

David Nishizaki
Vassalboro
LD 1920

To the members of the Committee On Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony in support of LD1920, An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Potentially Intoxicating Hemp Products to a Person Under 21 Years of Age.

I am co-owner of one of Maine's first CBD hemp growing and processing companies. Since 2018, our small operation has produced organic, full spectrum CBD hemp medicinals. The passage of the Farm Bill permitted production of CBD hemp provided it tested beneath a 0.3% THC content limit. As relates, one of the more notable and repeated pieces of positive feedback we receive from our new customers is the degree of benefit achieved from using full spectrum (whole plant derived) hemp products over isolate-derived products (those lab separated from constituent and complementary compounds, like THC). I am heartened that this bill clearly differentiates that hemp derived products containing below 0.3% THC are not inherently potentially intoxicating.

Our clientele is broad, but is predominantly comprised of those suffering from chronic pain and inflammation, autoimmune disorders, seniors, parents of autistic and epileptic children, and those undergoing cancer treatment. Our ability to product high quality, whole-plant, full spectrum products is critical to accountability to our customers who rely on our tinctures and topicals as a reliable and potent, non-intoxicating, non-psychoactive right of way to accessible management of symptoms ranging from neuropathy, to anxiety, to pain, to insomnia, and beyond.

We see this bill as an effective way the state can ensure products made with modified potentially intoxicating compounds are clearly differentiated from the full spectrum CBD hemp, and by extension recognize and protect critical access to therapeutic benefits of it for its users.

Myself, organic hemp producers, and our patrons within Maine and beyond thank you for a vote in support of LD1920's passage.

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