

Hello,

Honorable Members of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

My name is Alicia Collins. I am a citizen, registered voter, a selectman in the town of Sidney, and a member of Maine's largest conservative PAC – The Dinner Table.

I am speaking today in favor of LD 2204, An Act to Combat Racketeering in Scheduled Drugs by Certain Organizations.

As a member of the selectboard in Sidney, residents have asked me, "Why isn't something being done about the illegal marijuana grow in town."

All I can tell them is, "A warrant is being written."

And, as of today, to the best of my knowledge - no warrant has been served on this property.

A quick google search will reveal it take about 4-8 months to grow a cannabis plant. This ranch style house and detached garage produce its crop in 90 days; plant, fertilize, grow, harvest and ship.

The residents of this suburban neighborhood smell the odor of weed and watch as every 90 days the twenty-four-foot truck arrives to haul the crop to who knows where.

This property is known to use an excessive amount of power. A suspicious power use report, as written in this bill's language, would at least give authorities probable cause to investigate and shut down an illegal operation. It would also give authorities the ability to stop new grows from popping up by requiring a permit to upgrade and/or install a four hundred amps service to a residential building.

Please, if you care about the people of Maine and the constituents in your districts - support this bill.

Thank you for your time,

Alicia Collins,

Citizen and registered voter

PS – At the end of January, I was informed a second growing operation has been identified in town. And, again, I've been told, "A warrant is being written."