

Lora Morin  
Turner  
LD 40

Hello. My name is Lora Morin, and I would like to express my support for LD 40, a crucial piece of legislation that holds the potential to fix the cannabis industry in Maine.

One of the key aspects LD 40 tackles is the requirement for cannabis businesses to seek approval from the Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) for seemingly routine tasks like rearranging furniture. This bureaucratic hurdle not only impedes effective merchandising but also places unnecessary strain on businesses. LD 40 proposes a sensible solution, easing restrictions and fostering an environment where cannabis businesses can thrive without excessive red tape. Administrative holds, a power currently held by the OCP, are brought into the spotlight by LD 40. The bill rightfully questions the necessity of allowing regulators to freeze a business's supply chain at their discretion. Such overreach is unprecedented in other industries, and LD 40 proposes a shift towards more reasonable recall mechanisms, bringing our regulations in line with established practices. LD 40 further acknowledges the need for streamlining the licensing process. Requiring businesses to seek OCP's approval for minor changes is not only excessive but detrimental to efficiency. The bill proposes a more streamlined process, allowing businesses to focus on their operations rather than navigating unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. The issue of age verification is also intelligently tackled by LD 40. The bill suggests that checking IDs at the point of sale, as opposed to at the entrance, which is a more practical approach that aligns with how other industries, like liquor stores and pharmacies, operate. This common-sense adjustment ensures that cannabis businesses can adhere to age restrictions without causing inconvenience to patrons. LD 40 is a comprehensive piece of legislation that addresses key issues in the cannabis industry. It is a call for fairness, efficiency, and common sense in our regulations. I urge each member of this committee to support LD 40, recognizing its potential to usher in a new era for Maine's cannabis industry—one that is fair, streamlined, and conducive to growth. Thank you for your time and consideration.