

Submitter: Trevor Thompson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or SB557
Topic:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Trevor Thompson, and I am the owner of Viridis Hydroculture, a licensed cannabis business in Oregon.

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 557. The House Committee meeting on May 5, 2025, highlighted the critical need for better communication, education, and exchange of information between cannabis businesses and regulatory bodies.

There are many areas in which the cannabis industry could be improved for all stakeholders. Frequently, regulatory challenges are only evident to licensees who navigate these regulations every day. Including a licensee on the OLCC would allow for more immediate, informed feedback and greater mutual understanding between regulators and those they regulate.

While a licensee might need to recuse themselves from specific votes, their presence on the Commission would still provide vital perspective. SB 557 ensures that at least one OLCC member holds a cannabis license whether as a producer, processor, wholesaler, or retailer. This common sense reform would align cannabis with other regulated industries in Oregon, most of which benefit from direct representation.

SB 557 is a modest but overdue step toward strengthening trust and improving regulatory outcomes. I urge the Committee to support this bill and take this opportunity to enhance collaboration and accountability in Oregon's cannabis oversight.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Trevor Thompson