

SB 408-1

Thank you chair Riley and committee members. My name is Kale Gray and I am the CEO of Tokyo Starfish, and OLCC licensed Retailer, Producer and Wholesaler with locations in Bend and Salem, OR. I am testifying in favor of SB 408 today and wanted to speak more specifically on the section that would "Prohibit the OLCC from requiring continually child resistant and resealable package for usable marijuana, including prerolled marijuana.

This section is particularly important to me as I'm also the owner of MIZU a stainless steel water bottle company that I started in 2008 to help reduce the amount of single use plastics. For 5 years now, I have tried to find a solution to the amount of single use plastic containers that we create in the cannabis industry, including working with the environmental center and waste management departments here in Bend. Over these 5 years, we have made zero progress in finding a sustainable solution and the sticking point has always been the child proof function.

The current standard for OLCC child proof ratings in accordance with 16 CFR 1700 which is to prevent children under 5 years of age to open the package. So child proof containers aren't keeping the majority of kids out of the product if mistakenly lands in their possession. Do beer or alcohol products have child proof requirements? This bill calls out specifically usable marijuana and preroll's because if consumed orally, the taste alone is enough to make someone stop ingesting the product. These child proof containers do provide a necessity for products such as edibles that look and taste like candy though.

Our small company alone goes through over 1000 single use plastic containers per day, at a cost of over \$170,000 per year. And not a single one of these is recyclable. The majority of child proof containers are made from #5 plastic, which isn't recycled in most facilities and nearly every single container is also under 6 ounces, which is the minimum size limit for recycling. This means that every single plastic container ends up in the landfill.

The state of Oregon currently has about 747 licensed retailers. Lets conservatively say the average dispensary sells roughly 250 plastic containers per day. Using this conservative number, the Oregon marijuana industry is generating over 68 million pieces of single use, non recyclable plastic containers per year. 68 million!

With usable marijuana and preroll encompassing roughly 50% of total sales state wide, eliminating the need for continually child resistant packages in these two categories would open up the sustainable packaging option for businesses and could potentially eliminate over 34 million pieces of single use plastic from our landfills each and every year.

Thank you and I urge you to support SB 408-1

Kale Gray