

Daniel Katz
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LD 104

My name is Daniel E. Katz, I am a resident of Portland, ME, an attorney-member of the Maine Bar, I have achieved a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture from the University of Connecticut, and I am a medical cannabis patient not supportive of LD104 which would impose mandatory tracking and testing. Medical cannabis operators already track their products with trip tickets and transfer logs which don't cost the state money or require contracting with a corrupt 3rd part vendor such as METRC. And Total Yeast and Mold testing is not an accurate test for gauging the public health risk of medical cannabis because they are based on a guidance document from the American Herbal Pharmacopeia document Cannabis Inflorescences, 2014 guidance on recommended Total Yeast and Mold levels that was not meant to be pass/fail and a high Total Yeast and Mold result does not mean a sample is harmful to consumers and a low Total Yeast and mold (TYM) result doesn't show a sample is free from human-relevant pathogens where the TYM test is unable to differentiate between pathogenic, beneficial, and benign yeast and molds. Where medical cannabis patients are universally using higher rates of cannabis, medical cannabis mandatory testing would not allow for insurance coverage, and testing imposes significant financial and supply barriers to medical cannabis patients, it is incredibly important to reduce testing and tracking barriers to allow for low priced, high quality, and diverse cannabis for the patients that require access to their cannabis. Mandatory testing and tracking is going to only be a boon to large corporate operators that do not have the intention to provide diverse and sun grown cannabis to patients. Please do not support LD 104.