

Hello Joint Committee on Marijuana Regulation Members,

I am a small medical grower, living in a residential zone. I am trying to keep my small home-based business alive. I grow 12 mature plants for 2 medical patients. I also grow 4 Measure 91 Freedom plants for my own use, so 16 plants total. Under the new laws being considered, it appears that I would no longer be able to grow my 4 Measure 91 Freedom plants, so I will most likely have to drop at least one patient to get under the new 12 plant maximum. I ask that you consider that most small growers are in similar circumstances and have already planted their 4 Measure 91 Freedom plants. So if the plant counts take effect immediately upon passage of the new laws, they will be forced to drop a patient, or to chop down plants and lose the time, money, and work invested in those plants. Therefore, I would suggest plant count reductions not take effect until after November 15th, so that us small medical growers can at least finish our current plants and meet the current obligations to our patients.

I do not support the blocking of small 12 plant growers from having access to the legal marketplace. We don't block Food Carts from selling burritos to protect Taco Bells. So why are you making laws that protect the Taco Bells of Cannabis? I don't understand this Protectionist mentality, as it is harmful to both our own in-state medical growers as well as to the consumers of Oregon. I met an OLCC Rec. grower this past weekend who was putting in 800 plants, and said he expected to yield 3lbs per plant. He was employing a single person to help him. So two people will be selling 2400lbs of Cannabis to the legal marketplace, providing 0lbs to medical patients. In so doing, just those 2 people will be displacing over 240 12-plant medical growers who each could've contributed 10lbs to the market, while also supporting the needs of 480 patients. Hardly seems right.

Thank you for your time and consideration. -Bob Toole, West Linn, Oregon