

David Stephenson
Hazy Hill Farm
LD 1820

Hello my name is David Stephenson. My wife and I are the owners of Hazy Hill Farm. We have 3 children that we support with our cannabis businesses. Our mission is to provide the best quality cannabis products we possibly can for our customers and patients. I am also an owner at High Peak Edibles where we make hand crafted edibles for both the AU and the medical market. I am one of the first caregivers in the state dating back to 2010. I own a medical dispensary, an AU store, 2 AU processing licenses, and a AU cultivation license. Between both companies we have 40 employees with about 20 of those supporting families of their own. I am also a proud member of the Maine Craft Cannabis Association.

I support LD 1820. This bill eliminates the unconstitutional requirement by OCP to make operators sign away all of our privacy rights to the government. It also classifies all cannabis (trim, flower, concentrate) as biomass. This biomass is taxed the same at \$94 per lb as opposed to the almost \$300 a lb for AU flower. This original excise tax rate was initiated at the peak of the AU market pricing but should be amended to reflect the current market. This bill eliminates the need for individual identification cards which are completely unnecessary. When I voted for the legalization of Adult Use Cannabis in this state we were trying to legalize and regulate cannabis like alcohol. Our industry is being over regulated and over taxed to death. Our regulations look nothing like that of the alcohol's industry of today.