

Thomas Milton
Gardiner
LD 104

Presented to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

May 5, 2025

Good day, honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee of Veterans and Legal Affairs. My name is Frazer Milton, of Gardiner, Maine and I am submitting this to oppose LD 104 “An Act to Protect the Health of Medical Cannabis Patients and Streamline the Mandatory Testing of Cannabis”.

I'd like to begin by saying that I am not in theory opposed to testing and I feel that this bill, if enacted, would be financially devastating to small business owners, employees, patients and communities in the Medical Cannabis Industry in Maine. We are a small family owned and operated indoor medical cannabis grow with three full time employees and multiple part time workers- my wife and one of my sons are both Licensed Caregivers, all others have a RIC card.

Each of our Flower Rooms contains anywhere from five to eight different genetics, so this would require five to eight unique tests from each of our harvests and the testing costs roughly \$500 per test. If enacted, this Bill would create an added financial burden of \$2500 to \$4000 per harvest. Downward pricing pressure in market over the last several years leaves us absolutely no chance of passing on these higher costs to our customers. The added cost and administrative burden could very likely put us out of business.

Also, we know that the current “Total Yeast and Mold” test required in the Adult Use side testing requirements is not an accurate representation of potentially harmful Yeast and Mold.

The Medical Cannabis Caregivers of Maine already have tracking. We have trip tickets and invoices, as required by law. Adding a statewide inventory tracking system would add another layer of administrative and financial burden to our business. Again, the added costs and administrative burden could very likely put us out of business. A large percentage of the Medical Cannabis Caregivers in Maine are our size or smaller, so the additional testing and tracking requirements would impact smaller growers even more than us. This would ruin the boutique quality and small batch reputation that Maine has become so well known for.

In summary, I think we can do better than LD104 to ensure safety and legal compliance in the Maine Medical Cannabis market. I respectfully ask for you to vote AGAINST LD 104. Thank you very much for your time and your service.