

Boomer Simmons
Sabattus
LD 104

My Name is Boomer Simmons and I am a 26 year old tax paying resident of Sabattus Maine, 04280. I have worked in the medical Cannabis industry for almost 3 years, and have been a patient for 5. I medicate my adult diagnosed ADHD, PTSD, and chronic pain. After finding a medication that finally worked, and being able to self medicate through non pharma means, that most of all I can cultivate in my own yard, and have it be my 9-5 five days a week. Plants, and Science are my passion. Cultivating plants, whether it be for medicine or food, has given me happiness I never thought was possible. Whether it be cultivating plants or myself, I now strive to grow everyday, adapt to changes, and be resilient because of my connection to farming but more specifically cannabis.

In my short time in this field, I have met some great people, and been part of something incredibly special, unique, and most of all new. But it sparked a curiosity to history regarding the formations of industries. I have noticed that you as legislators are not able to see into the future, nor predict it. For example, when Standard Oil monopolized the oil industry we the people, and legislators were unable to deal with it until the people were already taken advantage of. Starting off the vast wealth gap in the United States.

We are at a pivotal point in the growth of the Cannabis industry in the State of Maine. Now is the time to prioritize the people, and listen to the people who work in the industry everyday and truly care about the wealth, and health of our people. Unlike the title of this bill, it does not prioritize patients or the medical community. It's covered with a pretty mask, but once you remove the fear mongering, and demonization of "untested" weed is unsafe. It's a fear tactic to decimate the current program, and to put all small farmers out of business then leaving an opportunity to out of state corporations to take advantage of the market. This will enforce unnecessary testing that has no supporting evidence that it's unsafe and is not even testing for proper microbes. This clearly was made by wealthy people trying to own a market.

Metric has proven to be untrustworthy time and time again. We have a fox in our hen house, it's time to get rid of it completely. No inventory system should be mandatory, it insinuates that people in the industry are criminals and need to be kept an eye on.

If someone is unable to keep track of their inventory properly, they should not be running a business. Fight for farmers, fight for wealth equality, and let the community control their own destiny.

Small farmers are the way forward. Be the change your inner child wished for.

I do not support LD104, HP0069