



Maine Cannabis Union
698 Lisbon Street
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Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Moonen and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Virginia Olsen I work for District 4 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and I am assigned to the Maine Cannabis Union, who I am here on behalf today.

We are requesting LD 2215 Ought not to pass. We ask this body to consider the well thought out work the industry stakeholders, the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee and Subcommittee, including the Office of Cannabis Policy have put forth from biweekly meetings held from October 2023 to January 2024. The re codification process has been a lengthy one, no one more than industry stakeholders want to see improvements between the industry and the Office of Cannabis Policy. We were completely surprised after five collaborative meetings that the Office of Cannabis Policy would be addressing Sub chapter 2425 to be an emergency measure that must be addressed in the 131st Legislature. Everyone agreed changes did need to happen, but to the extend the Office of Cannabis Policy has changed the protection given to not only patient confidentiality, but also Maine families and citizens that operate small home-based businesses in communities where they now exist. We would be creating public lists of where legal small businesses are cultivating and storing crops. This information is readily available to the Office of Cannabis Policy and its enforcement. Creating these lists would only endanger those who put their all into bringing a legal product to market. Those in the industry are primarily small craft businesses, they as well as their families and employees are Maine citizens who merit protection under Maine Law. District 4 of the IAMAW and the Maine Cannabis Union asks this body to vote Ought not to pass on LD 2215. We do consider these issues important and wish to work on them next session.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this committee.

Respectfully,

Virginia Olsen

District 4

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers