

Randy Wintle
Topsham
LD 1820

To the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,

My name is Randy Wintle, and I'm the co-owner of a licensed cultivation and manufacturing facility operating in Maine's adult use cannabis program. I'm writing to voice my strong support for LD 1820, and in particular, the proposed updates to the excise tax on cannabis biomass found in Sections 27 and 28 of the bill.

As it stands, cannabis biomass used for extraction is taxed at the same rate as dried flower, despite having a significantly lower market value. This structure results in nearly 40% of our wholesale revenue being consumed by excise tax alone — before we account for labor, testing, compliance, or basic operational costs.

This imbalance puts serious strain on extraction-focused businesses and creates a level of financial pressure that is difficult to sustain, especially for small operators trying to compete in a growing but still fragile industry.

The change proposed in LD 1820 — to tax biomass at the same rate as trim — would bring much-needed fairness and consistency to the system. It aligns the tax burden more appropriately with the value of the product and supports the long-term viability of Maine's cannabis manufacturing sector.

I appreciate your time and thoughtful consideration of this bill and urge you to support these crucial updates to the excise tax structure.

Sincerely,
Randy Wintle
Co-Owner, Kalikori