

Denny St. Pierre
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Thank you for this opportunity to testify today. I am a medical marijuana patient who has been smoking marijuana in Maine for well over 30 years, and I have been a legal patient for roughly five years. I used medical marijuana to stop using drugs and alcohol after decades of substance abuse including 14 years on methadone. Marijuana has literally saved my life. I am testifying against LD 1319 because I am appalled with some of the caregivers in this community who think their profits are more important than keeping patients safe. Let's not forget that this is supposed to be a medicine. Besides being a patient, I have worked as a grower in this community, and I know what can go on behind the scenes.

I'm not sure what the legislature is waiting for? Even something as simple as powdery mildew can cause a severe allergic reaction, and powdery mildew is one of the least toxic things that may be in your marijuana. The program has been around for 20 years, and it's time for rules and regulations to keep patients safe.

Also, I saw that there were Massachusetts patients signed up to testify in favor of this bill. Why?