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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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April 23, 2021

Testimony of Representative Joe Perry presenting

## LD 1434, "An Act Regarding Controlled Entry Areas within Retail Marijuana Stores"

before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Rep. Caiazzo, Sen. Luchini, and esteemed members of the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, I am Joseph Perry and I am honored to represent part of Bangor here in the Maine Legislature.

I am here to present to you LD 1434, **An Act Regarding Controlled Entry Areas within Retail Marijuana Stores**. Imagine, if you would, that it's New Years eve in Bangor. It's -15 degrees and the wind is blowing. You go to the nearest recreational marijuana store to make a purchase. There is a line out the door from capacity restrictions or just taking time checking ID's. You are stuck, outside, in the elements, waiting. This is exactly what LD 1434 could prevent. LD 1434 is a commonsense approach to allow a marijuana store to have a controlled, indoor entry area directly inside the store where the identification of a purchaser can be verified and the purchaser can await entry into the store. The inside of the store would not be visible from the entryway. This would allow customers to avoid waiting on our sidewalks and in parking lots, while maintaining all the safety and security that is required by these businesses.

Thank you for your attention to this reasonable approach.

I would be delighted to answer any questions you may have, but there will be people following me with much more expertise on the subject.