

Submitter: Alex Marucci
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB557

Hello,

My name is Alex Marucci, and I am the Owner and General Manager of Higher Cultures, an Oregon cannabis business.

I'm writing today to express my strong support for Senate Bills 557 and 558, two practical, business-informed proposals that will improve cannabis governance and business operations in Oregon—without compromising oversight or safety.

SB 557 – Representation That Reflects the Industry.

SB 557 simply ensures that at least one member of the OLCC holds a cannabis license—producer, processor, wholesaler, or retailer. This common-sense step ensures the Commission includes someone who understands the real-world impact of its rules. Nearly every regulated industry in Oregon benefits from direct representation, and cannabis should be no different. It's a modest, overdue reform that builds trust and improves policymaking?Sb 557 Introduced.

SB 558 – Modernizing Business-to-Business Cannabis Regulations.

SB 558 is a targeted regulatory update that improves how cannabis businesses interact and collaborate. It addresses outdated rules that limit employee education, peer-to-peer transfers, and in-industry marketing.

The bill's most important change is that it increases trade sample limits for OLCC-permitted cannabis workers—so staff can be properly trained, products can be evaluated, and supply chain partners can make informed decisions.

Importantly, SB 558 does not allow samples to be given to consumers or the public. All samples must remain strictly within the industry and may only be provided to individuals with valid cannabis worker permits issued under ORS 475C.273.

Under the bill, cannabis businesses will be allowed to provide the following per employee at the receiving license:

- 1 gram of usable flower per strain per harvest lot, per month
- 1 gram of concentrate or extract per production batch
- 1 packaged unit of cannabinoid product per production batch

Additionally, SB 558 will:

Allow trade samples and wholesale transfers at OLCC-registered B2B events, reducing logistical burdens

Permit producer-to-producer transfers of usable flower—removing the outdated restriction that required shared ownership

Allow producers to provide immature plant and seed samples to employees, within personal possession limits, for training and innovation

All of this is done within OLCC's existing oversight system, including the Cannabis Tracking System (CTS), with tracking rules that apply equally to these internal samples.

These updates support small businesses, improve workforce readiness, reduce waste, and help Oregon cannabis businesses compete fairly—especially as new markets open and federal reform approaches.

Please vote YES on SB 557 and SB 558 to support a smarter, more competitive, and accountable Oregon cannabis industry.

Sincerely,
Alex Marucci