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Testimony of Rep. David Boyer
LD 1952, An Act to Allow On-site Cannabis Consumption
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, I am State Representative David Boyer, and I am proud to present LD 1952, "An Act to Allow On-site Cannabis Consumption." Nearly eight years ago, voters approved the authorization of cannabis hospitality establishments, otherwise known as social clubs, with the passage of Question 1. This committee helped restore the will of the voters regarding home cultivation and I hope we can do the same with this issue.

LD 1952 would create an additional cannabis license, which would allow adults to purchase and consume cannabis on premises. It would provide a controlled and regulated environment for adults, similar to a brewpub that allows you to try different beers and take some home.
By allowing these establishments, individuals who choose to use cannabis can do so responsibly in a designated setting. This would help ensure public safety and reduce the likelihood of public cannabis consumption in inappropriate places.

With tourism driving a large sector of the adult-use market, it's important to give these folks a legal location to consume. Additionally, many Mainers may not be able to consume at home because of public housing laws or landlords that prohibit it.

In 2016, this was uncharted territory, but today, at least 14 states have already allowed for cannabis hospitality establishments including Massachusetts, New York and Maryland. I believe that we can protect public health and safety while still allowing adults to be adults.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

David Boyer
State Representative

District 87   Mechanic Falls and Poland (part)