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Testimony of Representative Morgan Rielly in support of

## LD 1529, "An Act to Reform the State's Adult Use Cannabis Seed-to-sale Tracking System to Allow for Canopy Tagging"

## Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Good morning Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. I am Morgan Rielly, and I represent House District 127, which includes part of Westbrook. I am here today in support of LD 1529, "An Act to Reform the State's Adult Use Cannabis Seed-to-sale Tracking System to Allow for Canopy Tagging."

I decided to cosponsor this legislation for many reasons. Perhaps the most important is the effort to create a more efficient way to track from seed to sale by allowing for canopy tagging. This not only is more efficient for our cannabis growers, but it also ensures that they are compliant with state laws and protects our consumers.

LD 1529 also touches upon Metrc. After reviewing OCP's recent report on Metrc and talking with industry members, along with observing Metrc firsthand, it became obvious to me that the state needs to part ways with the company. As a progressive, it does not make sense to me that a private company should be acting as a quasi-regulatory agency, nor why the state of Maine should hand over tracking, a key part of regulating the cannabis industry, to a private third party. I'm sure my colleagues of different ideological backgrounds can come to the same conclusion as I have that Metrc is not for Maine. Whether through this bill or another piece of legislation, moving away from Metrc will allow for the legislature to have oversight of tracking and hold regulators responsible. And it will continue to allow us to hold those who opt to sell on the black market accountable.

I urge my colleagues to vote ought to pass on LD 1529 and thank Chair Supica for bringing this piece of legislation forward.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.