

Wyatt, Manager of an Adult Use Cannabis Store in Maine

My name is Wyatt, and I manage an adult use cannabis retail store here in Maine. I am writing to voice my strong opposition to LD 1567.

No other state in the country requires labeling for products treated with X-ray or ozone. Maine would be the first—and for no valid scientific reason. This would be detrimental to the perception about Maine’s cannabis quality and safety.

Supporters say this is about transparency. But real transparency would be voluntary labeling for any product that wants to advertise “non-remediated” status. This bill just creates stigma and confusion around safe, regulated practices.

This legislation unfairly targets businesses in the adult use market—businesses like ours that already follow some of the toughest testing, labeling, and product safety rules in the entire industry. Unlike the medical or unregulated markets, we operate under strict oversight and compliance.

I believe that investments made into x-ray decontamination equipment hasn’t been purchased because cultivators can’t pass tests regularly; the technology is to ensure shelf stability. If a batch tests at 6,000 CFU’s it would pass the State mandated 10,000 CFU threshold. However, the mold spores are alive and will continue to grow making it likely that an audit test off the shelf would then fail, creating mistrust in the producer, the store and Maine’s Cannabis program. X-ray and ozone to ensure that every product we sell meets Maine’s low microbial thresholds and remains shelf stable. Requiring labels for these treatments would mislead customers and could damage their trust in the legal cannabis system.

There is no scientific or health-based evidence provided to justify such a label. Instead, the added burden risks pushing consumers away from safe, tested products and into unregulated markets where there are no standards.

With the legal market already under pressure from unregulated hemp-derived products and illicit sellers, now is not the time to introduce more unnecessary obstacles for licensed, responsible businesses.

I urge the committee to vote against LD 1567.

Thank you.