

Hebert, Michelle

From: Hannah Woolfolk <hannah@jarcannabis.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 3:53 PM
To: hannah@jarcannabis.com
Subject: Call for Support for LD 1620

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Dear Members of the VLA Committee,

Hello,

My name is Hannah Woolfolk and I am the Retail General Manager at JAR Cannabis. I am writing in strong support of LD 1620, which represents a thoughtful and necessary update to Maine's cannabis testing regulations.

As someone who works closely with organic and outdoor cannabis cultivation, I know firsthand the challenges that these growers face under the current testing system. Outdoor environments and organic practices naturally foster higher microbial presence—including beneficial microbes intentionally introduced to promote plant health and suppress pathogens. Unfortunately, under current regulations, even healthy microbes can trigger test failures, despite posing no threat to consumers.

LD 1620 acknowledges this reality by:

- Establishing a reasonable microbial threshold of 100,000 CFU/g, which aligns with standards used in other regulated markets.
- Limiting required testing to pathogens that are actually harmful, such as *E. coli* and *salmonella*.
- Encouraging responsible compliance through an audit-based system for consistently clean operators.

These reforms are especially meaningful for organic farmers and outdoor cultivators, who are deeply committed to clean, sustainable practices but are often penalized by outdated microbial rules that don't reflect biological nuance.

LD 1620 offers a more balanced approach to testing—one that protects public health without punishing growers for doing the right thing. I urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

Best,

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Dr. Hannah Woolfolk
Retail General Manager
JAR Cannabis Co.
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