

Adam Pitt  
Appleton  
LD 104

I am writing you urgently as an opponent of LD 104, believing, truly, that the framework of this bill constitutes the beginning of the end for a vast number of small or heritage cannabis farms that have all but singlehandedly crafted the modern day cannabis ecosystem, not only here in Maine, but lending reputation throughout the world. Maine is unique in many attributes, it's relatively few populus creating much business here in-state which attracts visitors from the country and world about. Our history with cannabis extends back in history longer than any State, and thus so, our caregivers relationship with the plant and it's processes have been conceptualized effectively and matured to create what is by many considered to be The pristine example of what craft can be. This ethos exists amongst many other industries here in Maine, also regarded as some of the best throughout the world, and yet, the processes in industries such as conventional agriculture, food production, and even the medicine or pharmaceutical industries fall substantially short of the level of extreme scrutiny that is presented unto, and oftentimes, the risk of real injury, or even simply financial haphazardness, is substantially greater. In the cannabis industry here, there already exists methodology for inventory and product management and control, and many farmers have put everything they had into adopting best practices to accommodate the current process.

As a patient and a Mainer, I advocate for free market, letting patients decide whether they would like product tested, or not. Perhaps that pedigree comes with a premium, or perhaps patients and Mainers would like to allocate that premium value somewhere else, but truly, this is an issue for the consumer to decide, not to be herded into the product of of an ideology that is already under scrutiny. Please do not confuse a standard of safety with arbitrary beaurocracy, the true caregivers of Maine have a longstanding tradition of commitment to wellbeing, and would never think of processing inferior contaminated product or use harmful products such as Eagle-20. It is that very ethos that makes small craft production costs higher and margins lower, so much that the financial burden of testing a full rotating menu would be a fatal blow to many operators business structure. I believe if legislative constituents want to advocate for mandatory testing, that the State find a way to do so without trasferring the burden onto the caregiver or patient, effectively funding its own health and safety provisions. Also, keep in mind that all other industries offer options so that there is not a monopoly or conflict of interest, as well as having programs and incentives for constructive mitigation and management, and I would argue that to be a critical component in any model economy. I strongly advocate for LD 104 ought not to pass, and the current model to remain in effect and implementation, there are just too many red flags when the current tracking/testing systems are already working for the vast majority. Lastly, I would argue that this bill works potentially to remove the Rights of constituents of this State to manage their affairs privately. Respectfully, I urge you to consider the implementation of this bill to be a dire mistake, and that it could potentially deliver a substantial negative impact to the craft industry as we know it, forever changing the decades old legacy cannabis landscape this state is known and loved for for the world about. Thank you.