

**SUBJECT:** Authorizing the manufacturing of certain consumable hemp products

**COMMITTEE:** Agriculture & Livestock — committee substitute recommended

**VOTE:** 5 ayes — Cain, Anderson, Kitzman, Rosenthal, Wilson

1 nay — Thimesch

3 absent — Bernal, Goodwin, Cody Harris

**WITNESSES:** For — Christopher Grisolia, Texas Cannabis Collective; Taylor Kirk, Eddie Velez, Texas Hemp Coalition; Jake Garry, Texas Hemp Coalition; Drops of Life CBD (*Registered, but did not testify*: Haley Hunt, Griffin Lott, Ilissa Nolan, Texas Hemp Coalition; Brian Liu; Joseph Ramirez)

Against — Alexander Strenger (*Registered, but did not testify*: John Wilkerson, Texas Municipal Police Association)

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kevin Veal, DSHS)

**BACKGROUND:** Some have suggested that current state law, which allows a person to grow and sell smokable hemp products, should be changed to allow such a person also to manufacture or process those products, which is currently done in other states and the finished products are shipped back to Texas for sale.

**DIGEST:** CSHB 4918 would allow, rather than prohibit, a state agency to authorize a person to manufacture a product containing hemp for smoking.

The bill would repeal the definition of “smoking,” meaning burning or igniting a substance and inhaling the smoke or heating a substance and inhaling the resulting vapor or aerosol, from the Health and Safety Code and add the definition to the Agriculture Code.

The bill would remove from the Health and Human Services Commission executive commissioner’s required rules the prohibition against the

processing or manufacturing of a consumable hemp product for smoking.  
The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.