

Brittney Dalton  
Anson  
LD 94

Good morning, I am writing to you all as a medical cannabis caregiver but most importantly as a parent of a child who utilizes medical cannabis to control tics that he experiences as a result of tourettes. I have several concerns regarding what implications this could have on my child's access to his medicine. My first concern is excluding concentrates and hemp from the definition of medical cannabis. For my child, and a vast majority of children in the pediatric cannabis program, removing these things will severely limit their access to their medicine. I grow my child's medicine, bring it to a state licensed extraction facility and there, it is made into a concentrate which is later emulsified into a carrier oil specially formulated for my specific child per Dr Sulak's recommendation. This emulsified concentrate is then taken by the drop. Administering his cannabis this way ensures that we maintain a consistent dose, increasing his dose by one drop at a time also allows us to dose differently depending on his needs and the severity of his tics. He takes less in the morning and afternoon than he does at night. If you were to try and create this tincture using just plant material that hasn't been processed into a concentrate, the results would not be the same and testing proves that. Using an extraction facility also removes many impurities that sometimes come with the territory of growing outdoors (pine needles, bugs, dirt etc.)

As a caregiver who sells both to patients and wholesale, distinguishing different types of caregivers is unnecessary as we already distinguish what type of business we're conducting when we apply to be a caregiver. Distinguishing types of patients is also unnecessary. I'm not sure why the age of the child matters, when everyone's birth date is clearly already visible on the card. That would be like requiring your driver's license to list your age when your birth date is already visible. It's redundant and just unnecessary.

Requiring a code to distinguish a child's diagnosis is hovering over the line of his HIPPA rights. It is no one's business what their diagnosis is. Reinstating the list of qualifying conditions is a huge step back in the medical cannabis program as well. If a Dr feels their patient would benefit from medical cannabis they should be able to prescribe it. I know personally for my child, tourettes wasn't always on the list of qualifying conditions and then later added. This restricts a child's access to medication under the direct guidance of a Dr. It's an over reach of the program and teeters on the line of non physicians practicing medicine, in my opinion.

I appreciate your time in reading my testimony this morning. I ask that you please carefully consider the implications this could have on Maine's most vulnerable patients in the medical cannabis program.