

Good Day Ladies and Gentlemen of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee.

My name is Amy McFarland.

I run Independence Farm, a medical cannabis farm, with my husband.

Today I am testifying in favor of LD# 584, "An Act to Make the Director of the Office of Cannabis Policy an Appointed Position Subject to Confirmation by Legislature".

Many of us in the "Cottage Cannabis Industry" believe this bill will enhance oversight and accountability within the Office of Cannabis Policy.

By having the governor appoint the Director, the executive branch takes direct responsibility for selecting a qualified individual.

Requesting review by the Joint Standing Committee will help ensure the appointee is chosen on merit, and not favoritism or back room deals.

This bill promotes transparency, which many of us are looking for within the overall government.

Now as for the 60 day deadline, a department can not go without a leader for too long.

A prompt appointment will keep the program on track.

This in turn will cause less chaos for those of us within the Cannabis Industry.

With that said, I ask you to vote yes on LD#584.