

The Oregon SunGrown Growers Guild supports SB 1598 as its provisions are necessary to prevent harm to responsible OMMP growers and their patients.

We have members who've maintained fully compliant grow sites on Rural Residential lands that depend on the ability to recover their costs of growing by taking their excess medicine to an OMMP Dispensary.

However, as OHA testimony revealed, a recent survey of OMMP Dispensaries found that over 90% of them plan to transition into Co-Located Stores operated by OLCC.

This leaves very few, if any, OMMP dispensaries available to receive our excess medicine in rural Oregon.

We are excited about the Micro-Canopy Concept then, as our growers on Rural Residential Land will need to be able to recover their costs and deliver excess medicine into these Co-Located Stores operated by OLCC.

However, current law requires OLCC to obtain a Land Use Compatibility Statement prior to granting a license. Because these grow sites are on 2-5 Acre tracts zoned Rural Residential, the LUCS requirement could well likely stop them from being able to recover their costs from the commercially operated OLCC Co-Located Stores.

Without SB 1598, responsible growers who are complying with current law will not have access to an OMMP Dispensary (for at least the foreseeable future) and also will not be able to qualify for an OLCC License.

SB 1598 does not impact local governments' abilities to enforce their own land use codes. (In practice, such enforcement actions are currently complaint driven)

These provisions will allow our established OMMP growers that remain in good standing to take part in the OLCC Micro Canopy Concept/License. They will be subject to seed to sale tracking.

Meanwhile, we hope that OMMP Medical Only Dispensaries will eventually emerge again and serve their vital role for OMMP growers and patients. We look forward to continuing to educate our members and rural growers in order to teach them how to receive licenses and comply with Oregon Laws and Rules.

Thank you for your leadership and service on this Committee. We urge your support of SB 1598.