

Submitter: Rachel Jones

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1548

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Rachel Jones, and I am writing today in strong opposition to SB 1548. My family has been part of Oregon's cannabis industry for 13 years. We are a small, family-owned business — both a licensed retailer and processor — and every member of our family works in this industry. This is not just our livelihood; it is our life's work. We have grown alongside Oregon's regulated market, and we have worked hard to do everything the right way — safely, transparently, and in compliance with state law.

We understand and support the importance of protecting children. As parents, family members, and community members, there is nothing more important to us than keeping kids safe. There is no debate there. But SB 1548, as proposed, does not move us forward in protecting children — it moves us backward and risks dismantling responsible small businesses that have operated safely for over a decade.

Oregon already has one of the most regulated cannabis markets in the country. Products are tested, labeled, tracked, and sold only through licensed facilities with strict age verification. The legal market exists precisely to prevent unsafe, unregulated products from reaching consumers. When policy becomes overly restrictive without clear evidence of benefit, it does not eliminate demand — it risks pushing consumers back toward the illicit market, where there are no safety standards at all.

The proposed changes to the edible market would be devastating to small operators like us. Edibles are an important category for adult consumers, including members of the medical marijuana community who rely on them for consistent, measured relief. Many patients cannot smoke or vape; edibles provide an alternative that is discreet, long-lasting, and effective. Reducing access or restructuring products in ways that make production unfeasible would disproportionately harm patients and small processors, not large corporations.

We are also deeply concerned that making doses smaller and individually wrapped may unintentionally increase accessibility and novelty appeal rather than reduce it. Thoughtful, collaborative policy — built with input from industry, medical professionals, parents, and regulators — would produce far better outcomes than sweeping changes that destabilize an entire product category.

For 13 years, our family has invested in compliance, employee training, secure facilities, child-resistant packaging, and community education. We have paid substantial state and local taxes, and those dollars support schools, public safety, addiction services, and many other essential programs throughout Oregon. Small cannabis businesses are not outsiders to this community — we are contributors to it.

We are not asking for the absence of regulation. We are asking for reasonable, data-driven policy developed in partnership with the people who operate in this system every day. We want to be part of the solution. Education, safe storage awareness, responsible packaging standards, and collaborative problem-solving will do far more to protect children than measures that unintentionally dismantle responsible small businesses.

Please consider the families behind these licenses — the parents, employees, and patients who depend on this industry. SB 1548, as written, threatens not only our livelihood but the stability of Oregon's carefully regulated market.

We respectfully urge you to oppose SB 1548 and instead work collaboratively with small businesses, medical patients, and community leaders to craft solutions that truly protect children while preserving Oregon's regulated cannabis system.

Thank you for your time and consideration.