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LD 1897

LD 1897: Ought to Pass

LD 1897 enables outdoor growers to better compete with indoor growers. Outdoor growers produce only 30% of the yield of indoor growers but face the same licensing requirements. Increasing plant counts for outdoor grower licenses would greatly benefit the industry as a whole. The bill also clarifies outdoor grow classifications, correcting the misclassification of some as indoor grows.

A 30-day grace period for Registered Identification Cards for new hires would greatly benefit the industry. Companies struggle to find workers, and workers often wait a month or more for a card before earning income to support their families.

The bill improves fencing requirements to be more common-sense and practical. It also removes the collective prohibition, allowing growers to collaborate rather than work under a single owner, benefiting the industry as a whole.

LD 1897 provides clearer compliance rules for farm visitors. For example, I could show my parents my garden without violating regulations. Farm tours could generate new revenue for farms. The bill also expands opportunities for consultations, enhancing operational flexibility.

Total yeast and mold counts do not accurately indicate product safety. These tests include beneficial microbes, not just harmful ones, skewing safety assessments.