



TO: Joint Committee on Marijuana Legalization
FR: Norris Monson, founder, Cultivated Industries
DA: February 12, 2016
RE: Testimony in Support of SB 1511-16

Chairs Lininger and Burdick, Members of the Committee:

My name is Norris Monson and I am the founder of Cultivated Industries, a vertically integrated producer of craft cannabis flower and extracts employing 25 Oregonians at competitive pay and offering generous benefits to full time workers. I am here today to testify in support of SB 1511-16.

SB 1511-16's expanded access provision is important to OMMP patients because it ensures continued access to high quality medicinal cannabis products at an affordable price, even as a majority of Oregon's dispensaries transition to licensure under the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. It is also important to Oregon businesses like mine, who want to serve both patients and adults while meeting the rigorous compliance standards required by the OLCC. Expanded access is an elegant solution to the regulatory issues posed by co-location, because broadens opportunity for businesses while reducing the risk of contradictory or duplicative regulations.

As a maker of extracts, I am also a strong supporter of the provisions in SB 1511-16 that will expand Oregon's successful "early start" program by making extracts, edibles and oils available to adults in licensed dispensaries. These products are extremely popular – they account for nearly half of cannabis sales in Colorado – and they should be made available to adults now that the Oregon Health Authority has developed rules to safeguard public health.

Finally, I and my colleagues in Oregon's cannabis business community support SB 1511-16 because its numerous technical adjustments, like the stay on plant limits, will allow cultivators and processors a much smoother transition into the adult use system and further our shared goal of curtailing the unregulated market.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I urge the Committee to move the -16 amendments today.

The Oregon Cannabis Association is a non-profit professional association representing cultivators, processors, edible makers, dispensaries, and allied businesses including laboratories, security and transportation companies, and providers of legal and financial services to cannabis-related businesses throughout Oregon.