

Sean Michaud
Auburn and Turner, Maine. Vacationland Cannabis Company
LD 1847

Greetings Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee,

My name is Sean Michaud. I am employed by Vacationland Cannabis Company, a small Medical Caregiver storefront in Turner, Maine. I am a longtime Maine medical caregiver assistant and patient, and I'm reaching out to the committee for the first time, about LD-104 and LD 1847. I think these bills need to be heavily rewritten, as they will impede small batch farmers from providing the top-quality medicine that Maine medical cannabis patients have come to expect, and rely on.

I got my first medical cannabis card in 2013, after being pulled over and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. I wanted to avoid the stigma, and continue to use cannabis for my Crohn's disease that I was diagnosed with in 2012. The ease of access to top quality, effective medical cannabis has improved my quality of life greatly, from increasing my appetite to helping me sleep, not to mention the stress relieving benefits.

I have been a Maine Medical Cannabis Caregiver assistant since 2017, taking a job at one of Maine's first caregiver storefronts to help supplement college monetarily. I fell in love with the profession, because of how many people I help with the knowledge of cannabis I've naturally attained over the years by using it therapeutically for my own medical needs. My ability to help the patients I serve would be negatively affected by both of these bills.

Maine has a special medical cannabis program and community. There is very minimal public health risk from consuming Maine Medical Cannabis, as many growers of this same product voluntarily test their flower, and do not use pesticides. Just like food at a farmers market, cannabis should be treated and sold as a natural plant, not as a substance that totes mandatory test results that may not even reflect the actual product. Testing as it stands now for adult use is not 100% accurate, as recalls directly posted by OCP on already-tested flower have shown. Discretion of the patient on which small batch caregiver they want to purchase from should not be infringed on, in my opinion as it would hurt many Maine Medical cannabis patients ability to access the medicine that truly works for them.

Thank you for listening and for your time,

Sean Michaud
Auburn Maine
Representing Vacationland Cannabis Company, Turner Maine