

Lauren Beatrice

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as the owner of a small, state-licensed medical cannabis business in Maine to express serious concern over the combined impact of LD 1847 and LD 104 on small operators like myself. While I support the goals of public health and regulatory consistency, these bills-without thoughtful adjustments-risk driving out compliant, community-focused businesses that form the backbone of Maine's cannabis economy.

The burden of LD 1847: Overregulation without scale-based flexibility

LD 1847 consolidates oversight under the Office of Cannabis Policy and imposes extensive testing, compliance, and operational requirements on both medical and adult-use cannabis programs. While I understand the intention to streamline regulation and enhance product safety, this one-size-fits-all approach does not account for the limited financial and operational capacity of small cultivators, caregivers, or processors.

The required batch testing-for pesticides, mold, mycotoxins, heavy metals, residual solvents, and more-comes at a significant cost per product line, often exceeding hundreds or even thousands of dollars. These costs may be absorbable by vertically integrated corporations, but they are unsustainable for businesses like mine that operate in small batches with narrow margins. The

consequence will be a shrinking legal market, more consolidation, and fewer local businesses.

LD 104: Undermining the medical cannabis community

LD 104 proposes to phase out the caregiver model and shift the medical cannabis program toward a more commercialized framework that mirrors the adult-use market. This bill would eliminate longstanding flexibility in how medical cannabis is grown, processed, and provided to patients-disrupting long-standing relationships between caregivers and the patients they serve.

As a small caregiver, I provide personalized support to patients who rely on me not just for cannabis, but for education, compassion, and consistency. LD 104 undermines this model, introducing unnecessary bureaucracy and cost burdens that make it harder to continue operating legally, especially in rural or underserved communities.

Combined impact: Equity, access, and patient care are at risk

The cumulative effect of these bills is to prioritize large-scale corporate operators over small, compliant businesses that have served Maine patients for years. This is contrary to the intent of legalization, which promised fairness, opportunity, and patient-first access.

I respectfully urge you to consider the following:

- Implement tiered regulation and testing standards that scale with business size and risk profile.
- Preserve and protect the caregiver model, especially in areas where access to medical care is limited.
- Provide financial or logistical support for small businesses to comply with evolving standards.
- Ensure stakeholder involvement from small businesses before implementing sweeping regulatory

changes.

If the goal is a safe, accessible, and equitable cannabis program, then small businesses must not be regulated out of existence in the process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauren Beatrice

Seed Sound Herbals, LLC

Lauren Beatrice
Windham
LD 1847

My name is Lauren Beatrice, and I own Seed Sound Herbals, LLC, a small, state-licensed medical cannabis business in Windham, Maine. I am writing to express my deep concerns about the combined impacts of LD 1847 and LD 104 on small operators like myself.

These bills, as currently written, create unsustainable financial and regulatory burdens for compliant small businesses and caregivers who have long served Maine's medical cannabis patients with compassion and care.

Attached is a letter outlining my concerns in detail. I respectfully urge you to consider amendments that protect small businesses, preserve patient access, and maintain the integrity of Maine's caregiver system.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Lauren Beatrice
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