

Arleigh Kraus
Warren

In Support of LD 1589

An Act to Ensure Equity in the Cannabis Industry

Arleigh A. Kraus
Warren, Maine

Senator Luchini, Representative Caiazzo, and members of the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, my name is Arleigh Kraus. I am a registered cannabis caregiver, farmer, and business owner in Warren. I am a founding member of the Maine Craft Cannabis Association, I am a member of Seed2Health Learning Health Alliance, and I am the Chair of the Adult and Medical Marijuana Committee for the Town of Warren. I have been a caregiver in Maine for over 10 years. I have been able to support my family, grow my farm, and meet and care for some lovely people who seek me out for the plant medicine I provide.

Today I am testifying in support of LD 1589 An Act to Ensure Equity in the Cannabis Industry.

LD 1589 is a bill which will provide support for the producers, the farmers, and the experts in the Maine cannabis industry and address how rule and policy changes will impact this industry prior to implementation of policy change. Raising the number of members of the Marijuana Advisory Commission from 15 to 21 and by engaging physicians who certify MMJ patients, caregivers, agriculture experts, social justice experts and other relevant persons the advisory commission would have greater balance in the marijuana program.

A body of individuals who can assess rules objectively while taking into consideration not only the cannabis businesses but also patients and consumers and the citizens of Maine will only help to strengthen and unify our cannabis program as a whole. A well rounded group would provide guidance which is thoughtful, objective and grounded in experience.

Thank you for your consideration and I urge you to pass LD 1589.

Arleigh Kraus