

David Lee  
Wild Folk Farm  
LD 1996

Testimony for LD1996 (Hemp) 01-31-2024

Good morning members of the Agriculture Committee.

My name is David and I represent one of Maine's original cottage CBD companies, both growing and producing exclusively organic, full spectrum medicinal tinctures and topical salves. Since 2018 the role of hemp has been embattled. The compound CBD, the hemp plant, and those working in this field are so repeatedly and rampantly misunderstood and mischaracterized within the state and across the country. I can't tell you how exhausting it is to repeatedly find that CBD is again under a legislative microscope

My wife and I run a modest CBD business. We don't rake in epic profits, we aren't hell-bent on expansion or growth- we operate with the intent of maintaining affordable access to a non-pharmaceutical alternative for treatment of chronic pain, anxiety, insomnia, seizures and beyond. Many of our customers are completely unwilling to utilize medicinal THC and have no interest in accessing a medical card because they want the explicitly non-psychotropic therapeutic effect connoted by CBD.

I encourage you to visit our website and view the testimonials of users who have been able to obtain relief from chronic pain, halt their use of dangerous medications like Oxycontin, mitigate the symptoms of their child's autism, and achieve a good night's sleep while battling with anxiety or insomnia. (<https://wildfolkfarm.com/testimonials>)

Were LD1996 to be adopted our business would likely close. Thousands of our customers would find themselves needing to seek a replacement for full spectrum CBD; which is more effective than a non-full spectrum, isolate product. I encourage committee members to vote ought not to pass (in both original and amended form) in order to preserve the unique and game-changing nature of CBD as a foil to the pharmaceutical industrial complex. Legislation proposals emanating from the Office of Cannabis Policy throw a political bend into this regulation, and I do not have the confidence that the legislature fully comprehends the elephantitis of the regulation being applied to CB - full spectrum CBD containing below 0.3% THC is not a major issue besieging the youth. No youth will go out of their way to attempt to get 'high' utilizing CBD, it's a ridiculous assertion that forms one of the underpinning bases for LD1996; again, please vote ought not to pass.

Thank you,

David Lee  
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