

Jackie Estrella
Bangor
LD 40

Jackie Estrella - Testimony for Public Hearing on LD 40
March 4, 2024

Senator Hickman and members of the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, my name is Jackie Estrella, I live in Bangor, Maine. I have been a medical patient for 9 years and worked in legal cannabis for the last 3.

I am writing in support of LD 40 today. For perspective, in the last three years working in adult use, I hear people thankful for the ability to shop in a store and get their cannabis without having to obtain their medical cards. On the same day, I will have numerous medical patients come in to find cannabis to help their ailments.

I am most pleased by the part of this bill that will allow single parent cannabis users, and disabled persons who have caretakers under the age of 21, will benefit from having access to their cannabis whenever needed. Without having to leave their child in the car or be turned away because they cannot navigate without their caregiver. Not everyone needs a medical card, but this can still be medicinal. Turning them away, plainly put, sucks. This is a welcomed change in the industry.

This bill feels whole to me and the intentions are clear. This bill benefits the entire cannabis industry in Maine. It is important that we continue to work together and these changes will only work towards that end.

Thank you for taking the time to hear the perspectives of the people, including mine, and for taking the time to remove stigma and confusing language from the cannabis space.

Best,
Jackie Estrella