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I run a small cultivation facility in the medical space. I have two partners and it's just the 3 of us that run our entire business. I have seen personally time and time again throughout my life how overregulation destroys small businesses and paves the way for big money operations to take over entire industries.

Maine did such a good job legalizing the medical cannabis industry within the state. With low barriers to entry, it allowed small businesses to start and build the industry into what it is today. Personally, that's how I think capitalism is supposed to work - make it easy for small businesses to come in and encourage competition. With the proposed track and trace rules, the costs associated are staggering. I have heard from friends and others throughout the industry in Maine and other states that the track and trace requires at least one if not multiple full time positions in order to be compliant.

Being in the cannabis industry, we already jump through so many hoops because of the stigma behind cannabis. We already need to submit a monthly profit/loss statement to our bank every month. I'm happy to share that with you on a monthly basis as well as a means of tracking. However, we, along with almost all small grows in the state, simply cannot afford a full time position or two in order to comply with the seed to sale tracking. It will destroy us and the medical cannabis industry in Maine.

Maine has led the way for the country on a number of issues recently. Please, keep true capitalism alive in Maine and reject this bill. All it will do is pave the way for big money to take over yet another industry. Maine is supposed to be the way life should be. I think that should apply to the little guys like us as well.

Thanks for your time.