

Dear Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee Members,

My name is Eric McMaster. I live in Brunswick and I am the caregiver at Tru Blooms Wellness in Farmingdale. I am writing in support of LD 939. I like this bill because it helps the farmers of the medical cannabis industry really maximize their potential. There is not one other agricultural commodity, or any commodity that I can think of, that is restricted in a way that prohibits maximizing it's capital potential. For comparison, wouldn't it be down right silly if a 1000 acre potato farmer had to leave 250 acres of potatoes in the field and could only sell it to retail customers. It's easy to deduce that they might loose the majority of that remaining 250 acre crop to aging material. This is the reason I support cannabis farmers also being able to maximize their investments by wholesaling 100% of their crop in a traditional farmers manner.

It's no secret that trying to imitate outdoor environments on the inside of a building is incredibly difficult and costly. Because it's much easier to achieve these ecosystem goals on a smaller level this sector of farming is primarily a family owned and home operated business. Because of this it helps to keep payroll obligations minimal by hiring our 18 and older adult family members. I am in support of hiring family members that are over the age of 18.

Finally, I have to support our employees of the medical cannabis industry. It's not financially beneficial to wait potentially 2-4 weeks to obtain employment and then the relationship not work out. I believe that it should be an annual employment registration for a general employment opportunity. The amount of lost wages for employees and revenue lost for employers is potentially in the hundred of thousands because of the weeks lost waiting in limbo for an employee card. It also slows down the diverse opportunities for employees because it may take a couple of work place scenarios for an individual to decide what sector of the industry really fits their desires and vice versa for employers. I support an annual employee registration card.

Thank you for your work. Also can you please provide me with a health and safety financial impact study for the medical cannabis program. I'm curious to see how the industry is performing as a whole.

Best Regards,  
Eric McMaster