

Dear Representatives,

I'm writing to ask the House Government Operations and Military Affairs Committee to remove the cannabis delivery permit pilot from S.278, or at minimum pause that section for further study and stakeholder input.

I support Vermont's regulated cannabis market. My concern is that direct to consumer delivery is not a small technical change, it is a major shift in how the market operates. Licensed retailers have invested in storefronts, local approval, security, trained staff, age verification, inventory controls, tax collection, and community accountability. Allowing a new delivery channel risks bypassing the retail tier and weakening the businesses that have followed the rules and helped build the legal market.

Even as a capped pilot, this proposal creates an uneven playing field. If only a small number of permit holders are allowed to sell directly to consumers, the state is effectively giving those businesses access to a special sales channel that others do not have.

This is also a difficult time to add another layer of disruption. Vermont's regulated market is already dealing with oversupply, high operating costs, federal tax burdens, and competition from untaxed intoxicating hemp products. Before creating a new delivery system, the Legislature should focus on stabilizing the existing market and making sure the current framework is working for licensed operators, municipalities, and consumers.

Please remove the delivery permit language from S.278. If the committee decides to keep it, I urge you to require municipal opt in, limit eligibility to existing licensed retailers, require strong ID and inventory controls, and delay implementation until full rulemaking and meaningful stakeholder testimony are complete.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Ian "Ebo" Singleton

Gaston Weed Company