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Testimony of Representative Michele Meyer in support of
**LD 1847, An Act to Institute Testing and Tracking of Medical Use Cannabis
and Cannabis Products Similar to Adult Use Cannabis and Cannabis
Products, Dedicate a Portion of the Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax
to Medical Use Cannabis Programs and Create a Study Group**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs: I am Representative Michele Meyer, and I am proud to represent House District 2, serving all of Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery. I am serving my fourth term in the Maine House and my third term as House chair of the Health and Human Services Committee.

When it comes to my grandsons, Henry and Connor, all that matters to me is that they have a fighting chance at a happy, healthy, productive future. If you have children or grandchildren, I know you feel the same way. We all want our kids and grandkids to thrive and have a fair shot at prosperity. Their future health and happiness are worth fighting for. This common value, shared among parents and grandparents everywhere, is what inspired me to become a registered nurse 30 years ago, and it's what inspires me today, serving in the Maine Legislature.

As a nurse and a grandmother of two young children, I have been alarmed by the accidental cannabis ingestion data shared by the Child Death and Serious Injury Review Panel with the Health and Human Services Committee. Indeed, over the past year, we have heard reports of increasing accidental cannabis ingestion among children in Maine. As a registered nurse, I know how important it is to make sure that drugs are labeled and childproofed, including with child-resistant lids and blister packaging. I also know how important it is to make sure we get the dosage right and that the drugs are free from contamination. These provisions are especially true for drugs sold in kid-friendly forms - like gummy bears.

It's for these reasons that I support LD 1847. The labeling and testing provisions in this bill will improve safety, and the study group will help inform our efforts to prevent youth cannabis use (with funding from cannabis tax revenue - aligning the purpose of a tax with its usage). I encourage you to support this common-sense legislation. We must act now to support the health of our kids.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Meyer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

Rep. Michele Meyer
House District 2: Eliot, Parts of Kittery and South Berwick
Health and Human Services Committee Chair