

David Stephenson  
Hazy Hill Farm  
LD 1897

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 1897. With rising energy costs and environmental concerns, I believe that sun grown cannabis is the future of our industry . Sun grown cultivators have a shorter window of time they can grow and therefore a larger canopy or plant count is justified. The state should support sun grown cannabis and this bill.

The bill also eliminates mandatory AU microbial testing. The testing requirements for AU are extremely expensive especially for small batch growers running multiple strains. Microbial testing is unnecessary and inaccurate. Harmless or beneficial microbes can cause a failure. Also, no one to my knowledge has ever gotten sick from smoking cannabis that was moldy. Obviously cultivators don't want their customers to buy moldy flower. The responsibility falls on the cultivator to make sure they are undergoing proper environmental and quality control measures to prevent this.