



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Committee Bill No. 349

LCO No. 3594

03594SB00349JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF A
SMALL AMOUNT OF MARIJUANA.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) Any person who
2 possesses or has under his control less than one ounce of a cannabis-
3 type substance, except as authorized in chapter 420b of the general
4 statutes, shall have committed an infraction.

5 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 21a-279 of the general statutes is
6 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
7 *October 1, 2009*):

8 (c) Any person who possesses or has under his control any quantity
9 of any controlled substance other than a narcotic substance, or a
10 hallucinogenic substance other than marijuana or who possesses or has
11 under his control one ounce or more but less than four ounces of a
12 cannabis-type substance, except as authorized in this chapter, for a first
13 offense, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars or be
14 imprisoned not more than one year, or be both fined and imprisoned;
15 and for a subsequent offense, may be fined not more than three

16 thousand dollars or be imprisoned not more than five years, or be both
17 fined and imprisoned.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	21a-279(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To create a more sensible state policy regarding marijuana possession by classifying the possession of a small amount of marijuana as an infraction.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]