Jonah Crema Providence, RHd LD 1847

Testimony Opposing LD1847 Submitted by: Jonah Crema

My name is Jonah Crema, and I am a resident of Rhode Island, a registered medical cannabis patient, and a worker in the cannabis industry with experience in both Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

I am writing today to strongly oppose LD1847 and to urge you not to allow the implementation of the METRC track-and-trace system in Maine.

Through my direct experience, I have seen the harm that METRC has caused to the cannabis industry. Rather than supporting transparency and accountability, the system has created significant operational challenges, increased costs for businesses, and added layers of bureaucracy without improving public safety. Moreover, there have been credible reports and concerns regarding corruption and bribery within METRC's operations—particularly related to facilitating product diversion—which undermines the very goals the system claims to uphold.

Maine has an opportunity to learn from the mistakes seen in other states. Implementing METRC would represent a step backward for Maine's cannabis industry, threatening small operators and eroding public trust.

Please consider rejecting LD1847 and choosing a path forward that supports both regulatory integrity and the economic well-being of local cannabis businesses.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely, Jonah Crema