

## TESTIMONY

Good afternoon Chair Lininger and members of the Committee,

My name is Steve P \_\_\_\_\_ and I live in \_\_\_\_\_ . Portland.

I am here to support the Amendment to Bill 4014 for eliminating the 2-year resident requirement to grow cannabis.

I am first and foremost a family man with a wife and children. My oldest son attends \_\_\_\_\_ in Portland while my younger children attend a \_\_\_\_\_ school locally as well.

I highly respect the people of Oregon that have risked their lives for decades to give people and people in need the amazing health benefits that come from the marijuana plant. These risks should always be remembered because if not for them, this opportunity might not exist today. I respect all of them to the highest degree possible.

I greatly understand and agree for the need to protect the people of Oregon from outside big business money exploitation, greed and market saturation and understand the need for proper regulations to protect Oregonian's from these corporations that are not looking out for the public's best interest.

I am a small-time successful entrepreneur by trade within the real estate business and the beverages industry. My family and I moved here from Montana less than 2 years ago looking for a better quality of life that includes better schools, organic food outlets, homeopathy, diverse and open thinkers, and of course the geographic outdoor beauty of Oregon.

At the time we moved here, I was not looking to grow cannabis.

After much research, I have determined that working diligently and committing to long hours growing high level and organic cannabis can offer myself and family a sustainable quality of life to support ourselves. Subsequently, we have submitted our application to the OLCC for a Tier 1 Indoor cannabis grow site under the name \_\_\_\_\_

We hope to compete very successfully by bringing some of the highest quality of goods possible to market and at the same time bring jobs, do our share of paying taxes and be responsible citizens of the State of Oregon. This could be considered similar in some respects to starting a small craft brewery and the benefits to the economy.

The Oregon Beer Industry has had an economical total impact of \$2.25 billion, which has a direct effect on the quality of life for Oregonians. They continue to bring thousands of jobs in all facets and spinoffs of their industry and a big part of it is the small craft breweries specializing in high level and organic beers.

Lastly, I would like to say that there are many fine non-native Oregonians, including brewery owners, entrepreneurs, politicians, etc, that have all done a tremendous job of succeeding, being good citizens and their successes have a positive impact on all Oregonians.

Please try to imagine if a 2 year residency requirement happened to you during the course of your career and would you be where you are today or if that barrier would have prevented you from starting your career?

In ending, I would like to say, please allow me and people like me, who are obviously not irresponsible and greedy big businesses, to still dream the American Dream and to be allowed the right to compete responsibly in a healthy supply and demand free market in an effort to live and support our families here in Oregon.

I believe that a one of the greatest attributes to a healthy market that creates the highest quality goods and services is a free market made up of ethical small business entrepreneurs.

Thank you for you time today.

Sincerely,

Steve P