Matthew Lee Orland

Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the veterans and illegals a fair committee I thank you for taking the time to hear from my us on these issues today. Hi strongly oppose LD 882 I believe the laws have been amended too much already by OMP in the state trying to align the adult use in the medical markets. It seems we get laws written and then six months later they are amended before they even have time to come to fruition. As I perceive it they are not getting amended because of safety issues or in the publics best interest they are getting amended because of outside influence from the adult use market. I believe the OMP and the current administration or misrepresenting what the people of Maine voted for. Cannabis is a therapeutic medicine not a recreational drug like alcohol and it does not need to be regulated like it. I believe we need to let the laws that were put in place on the medical program in 2018 work for a while before we start changing them. We have not seen any problems in the medical program that requires more amendments or technical rule changes and there is no justification for any of it. For example the track and trace program metrc that the OMP wants to implement on the medical program. This platform has been nothing but a disaster in other states and have made it almost impossible for businesses to stay compliant. It adds unnecessary costs, labor and professional training to use the system. As we've seen in California so far if the system goes down the businesses have to cease certain transactions and daily business activities or risk being out of compliance at no fault of their own. Also you'll have to have one employee spend hundreds of hours a week just fixing discrepancies as like we've heard from dispensaries that use the metric system in Las Vegas. Data breaches also can occur and leave business owners out of compliance once again leaving them open to heavy fines that could shut their doors. Once again this is not the direction medical cannabis should be moving in especially in the state of Maine where we have been the model for the country. I don't understand now why the state wants to follow the same rules and platforms as other states in the country when they have only had programs running for a year or two and has shown that systems like the track and trace are a disaster for business owners and patients.