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Testimony of Rep. Kristen Cloutier in support of
LD 1996, An Act to Regulate Synthetic Hemp-derived Cannabinoids
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Pluecker and members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee: My name is Kristen Cloutier, and I represent House District 94, which includes part of my hometown of Lewiston. I am pleased to cosponsor **LD 1996, An Act to Regulate Synthetic Hemp-derived Cannabinoids**.

The goal of LD 1996 is to protect kids from purchasing unregulated hemp-derived THC products that are intoxicating and potentially harmful. Currently, these unregulated products that are being sold in Maine are not subject to oversight similar to our state's adult use or medical cannabis laws, which protects against harmful THC levels.

As the parent of a teenager, I understand how enticing some of these products may be, and it is worrisome that they are accessible despite us not having much information about them.

We need to ensure that these products are tested and safe for consumption. Until we have that information, these unregulated hemp products should not be available to Mainers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.