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Supporting

LD 1897

May 5, 2025

**Testimony of the Board of the Medical Marijuana Caregivers of Maine
In Support of LD 1897 – An Act Regarding Sun-grown Cultivation in the Medical Use and
Adult Use Cannabis Industries**

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee,

The Board of the Medical Marijuana Caregivers of Maine (MMCM) is writing in strong support of LD 1897.

This bill addresses several critical issues that affect the survival of small, sustainable cannabis farms and the patients they serve. By supporting sun-grown cultivation and allowing for a more practical approach to plant count and canopy limits, LD 1897 creates space for traditional, environmentally responsible growing methods that are at the core of Maine's caregiver community.

We also strongly support the provision that allows the ability of caregivers to share space and resources through collectives. Caregiver collectives would allow small operators to collaborate, reduce overhead costs, and remain compliant—especially in rural areas where access to infrastructure and capital is limited. Supporting this model is essential to keeping the medical program accessible and patient-based.

Additionally, we support the removal of mandatory microbial testing, which places an undue financial burden on caregivers without clear evidence of improved patient safety. Many caregivers already grow clean, high-quality flower using organic methods. This provision respects their expertise while reducing unnecessary costs that ultimately fall on patients.

LD 1897 reflects the realities and values of Maine's caregiver system. It supports patient access, small business viability, and sustainable farming. We urge you to vote in favor of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Chair - Tammy Smith

Vice Chair - Kristi Shaw

And The Executive Board and Membership of MMCM