

Hebert, Michelle

From: Jill Smith <royalriverbotanicals@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 9:36 AM
To: Cmte VLA
Subject: Last minute input LD 1609

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Good morning Esteemed VLA committee, happy Monday!

I missed the hearing and did not submit testimony on this due to family/ personal reasons. And I won't be able to make it up today.

I'm concerned about LD 1609

The metrics by which this standard is achieved seems odd. Seemingly banning physical locations based upon the illicit use of a previous tenant. Other ways of establishing one's connection to organized crime quickly become convoluted. Everyone is connected to organized crime by a few degrees of separation knowingly or not. This includes OCP who by their own admission does take funds directly from some involved by way of authorization fees. It is my understanding that they already have the capability to refuse authorization under some circumstances.

At the end of the day, organized crime is already illegal. It is my opinion that we need to stop attaching the enforcement of non cannabis issues to cannabis legislation. The potential for this to be weaponized against the caregiver community is too high. I totally understand this very well make it to you after the work session but I thought I would give it a try. Thank you for your time, Have a great day!

Sincerely,
Jordan Smith

Sent from my iPhone