

Terri Wentworth
Norway
LD 40

Hello VLA, My name is Terri Wentworth and I would like to support LD 40. I live in Norway, I'm a cultivator and cannabis retailer in the industry and I am in full support LD 40 for the following reasons: Implementing ID checks at the point of sale represents a pragmatic approach to identity verification within the cannabis industry. Aligning with established practices in sectors such as liquor stores and pharmacies, this adjustment streamlines the customer experience while ensuring that the necessary age verification protocols are still upheld. By integrating this method, the industry not only enhances operational efficiency but also maintains adherence to ID check requirements. There is no downside to this change. The proposed restriction on audits, limiting them to a maximum of twice in a six-month period, presents a crucial safeguard against the potential overwhelm that unlimited audits could impose on cannabis businesses. The current absence of such limitations creates an environment where businesses might face an undue burden from constant audits, possibly risking their operation. By prescribing a reasonable cap, the legislation acknowledges the need for oversight while actively protecting businesses from being buried under the weight of incessant regulatory scrutiny. This adjustment not only enhances the practicality of compliance but also supports the sustainable development of the cannabis industry. Seeds and seedlings, recognized as hemp by the DEA and federally legal, should not be subject to unnecessary regulation within the cannabis industry. Aligning Maine law with federal law in this regard is a sensible move that eliminates this unnecessary hurdle. The Office of Cannabis Policy should refrain from exerting jurisdiction over genetics, acknowledging that these elements fall under federal purview. By exempting seeds and seedlings from undue regulation, LD 40 ensures that the cannabis industry operates in harmony with established federal guidelines, fostering a smoother and more logical regulatory landscape that supports the growth and development of the industry. The demand for individual identification cards for employees of cannabis businesses continues to stand out as not only impractical but downright absurd. Unlike the standard practices observed in numerous other industries, this requirement imposes an unnecessary burden on both employers and workers. Such cards fail to offer any tangible benefits in terms of security or operational efficiency, rendering them a redundant feature that contributes more to bureaucratic hurdles than to the effective functioning of cannabis establishments. Removing this needless imposition aligns with the broader goal of establishing a more sensible, industry-friendly, and equitable regulatory framework for the cannabis sector. Please put your support behind LD 40. Thank you for your time. Regards,
Terri Wentworth