

Hello representatives,

Thank you for having us here today and for hearing testimony on HB 2909. I am Julie Widmer, co-owner of Kaleafa Cannabis Company, a family-owned business which was founded in 2014. Our family has been a vital part of Oregon's history since the 20's with small business's such as Gatto produce and Graziano produce. My husband and I have backgrounds in orthopedic trauma sales and hospitality sales and catering. We are very proud of the impact our small family owned business has had on our community. Aside from offering our employees with traditional benefits, such as health care and vacation pay, our company also brings a sense of family to our employees and surrounding communities. Our employees often volunteer locally to make a difference in the cities where we have shops.

We are here today to support this bill, which will expand consumer access to legal cannabis, allow legal retailers to deliver more efficiently, and improve retailers' ability to use digital record keeping.

This bill is necessary in securing the economic future of small businesses like ours. While our retail shop has been doing delivery on our own for the past year, we recently partnered with Eaze, a software that helps us manage it better. The software helps, but there are still some changes needed in the regulations to make us run our business more efficiently. We currently deliver within Portland city limits only. But this bill would allow our dispensary in Portland to deliver products to consumers in Beaverton, Hillsboro, and other nearby cities that may not have a dispensary or have delivery in their area – as long as the cities agree to it.

The bill also updates the ability to track cannabis deliveries by allowing a digital manifest rather than requiring an outdated paper copy. It takes nearly 15 minutes for a full-time employee to fill out the paperwork before he can even begin the delivery. An electronic manifest would allow that information to be inputted automatically, and really simplify the process. Everything would still integrate with METRIC, but be tracked more productively.

We are just a regular local business like any other, trying to run our business as efficiently as possible. This bill will better allow us to serve our customers and the community by:

- Helping medical patients who are unable to drive to a dispensary get access to their medication through reliable delivery,
- Giving cities the ability to agree to cross-jurisdictional delivery, allowing greater access for all Oregonians,
- And fighting against black market cannabis sales by making legal cannabis sales more reliable.

We urge the committee to support this bill. Thank you for your consideration!