

Scott MacIver
Buxton, ME
LD 104

Testimony Opposing LD 104

Dear Members of the Maine Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Legislative Document 104. The enactment of this bill threatens to dismantle one of Maine's vital cottage industries—the medical cannabis sector—which has long been a cornerstone of our state's rural economy and community well-being.

Impact of LD 104 on Small-Scale Medical Cannabis Providers

LD 104, titled "An Act to Protect the Health of Medical Cannabis Patients and Streamline the Mandatory Testing of Cannabis," proposes mandatory testing requirements for medical cannabis products. While ensuring product safety is paramount, the bill's provisions could inadvertently impose insurmountable financial and logistical burdens on small-scale caregivers and producers -- most of which are small, family businesses.

Many of these caregivers operate in rural areas, serving patients who rely on affordable, locally-sourced medical cannabis. The costs associated with mandatory testing—estimated to be substantial per batch—could force these small operators out of the market. This would not only eliminate a critical source of income for these entrepreneurs but also disrupt access for patients who depend on their services.

Preserving Maine's Economic and Cultural Fabric

Maine's cottage industries are more than economic entities; they are embodiments of our state's resilience, ingenuity, and commitment to community. Policies that threaten their existence risk not only economic downturns but also the loss of cultural heritage and community cohesion.

I urge you to consider the broader implications of LD 104. Rather than imposing blanket regulations that could decimate small businesses, we should seek balanced approaches that ensure safety and progress without sacrificing the livelihoods and traditions that define Maine.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott MacIver