

Michael, Director of Cultivation at an Adult Use Cannabis Company in Maine

LD1567 - opposed

My name is Mike, and I am the Director of Cultivation for a licensed adult-use cannabis company in Maine. I'm writing to express my firm opposition to LD 1567.

No other state in the country requires cannabis products treated with X-ray or ozone to carry a special label. Adopting this rule in Maine—without any science showing a risk—would unfairly single out the safest, most regulated products on the market.

Supporters of this bill have said X-ray doesn't kill mycotoxins. This is true. However, the State of Maine currently does not require mycotoxin as a required testing panel on the first round of cannabis testing. I've also heard people say that treating cannabis with X-ray can increase or release mycotoxins—this is **not** true. Mycotoxin testing is only required after a batch has failed microbial testing, post remediation. According to OCP's website, since the inception of the AU program, there have been more than 400 batches of failed cannabis flower requiring a retest; of those 400 retests, zero times have mycotoxins been found. Data clearly shows that remediated flour does not have mycotoxins.

The idea that this bill promotes transparency just doesn't hold up. If a business wants to advertise that their product wasn't remediated, they can already do that. But forcing a warning label on clean, compliant products sends the wrong message and fuels public misunderstanding. People using this equipment aren't shady or dirty operators. They've vetted the equipment before making this purchase. The company I work for would have never invested in this technology if it wasn't safe or if it changed the quality of the cannabis. X-ray doesn't use heat; it doesn't change terpenes, the cannabinoid profile, or the moisture content. We have the testing data to prove this.

Let's be real—microbial issues are a reality for every indoor grower. Remediation tools like X-rays aren't shortcuts; they're responsible solutions that help products meet Maine's strict standards and avoid recalls. These technologies are about protecting customers and supporting licensed operators—not hiding anything.

Most supporters of this bill consist of medical operators who do not participate in the AU program. These proponents, including the bill sponsor, typically stand for deregulation of cannabis rules for both AU and medical cannabis programs - except on this particular issue. Their support of this labeling requirement, by extension, is support for mandatory testing. Something they are adamantly opposed to.

Additional regulations on the most regulated cannabis program in Maine are not fair.

This bill won't help consumers. It will only create confusion.

Please vote no on LD 1567.

Thank you.