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May 15, 2025

Testimony
In Support of

LD 1920 – An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Potentially Intoxicating Hemp Products to a Person Under 21 Years of Age

Good Afternoon, Senator Talbot-Ross, Representative Pluecker and distinguished members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. I am Representative Tiffany Strout from Harrington, representing the towns of Milbridge, Harrington, Columbia, Columbia Falls, Centerville, Addison, Jonesport, Beals, Jonesboro, Roque Bluffs, Whitneyville and Machias in beautiful Washington County and I am here today to present my bill LD 1920 – **An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Potentially Intoxicating Hemp Products to a Person Under 21 Years of Age.**

I am presenting this bill at the request of one of my constituents. Over the past few months, I have learned a lot about hemp and more importantly, I have learned that I have a lot more to learn.

Within many discussions of product and how the industry has grown, it was brought up that there are now hemp products available on the market that could be intoxicating. These products are currently being sold in convenient stores across the state, and it is anticipated that the products will become more available in the future. In these discussions, it was mentioned these products do not currently have any restrictions related to the age at which people can purchase them.

As I mentioned already, I have a lot to learn about the hemp industry, but as a mom, there is no doubt there needs to be proper labeling of these potentially intoxicating hemp products, and this should be done while the market is in the early stages of production and development.

Taking a proactive approach will help educate the public about the products while helping to keep kids safe. This also helps the industry advance in a positive way while avoiding playing catch up if someone unintentionally consumes an intoxicating hemp product and has a bad reaction.

Making the distinction from medical hemp products from the potentially intoxicating products allows for medical hemp to continue to provide life changing care for patients. It allows hemp farming to remain as an agricultural industry with products that are changing the environment with farms that can continue to expand and hire employees.

This bill, based on the distinction of what could be intoxicating, would make it so there would be proper labeling on the potentially intoxicating products. Those who are already marking their products for 21 or older would have no changes to how they put their products on the market. Anyone not identifying their potentially intoxicating products as designated for 21 years or older, would need to update their packaging and labeling to show they are intended for people 21 years of age or older.

Again, my intent with this bill is to allow the hemp agriculture industry to continue to grow, entrepreneurs to create new markets and children to be as educated and as safe as possible.

Thank you for your time today and I would be glad to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tiffany Strout".

Tiffany Strout
State Representative

District 11 Addison, Beals, Columbia, Columbia Falls, Harrington, Jonesboro, Jonesport, Machias, Milbridge, Roque Bluffs, Whitneyville, Centerville Township, and North Washington (Part)