

Robert Harper  
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LD 2204

I support LD 2204 “An Act to Combat Racketeering in Scheduled Drugs by Certain Organizations”, and it “ought to pass”.

By what I understand, this bill establishes what constitutes racketeering regarding this situation here in Maine, the criminal implications, and penalties. It also provides criteria for safe electrical upgrades to a residential building, requires a transmission and distribution electric utility to generate a suspicious power use report and transmit that report to the Department of Public Safety, Maine State Police when said upgrades are accomplished.

The bill provides that an alien, except an alien who is a legal permanent resident of the United States, who is a citizen of the People's Republic of China, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; the Republic of Cuba; the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; or the Russian Federation may not purchase or otherwise acquire real estate or any interest in real estate in this State.

We have seen recent news reports about “Triad Weed”, and how it is running rampant through Maine. From The Maine Wire, “According to a leaked Department of Homeland Security memo, Asian Transnational Criminal Organizations (ATCOs) control more than 270 properties throughout Maine, properties that are used to grow and trafficking marijuana illegally.” This situation has to be brought under control, and severe penalties need to be instituted and enforced.

Again, I support LD 2204 “An Act to Combat Racketeering in Scheduled Drugs by Certain Organizations”, and it “ought to pass”.