



Maine Municipal  
Association

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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Opposition to  
LD 421, An Act To Increase the Number of Plants a Medical Marijuana Caregiver May Cultivate

March 1, 2021

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Senator Luchini, Representative Caiazzo and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Kate Dufour and I am providing testimony in opposition to LD 421 on behalf of MMA's Legislative Policy Committee.

Because municipal authority to regulate caregiver operations is limited in scope, local officials are concerned that increasing the number of plants caregivers can cultivate will lead to the implementation of large scale operations over the objections, needs, public safety interests and desires of the community.

For example, absent congruent regulatory authority, expanded cultivation activities could take place in a rental unit that is not suitably designed to support such an operation. Or, occur in a community that prohibits this activity or whose residents have adopted ordinances limiting these operations to a particular land use district in the municipality. The plant increase requested in LD 421 would shift development priorities out of the hands of residents and local decision makers and into those of caregivers.

Municipal officials urge members of the Committee to oppose LD 421, as existing laws already provide opportunities for larger cultivation operations that are appropriately subject to municipal regulation.

Thank you for your consideration of the municipal perspective on this issue.