



MAINE CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

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Statement in opposition to

L.D. 2147, An Act to Remove the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol

January 24, 2024

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and honorable members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee. My name is Jason Moen. I am the Chief of the Auburn Police Department, and the Acting President of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association. I am submitting testimony on behalf of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association in opposition to LD 2147.

The Mission of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association is to secure a closer official and personal relationship among Maine Police Officials; to secure a unity of action in law enforcement matters; to enhance the standards of police personnel, police training and police professionalism generally; to devise ways and means for equality of law enforcement throughout the state of Maine; to advance the prevention and detection of crime; to prescribe to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics; and to promote the profession of law enforcement as an integral and dedicated force in today's society sworn to the protection of life and property.

This bill as proposed eliminates stamping or embossing requirements on edible products that contain adult use marijuana. These universal symbols identifying marijuana containing products are an important safety measure that can help avoid accidental ingestion. These symbols are designed to help edible marijuana products be easily distinguishable from common foods (i.e. "gummies") that do not contain psychoactive substances. Removing the embossing requirement will increase the risk that an unsuspecting person can ingest a marijuana containing product without the intent to do so.

Additionally, adult use marijuana products are still subject to state law and regulation. Embossing requirements aid law enforcement in properly identifying adult use products that can be illicitly trafficked, especially in school settings involving minors.

On behalf of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association, we thank the Committee for its consideration of our comments on this this proposal, and we respectfully ask members to vote ought not to pass on LD 2147.