

Submitter: Ted S

On Behalf Of: Small businesses

Committee: House Committee On Economic Recovery and Prosperity

Measure: HB4016

The new house bill 4016 that is being proposed hurts entrepreneurs and property owners that have been getting their facilities prepared since their future was put on hold over two years ago. Hundreds of people were affected the first time having their chances of getting recreational marijuana growers permits denied in the middle of the process. Leaving their properties unable to make income after getting their businesses ready. Many times people actually had to purchase these properties just to get the process rolling because of the stipulations of the Olcc in Oregon. The marijuana recreational permit process takes months and months sometimes up to a year to achieve. The process is even more difficult right now because you have to make an appointment to just sit down and talk to an agent since Olcc walk-in office is closed. Now people are trying to make appointments and getting properties prepared again after the first bill expired January 1, 2022. Big players in recreational marijuana production are trying to shut down any type of little small business that wants to get into the industry with house bill 4016. This bill is riddled full of agendas for the already existing industry. Established big companies are trying to maximize their profits and get an even tighter cinch on production. People have spent millions and millions of dollars preparing for January 1, 2022 to be the end of any type of control to the free market. The process of getting a facility together is much more difficult than any other type of production facility. Although everything should be treated the same after marijuana legalization but this not the case. If there was really any concern by already established businesses they would try to make sure that a new owner would have to live in Oregon for an extended amount of time before being able to apply for a permit. Instead they are trying to shut down any type of competition even the people that have lived here sometimes their whole life that now have the chance again to get permits and follow their goals. The economy is already suffering especially small businesses to put other entrepreneurs and future owners in a position where they can't do what they need to proceed or open their facilities is beyond wrong. The Olcc in Oregon is already known for being not the easiest to do business with that and added staffing issues in our current climate makes it even more of an ordeal to even get a permit. House bill 4016 needs to go away. Let the free market finally have a chance. We do not need to create more tycoons by introducing 4016. The other rhetoric of 4016 and it's partner bill is to show that they have the states interest in mind when it's really their own. It's so obvious I can't believe that it's even came to fruition. There's good people that are going to lose their properties over house bill 4016 that have done nothing wrong but follow the states list of requirements to start their production facility. How are they going to pay for the properties and new facilities if they can't even open up their businesses till March 2024 when it expires. This small but well-funded group pushing 4016 do not

have the overall community in mind just their own personal interests. The pandemic has caused a major uptake in sales. Now when going into a marijuana store the product is just a few weeks old at the most a month or two. This whole bill is to maximize profits even though these businesses sales have been through the roof. Farms and current producers got a taste of the money and they do not want new upcoming competition to even have a chance. That's why these heads of Oregon's industry have organized. Once the product gets more than a few months old no one wants it. That's the dirty secret when they say that there's years of back stock. In this current market people need fresh product. These companies turn their old back stock into different types of concentrates to maximize profits. Please oppose