

Eric Postow
Maine Coast Lineup
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Public Comment Against Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §2231, sub-§1-A, ¶D Amendment:

I firmly oppose the recent amendment to the definition of "hemp" that imposes a 0.5 milligram per package limit of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol. This restriction lacks a scientific basis regarding efficacy and consumer safety and is incongruent with broader national standards where hemp products are integrated into commerce, contributing significantly to the economy by creating jobs across various sectors. Maine consumers have unequivocally expressed a preference for low-dose delta-9 hemp products, with an emerging national consensus that "low dose" aligns with a 10 mg cap in most instances. The proposed limit appears to unduly protect Maine's regulated cannabis market, potentially stifling the legal hemp market that has been operating safely under reasonable compliance standards. With federal agencies considering rescheduling cannabis, it is counterproductive to conflate hemp with higher regulated substances. Instead of this restrictive measure, we should enforce a minimum age of 21 for purchase and consumption, allowing the hemp industry to continue flourishing without unjustified overregulation.