

Michael Dougrey
Westbrook
LD 48

My name is Michael and I have owned and operated a medical cannabis business in Maine for almost 6 years.

The issue I would like to provide my personal thoughts and testimony on for LD48 is specifically regarding testing requirements.

- 1) Once testing requirements are fully agreed upon.
- 2) I think an independent, third-party testing facility(s) should be established by the state of Maine.
 - a) An independent lab can help avoid much of the impropriety currently with some of the existing labs (or at the very least appearance of it by a number of stakeholders)
 - b) The cost of testing is a major concern, especially for small businesses, and I believe some of them have/will skirt testing requirements if it's not feasible cost wise.
 - c) This is where I suggest the independent Maine labs can help offset/subsidize the testing costs, or provide a sliding scale depending on the size of the operation.
- 3) Finally, and this is where I try to bring it all together.....is that the data collected by these labs on cannabis is incredibly VALUABLE. It's a cutting-edge industry, that is expanding world-wide, and I believe the University of Mississippi is the only US college currently studying.

At some point (and I know there are many hurdles on the federal level and schools receiving funding, grants, etc.).....when the obstacles are out of the way....the valuable data from these labs should be provided to the UNIVERSITY of MAINE.

- 4) Maine is on the forefront of cannabis on the East Coast. My testimony and suggestion is to figure out a way that subsidized testing of cannabis in Maine, and the collection of data and eventual collaboration) can one day put the University of Maine system as the number one destination to study cannabis. A win-win.

Thank you for your time.

Very Truly Yours,
Michael Dougrey