

Eben Sumner
West Baldwin
LD 410

Thank you Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and the esteemed Veteran and Legal Affairs Committee for the chance to testify against LD 410 today.

My name is Eben Sumner and I am from West Baldwin, Maine. I am here, speaking on behalf of myself, and as the president and legislative chair of the Maine Growers Alliance. I am also a founding member of the Cannabis Council of Maine, shaper participant in Seed2Health, and own and operate two businesses in the cannabis space in Maine.

I absolutely disagree with this bill in its entirety. I feel that this bill, yet again singles out, Cannabis cultivators, program participants, and any Maine citizen exercising their right to grow personal plants on their property. This bill provides a legal pathway for disgruntled persons to prohibit program stakeholders and Maine citizens, their right to cannabis consumption, and to operate businesses.

Additionally, there are no other agricultural or manufacturing laws against the smell of any other industry. Let's consider a paper mill and the odor it emits at an entirely massive scale. We can also consider every spring the spread of manure across all of our agricultural fields in the state. We have all experienced that two weeks of odor, seemingly erupting from every corner of our state. Let's also consider the year-round odor that a pig farm, dairy farm, avian farm also emits. None of these agriculture or manufacturing industries are required to limit odor through statute.

We must also consider how vague and relative "smell" or "odor" is. There is no equipment, in my experience, that can quantify smell or odor in such a way that a decibel meter quantifies noise or sound.

I urge you all to vote ought not to pass for LD 410.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony. I am available to be contacted with any questions.

Best,
Eben Sumner