**Ronald J. Leone, Esq.**

Executive Director

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