



Maine Sheriffs' Association

"One Team, One Mission"

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Sheriff Scott Nichols, President

Sheriff Troy Morton, 1st Vice-President, Sheriff Scott Kane, 2nd Vice-President – Sheriff Barry Curtis, Secretary – Sheriff Todd Brackett, Treasurer – Sheriff Dale P. Lancaster, Immediate Past President – Sheriff Kevin Joyce, Past President-at-Large - Mary-Anne LaMarre, Executive Director

January 12,2026

**TESTIMONY OF
SHERIFF KEN MASON
MAINE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION**

LD 1916
= 1917
= 1918
= 1919

In opposition to

LD 1916 – An Act to Automatically Seal Criminal History Record Information for Class D and Class E Crimes Relating to Marijuana Possession and Cultivation

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. My name is Sheriff Ken Mason, and I have had the privilege to protect and serve Maine citizens since 1987. I am Chairman of the Maine Sheriffs Association's Legislative Policy Committee, and I am here today on behalf of the Maine Sheriffs' Association.

Maine sheriffs convened last week to discuss LD. 1916 – An Act to Automatically Seal Criminal History Record Information for Class D and Class E Crimes Relating to Marijuana Possession and Cultivation. The LPC members in attendance voted unanimously to oppose this bill.

Possessing to much cannabis (more than 2.5oz) or cultivating cannabis without proper licensing or permits in Maine is currently illegal. These violations have not gone away. Look at the number of illegal grow houses here in Maine. Every County has them. We Maine Sheriffs have been actively combating this.

Lots of little things add up to big things. If an individual has been charged in the past and they are currently abiding by Maine law, they do not have anything to worry about. Not to mention, cannabis possession and cultivation is still a violation of federal law.

Many states have been moving toward the legalization of cannabis and cannabis products, but the public health implications of these policy changes have not been fully evaluated.¹

I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time.

¹ <https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2025/01/new-roadmap-cannabis-cannabis-policy-research>