

**Testimony in Opposition to LD 104 – An Act to Protect the Health of Medical Cannabis Patients and Streamline the Mandatory Testing of Cannabis**

Dear Members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee,

My name is Andrew Barbash, and I am a Massachusetts medical marijuana patient who relies on Maine's medical cannabis program monthly to access high-quality medications from trusted caregivers at reasonable prices.

LD 104, while well-intentioned in aiming to protect patient health, would impose mandatory testing requirements that could inadvertently limit access to the very medications patients like myself depend upon. The added costs and logistical challenges of mandatory testing may burden small-scale caregivers, potentially reducing the availability of diverse and affordable cannabis products.

Maine's caregiver model has been a cornerstone in providing personalized, effective care to patients. Introducing stringent testing mandates risks undermining this model, leading to decreased patient access and increased costs.

I respectfully urge you to consider the potential unintended consequences of LD 104 on patient access and caregiver sustainability. Maintaining a balance between safety and accessibility is crucial for the well-being of medical cannabis patients.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
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Andrew Barbash  
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LD 104

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