

Hebert, Michelle

From: Stephanie Roy <steph@jarcannabis.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:29 PM
To: Stephanie Roy
Subject: Support for LD1620

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Dear Members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee,
I am writing to express support for LD 1620, which introduces much-needed updates to Maine's cannabis testing regulations.

This bill takes a science-based approach to microbial testing by establishing a clear, reasonable yeast and mold threshold of 100,000 CFU/g and focusing additional testing only on microbes known to be harmful to human health, such as *E. coli* and *salmonella*.

These changes recognize an important fact: not all microbes are dangerous. Many growers use beneficial microbes—such as *Bacillus* and *Trichoderma*—to promote healthy plants and naturally combat harmful pathogens. Under current rules, these helpful microbes can lead to failed tests, even though they pose no health risk to consumers.

To improve this system further, Maine should consider adopting speciated microbial testing, which would differentiate between harmful and beneficial organisms. This would protect public health without penalizing organic and sustainable cultivation practices.

LD 1620 is a strong step toward a more rational and effective regulatory framework. I urge the Committee to support it.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Roy