



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Testimony of Rep. David Boyer introducing
LD 1365, An Act to Allow Consumption of Adult Use Cannabis in
Locally Approved Hospitality Lounges**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
May 8, 2025

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and esteemed colleagues of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is David Boyer, and I am proud to introduce LD 1365, An Act to Allow Consumption of Adult Use Cannabis in Locally Approved Hospitality Lounges.

In 2016, Maine voters passed Question 1, which legalized cannabis for adults. Included in the citizen's initiative was the authorization of social clubs, a place for adults to consume cannabis legally. Unfortunately, this provision was removed as part of the sausage-making that was the Marijuana Legalization Implementation Committee.

Nearly ten years later, Mainers and adult tourists still do not have a legal place to consume cannabis like they do for alcohol. Given that cannabis is objectively safer, it does not make sense to encourage drinking while forcing cannabis consumers to consume in public.

This bill would address this by allowing for municipally approved cannabis hospitality lounges. My sponsor's amendment reflects a thoughtful approach to regulating social use. It incorporates the recommendations of the Cannabis Hospitality Task Force that the Office of Cannabis Policy convened at the direction of the last legislature.

It is long past due that we restore the will of the Maine voters who passed legalization almost a decade ago. I appreciate the committee's time and consideration on this issue. Thank you.