



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 257**

February Session, 2014

Substitute House Bill No. 5476

*House of Representatives, April 1, 2014*

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. BARAM of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF LEGALIZING INDUSTRIAL HEMP.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Consumer  
2 Protection, after consulting with the Commissioner of Economic and  
3 Community Development, shall study the feasibility of legalizing the  
4 production, possession and sale of industrial hemp for the purpose of  
5 encouraging economic development and increasing the number of new  
6 businesses in this state. Not later than January 1, 2015, the  
7 Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall report, in accordance with  
8 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint  
9 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
10 matters relating to consumer protection and commerce concerning said  
11 commissioner's recommendations on (1) establishing a statutory  
12 definition of "industrial hemp", based on the percentage of proposed  
13 tetrahydrocannabinol in such industrial hemp, as distinguished from  
14 marijuana, (2) amending the general statutes to exclude industrial

15 hemp from the definition of "controlled substance" in section 21a-240  
16 of the general statutes, and (3) establishing a licensing system for  
17 industrial hemp growers and sellers.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**GL**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 15 \$</b>	<b>FY 16 \$</b>
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	30,000	None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in a cost of \$30,000 to the state in FY 15 due to the need to contract a specialist to complete a report on the feasibility of legalizing industrial hemp. The Department of Consumer Protection does not have expertise in this area thus the need for contracting a specialist.

**The Out Years**

There is no out-year cost as the report is due in January 2015.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5476**

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF  
LEGALIZING INDUSTRIAL HEMP.***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17    Nay 0    (03/18/2014)