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Testimony of Rep. Sally Cluchey in support of
LD 2147, An Act to Remove the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed
on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Good morning Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and esteemed members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee. My name is Sally Cluchey and I proudly represent the communities of Bowdoinham, Bowdoin and Richmond.

I am here today in support of Rep Boyer's bill LD 2147, An Act to Remove the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol. I believe this bill is incredibly important and has severe financial implications for many small businesses in Maine.

The current law requires each individual gummy produced for recreational use be stamped with a symbol that says "Contains THC." This is not a requirement within Maine's medical program nor is it a requirement in most other states. Medical manufacturers wishing to also participate in the state's adult use program have had to order new molds to accommodate this law. As you can see in the image previously submitted to the committee, it is difficult to read the symbol on the finished product and as a result, the Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) is struggling to figure out how to apply and enforce this aspect of the law fairly across manufacturers. In the photo, some of these products are allowed to be sold while others are not. If I had to guess, none of you would be able to determine which gummies are allowed to be sold, and which ones are not because the labeling isn't clear enough on any of them.

This aspect of the law is flawed and is having a direct and serious financial impact on many small cannabis businesses in our state. A constituent in my district has manufactured \$50,000 worth of inventory and is being told he cannot sell it because the symbol isn't clear enough.

In advance of your work session, you might consider asking the question—does the additional symbol on each gummy reduce hospital admissions related to unintended consumption. I support package labeling that makes it very clear that a product contains THC, that it's harmful for certain audiences and that it shouldn't be used while driving. I do not support imposing regulations that create enforcement challenges and inequity without knowing that there is solid and compelling evidence supporting the need for that requirement. I have met with OCP and asked this question and wasn't compelled by their response.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts with you today and I wish you the best of luck with your work session