

May 10, 2022

RE: LD 1714

To: Senate Chair Nicole Grohoski, House Chair Joseph Perry and esteemed members of the Committee on Taxation:

My name is Bruce Campbell, and I am a man in recovery. I serve as Chair of the Maine Substance Use Disorders Services Commission (SUDSC), but I am submitting this as a proud citizen of Maine and a long-term recovery advocate. I am asking you to support ***LD 1714, An Act to Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers Using a Percentage of the Adult Use Cannabis Tax Revenue.***”

Recovery community centers (RCCs) are population-based and provide recovery support to an entire community. Over the past five years, Maine has seen the power of the recovery community and our recovery community centers have swelled to 19 throughout the State. There is a commitment to have at least one RCC in every County in Maine, but there is no discernible funding stream to sustain that commitment.

These peer-run centers provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for people in recovery, and this support becomes self-generating. Maine’s RCCs can generate up to 1,000 volunteer hours per month, a tremendous return on investment, but none of this would happen without the basic support each center needs.

Using revenues generated from adult use cannabis taxes, LD 1714 will provide a **visible resource** by establishing the **Recovery Community Center Fund**. I strongly urge your support to pass LD 1714 for sustainable recovery resources in the State of Maine.

Sincerely submitted,

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