



Testimony of Maine Public Health Association in Opposition to:

- LD 1620: An Act to Amend the Laws Regulating the Testing of Adult Use Cannabis and Adult Use Cannabis Products**
LD 1672: An Act to Allow Participation in the Adult Use Cannabis Tracking System to Be Voluntary
LD 1820: An Act to Simplify Regulation of the Adult Use Cannabis Industry
LD 1840: An Act to Amend the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act
LD 1897: An Act Regarding Sun-grown Cultivation in the Medical Use and Adult Use Cannabis Industries

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
State House, Room 437
Monday, May 5, 2025

Good morning, Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. My name is Rebecca Boulos. I am a resident of South Portland and executive director of Maine Public Health Association.

MPHA is the state's oldest, largest, and most diverse association for public health professionals. We represent more than 850 individuals and 70 organizational members across the state, and our mission is to advance the health of all people and places in Maine.

MPHA opposes LD 1620: "An Act to Amend the Laws Regulating the Testing of Adult Use Cannabis and Adult Use Cannabis Products," LD 1672: "An Act to Allow Participation in the Adult Use Cannabis Tracking System to Be Voluntary," LD 1820: "An Act to Simplify Regulation of the Adult Use Cannabis Industry," LD 1840: "An Act to Amend the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act," and LD 1897: "An Act Regarding Sun-grown Cultivation in the Medical Use and Adult Use Cannabis Industries."

These bills would weaken various regulations in Maine's Medical and Adult Use Cannabis Programs. Strengthening normal guardrails for these programs – guardrails which already exist in other consumable industries – is not stigmatizing, it's legitimizing. At the national level, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [tests and publicly shares](#) testing results in the food supply. When contamination is found, these tests can lead to product recalls, protecting the public's health. Alcohol is also [tested for safety](#).

Further, we argue that rather than lowering the standards, we should be identifying ways to support the industry in meeting health and safety standards. As one example, Efficiency Maine currently offers rebates on industrial dehumidifiers – helping to reduce moisture and mold growth. Another option could be requiring testing of inputs (fertilizer, water) beforehand, so any contamination is detected earlier in the process. We should be looking for opportunities like that, which improve product safety and can save money (by avoiding product recalls), instead of scaling back testing requirements.

Testing consumable products – any product, and especially ones being used for health purposes – is a basic tenant of public health and safety. Cannabis is a bioaccumulator, which means it absorbs chemicals, including pesticides and PFAS, faster than it removes them. As such, the proposed changes in these bills would take us backwards in terms of ensuring product safety. We believe these bills are risks to public health and safety and respectfully request you to vote LD 1620, LD 1672, LD 1820, LD 1840, and LD 1897 "ought not to pass." Thank you for your consideration.