Adam Blais Out of state LD 1320

Written Testimony Opposing LD 1320 **Submitted by Adam**

I am writing in strong opposition to LD 1320, which would prevent individuals with a "disqualifying drug offense," including cannabis charges, from obtaining a license for three years.

Cannabis is now legal in Maine. Penalizing people for past cannabis offenses—especially those from communities most harmed by prohibition—goes against the spirit of legalization. These are not violent criminals. They are people who have already faced punishment and now want a fair chance to participate in the legal market.

This bill goes to show how corporate cannabis continues to reach for more control—lobbying to keep out the very people who were punished under prohibition while they seek maximum profits from what was once a crime. LD 1320 creates more barriers for small, local, and legacy operators while opening the door wider for large corporations that never faced the risk, trauma, or criminal records that so many others did.

Maine, as a state, has already acknowledged that these past laws were unjust. But LD 1320 continues that injustice by keeping those individuals locked out. It punishes them again—this time economically—while allowing corporations to profit off what was always meant to be a natural, holistic medicine rooted in healing and community care.

If Maine truly believes in fairness, opportunity, and restorative justice, this bill must be rejected or amended to remove cannabis-related disqualifications.

Sincerely, **Adam**