

Submitter: Michael Bachara

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1548

Dear Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chairs Isadore and Skarlatos, and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade,

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to SB 1548. While proponents may claim this bill is rooted in safety, its practical application is a direct assault on Oregon's regulated cannabis market and fails to address the root causes of accidental ingestion.

If passed, SB 1548 would mandate that every individual edible unit within a package be wrapped separately and capped at 10 mg per serving. These draconian requirements would force immediate and devastating operational changes for every producer in the state. The economic consequences are not speculative; they are certain. Businesses would be required to redesign products, retool packaging lines, source new materials, renegotiate supply contracts, and overhaul compliance systems, all at extraordinary cost. These expenses will inevitably be passed on to consumers and patients who rely on these products. For many small and mid-sized Oregon operators already navigating razor-thin margins, this mandate would be the final blow, forcing closures, layoffs, and consolidation that harms the very local economy this committee is charged with protecting.

The environmental impact of this packaging mandate would be equally severe and directly at odds with Oregon's long-standing environmental leadership. Requiring every edible unit to be individually wrapped would dramatically increase plastic, foil, and composite packaging waste across the state. Most cannabis packaging materials are multi-layer plastics designed for child resistance and product stability, materials that are rarely recyclable in municipal systems. By mandating additional layers of single-use packaging, SB 1548 would multiply the volume of non-recyclable waste entering Oregon's landfills. Producers would be forced to purchase significantly more petroleum-based materials, increasing upstream manufacturing emissions, transportation impacts, and overall carbon footprint. At a time when Oregon is actively working to reduce single-use plastics and promote sustainable packaging solutions, this bill would move the state decisively in the opposite direction. It replaces thoughtful environmental stewardship with unnecessary waste generation, undermining broader state climate and waste-reduction goals.

It is deeply insulting to the industry and the constituents you represent that the logic behind this bill relies on outdated, "Reefer Madness" style alarmism rather than

modern, data-driven safety standards. Just as that era's propaganda used sensationalism to justify harmful and ineffective prohibition, SB 1548 relies on the misguided assumption that over-regulating packaging will solve complex public health challenges. These heavy-handed mandates stigmatize legal, regulated businesses and responsible adult consumers without demonstrating any measurable increase in safety outcomes.

This committee must recognize the severe economic, environmental, and practical implications of this legislation. I urge you to reject this regressive policy and vote against SB 1548.

Best regards,

Michael Bachara  
Coalition for Cannabis Policy  
Excolo Farms / Lit Oregon