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LD 1847

LD 1847: Ought Not to Pass

Capping potency for medical patients harms their treatment options. I know a patient with severe chronic pain from injuries who requires 1,000–1,500 mg daily to manage symptoms. Others use 300 mg daily to avoid opioid dependency. Potency caps restrict access for patients with high tolerance, forcing them to seek unsafe alternatives.

Mandatory testing at \$505 per strain will cripple small caregivers. Wholesale cannabis prices have dropped to \$1,000–\$1,500 per pound, making these costs unsustainable. Small caregivers, already struggling, cannot absorb these expenses, as noted by industry advocates.

Audit testing will not fully align with mandatory sample testing because cannabinoids like THC degrade into CBN daily. While audit testing could be useful, LD 1847's approach is impractical and costly.

I oppose additional packaging and sticker requirements that exacerbate pollution in our beautiful Vacationland, contradicting Maine's sustainability goals.

The Office of Cannabis Policy has stated it cannot manage an online testing and tracking portal.

Medical research funding should not be covertly included in this regulatory bill; it should be funded by universities or approved by public vote. Past funding for cannabis study groups has produced no legislative change, and taxpayer-funded efforts have failed to establish cannabis consumption lounges despite over nine years since legalization.

Transaction and dose limits restrict consumers' personal autonomy. Individuals have unique tolerances, as seen with alcohol, tobacco, or medicine, and should determine their own limits. Individuals have unique tolerances, as seen with alcohol, tobacco, or medicine, and should determine their own consumption limits.

As a youth, I wish I had been shown cannabis for my mental health instead of pharmaceuticals, which caused severe side effects. It's a shame that the same pediatric doctors who prescribed me harmful, life-altering medications are advocating against medical cannabis for pediatric patients who could benefit. There is insufficient data-driven research to justify LD 1847's regulations based on "public safety."

Maine is the only state to resist over-regulatory testing requirements and should remain the gold standard by proving our cannabis is safe without mandatory testing. Maine has no increase in deaths or hospital visits compared to states with mandatory testing.