

Matthew Lee  
Orland

Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the VLA

My name is Matthew lee I am a medical Cannabis provider and storefront owner in the town of orland. I am writing to you today in support of LD1242.

Maine has been at the forefront of the medical cannabis industry for 20 years now and that whole time we have been the model for the industry. Now the OMP is issuing their new draft rules that mirror other states and have actually been largely influenced by out of state companies. These draft rules if implemented would hurt the medical cannabis industry in Maine severely, and at a time when we are seeing more people get their medical cannabis cards to switch off harmful pharmaceuticals and drugs and after a pandemic where lots of small businesses owners suffered why would the state put forth these changes which would take away access for patients and put small storefronts like myself out of business. When writing these new rule changes OMP did not take any input from local medical caregivers, practitioners or patients instead they had advisors you have interest in adult use companies or large out of state corporations like lobbyists from Curaleaf and wellness connections. So for these reasons I stated here today and many more I ask you to vote in favor of 1242 and support the people of This state over out of state corporate control of Maines cannabis industry.

Thank you for your time.