



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 7371**

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE RETAIL SALE OF CANNABIS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) As used in this section, and  
2 sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise  
3 requires:

4 (1) "Cannabis" means marijuana, as defined in section 21a-240 of the  
5 general statutes, except that marijuana does not include chemical  
6 compounds that are similar to cannabimon, cannabimol or cannabidiol  
7 in chemical structure;

8 (2) "Consumer" means an individual who is twenty-one years of age  
9 or older;

10 (3) "Cultivation" means cultivation, as defined in section 21a-408 of  
11 the general statutes;

12 (4) "Dispense" means dispense, as defined in section 21a-240 of the  
13 general statutes;

14 (5) "Distribute" means distribute, as defined in section 21a-240 of the  
15 general statutes;

16 (6) "Laboratory" means a laboratory located in this state that is

17 licensed by the department to provide analysis of controlled  
18 substances pursuant to section 21a-246 of the general statutes or  
19 section 10 of this act;

20 (7) "Laboratory employee" means an individual who is (A) licensed  
21 as a laboratory employee pursuant to section 21a-408r of the general  
22 statutes, or section 10 of this act, or (B) holds a temporary license  
23 issued pursuant to section 21a-408r of the general statutes, or section  
24 10 of this act;

25 (8) "Cannabis concentrate" includes tinctures and extracts;

26 (9) "Cannabis cultivation facility" means a facility licensed to  
27 cultivate, prepare and package cannabis and sell cannabis to cannabis  
28 product manufacturing facilities, cannabis retailers and other cannabis  
29 cultivation facilities;

30 (10) "Cannabis establishment" means a cannabis cultivation facility,  
31 cannabis product manufacturing facility or cannabis retailer;

32 (11) "Cannabis product" means a cannabis concentrate or a product  
33 that contains cannabis, which may be combined with other  
34 ingredients, and is intended for use or consumption;

35 (12) "Cannabis product manufacturing facility" means a facility  
36 licensed to purchase cannabis, manufacture, prepare and package  
37 cannabis products and sell cannabis and cannabis products to cannabis  
38 product manufacturing facilities and cannabis retailers;

39 (13) "Cannabis retailer" means a person registered to purchase  
40 cannabis from cannabis cultivation facilities as well as to purchase  
41 cannabis and cannabis products from cannabis product manufacturing  
42 facilities and to sell cannabis and cannabis products to consumers;

43 (14) "Sale" or "Sell" means a sale, as defined in section 21a-240 of the  
44 general statutes;

45 (15) "Commission" means the Cannabis Commission established  
46 pursuant to section 2 of this act; and

47 (16) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection.

48 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) There shall be a Cannabis  
49 Commission composed of five commissioners, one of whom shall be  
50 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. The remaining four  
51 commissioners shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with  
52 section 4-9a of the general statutes, and two of whom shall have a  
53 professional background of not less than five years working in the  
54 fields of either social justice or civil rights and one of whom shall have  
55 a professional background of not less than five years working in the  
56 field of economic development. The Commissioner of Consumer  
57 Protection shall be the chairperson of the commission. The  
58 commissioners, other than any commissioner already employed by the  
59 state, shall be compensated and shall work not less than twenty hours  
60 per week. The Governor shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired  
61 portion of the term. Not more than three commissioners shall be of the  
62 same political party. Each commissioner shall take the oath prescribed  
63 for executive officers. The Governor may remove any commissioner as  
64 provided in section 4-12 of the general statutes.

65 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Cannabis Commission  
66 established pursuant to section 2 of this act shall be part of the  
67 Department of Consumer Protection and shall have regulatory  
68 oversight of the retail sale of cannabis in this state pursuant to sections  
69 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act. At a minimum, the commission shall  
70 employ an executive director, two staff members to review and process  
71 license applications submitted pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive,  
72 of this act, two staff members dedicated to assisting applicants who  
73 submit applications pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act  
74 and four staff members to oversee enforcement pursuant to sections 1  
75 to 18, inclusive, of this act. The commission may employ such  
76 additional clerks, inspectors, agents and other assistants as it requires.  
77 The moneys received from permit fees collected pursuant to sections 1

78 to 18, inclusive, of this act shall be allocated to the Department of  
79 Consumer Protection for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of  
80 this section.

81 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Cannabis Commission  
82 established pursuant to section 2 of this act shall promote and  
83 encourage full participation in the cannabis industry by people from  
84 communities that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis  
85 prohibition and enforcement. The commission shall be provided a  
86 budget of not less than five hundred thousand dollars per year to  
87 engage in outreach to educate such persons regarding ownership and  
88 employment opportunities regarding cannabis establishments and to  
89 assist such applicants in a preapplication process, as established by the  
90 commission. The commission shall adopt policies and procedures,  
91 including, but not limited to:

92 (1) Establishing an "equity" applicant status for potential owners of  
93 cannabis establishments, to include individual persons from  
94 communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and  
95 conviction, as well as individuals who can demonstrate, via affidavit  
96 and other documentation as the commission may require, (A) requisite  
97 experience with cannabis cultivation, distribution or the sale or  
98 manufacture of cannabis products prior to the effective date of this  
99 section, or (B) a prior conviction for possession of cannabis;

100 (2) Requiring yearly reporting by each cannabis establishment to the  
101 commission regarding the diversity of its workforce and ownership,  
102 the overall percentages of which the commission shall make available  
103 to the public;

104 (3) For each class of licenses established pursuant to sections 1 to 18,  
105 inclusive, of this act, issue licenses to equity applicants not later than  
106 three months before other such licensed establishments, except that  
107 existing medical cannabis dispensaries and producers may apply for  
108 licenses pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act at the same  
109 time as such equity applicants;

110 (4) Not prohibiting individuals with an infraction or misdemeanor  
111 drug charge from participating in the cannabis industry;

112 (5) Requiring that all licenses granted pursuant to sections 1 to 18,  
113 inclusive, of this act establish and adhere to policies that encourage  
114 diversity for purposes of employment, contracting and other  
115 professional service opportunities;

116 (6) Requiring that any cannabis establishment that is not owned by  
117 an equity applicant comply with an approved plan to reinvest or  
118 provide employment opportunities in those communities  
119 disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and conviction and  
120 having a history of economic disinvestment, as determined by the  
121 commission; and

122 (7) Establishing a lower fee structure for equity applicants, after  
123 establishing a fee structure based upon applicants' assets and income.

124 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) No commissioner of the  
125 Cannabis Commission and no employee of the Department of  
126 Consumer Protection who carries out the duties and responsibilities of  
127 sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act, and any regulations enacted  
128 pursuant thereto may, directly or indirectly, individually or as a  
129 member of a partnership or as a shareholder of a corporation, have any  
130 interest whatsoever in dealing in or in the manufacture, sale or testing  
131 of cannabis, nor receive any commission or profit whatsoever from nor  
132 have any interest whatsoever in the purchases or sales made by the  
133 persons authorized pursuant to said sections. No provision of this  
134 section shall prevent any such commissioner or employee from  
135 purchasing and keeping in his or her possession, for the personal use  
136 of himself or herself or members of his or her family or guests, any  
137 cannabis which may be purchased or kept by any person by virtue of  
138 said sections.

139 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) The Cannabis Commission shall  
140 conduct a study to determine (1) if the establishment of a cannabis

141 micro business retailer license is feasible, and, if so, if such license  
142 should be based on the amount of cannabis sold by the licensee, and  
143 (2) if consumers or qualifying patients under chapter 420f of the  
144 general statutes, who are twenty-one years of age and older, shall be  
145 permitted to cultivate cannabis for personal use. Such study shall  
146 include consideration of (A) reasonable precautions to ensure that the  
147 plants are secure from unauthorized access or access by any individual  
148 under twenty-one years of age, (B) the location where such cannabis  
149 may be grown, and (C) any other related public safety or regulatory  
150 issues the commission deems necessary. Not later than January 1, 2021,  
151 the commission shall report the conclusions of the study, in accordance  
152 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint  
153 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
154 matters relating to consumer protection, criminal law and finance and  
155 revenue.

156 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Except as provided in  
157 sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act or chapter 420f of the general  
158 statutes, no person, other than a cannabis retailer may distribute, sell  
159 or dispense cannabis or cannabis products to a consumer.

160 (b) No person may hold a cannabis establishment license issued  
161 pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act, or be employed by a  
162 cannabis establishment unless such person is twenty-one years of age  
163 or older.

164 (c) On and after the effective date of this section, the Cannabis  
165 Commission may issue licenses for cannabis retailers. No person may  
166 act as a cannabis retailer or represent that such person is a licensed  
167 retailer, unless such person has obtained a license from the  
168 commission pursuant to this section. The commission shall adopt  
169 policies to avoid an overconcentration of cannabis retailers in any one  
170 area and to ensure that such retailers are located state-wide.

171 (d) The commission may license any person that applies for a  
172 license, provided the commission deems such applicant qualified to

173 acquire, possess, distribute and dispense cannabis. At a minimum, the  
174 commission shall:

175 (1) Except as the commission may determine for equity applicants,  
176 establish a nonrefundable application fee of not less than five thousand  
177 dollars, a licensing fee of not less than five thousand dollars and a  
178 license renewal fee of not less than five thousand dollars;

179 (2) Provide for renewal of such cannabis retailer licenses annually;

180 (3) Establish health, safety and security requirements for cannabis  
181 retailers, which may include, but need not be limited to: (A) The ability  
182 to maintain adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss of  
183 cannabis acquired or possessed by the licensed cannabis retailer, and  
184 (B) the ability to maintain the knowledge, understanding, judgment,  
185 procedures, security controls and ethical standards to ensure optimal  
186 safety and accuracy in the distributing, dispensing and use of  
187 cannabis;

188 (4) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,  
189 summary suspension and nonrenewal of cannabis retailer licenses,  
190 provided such standards and procedures are consistent with the  
191 provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182 of the general statutes;

192 (5) Establish priority applicant status for cannabis retailer license  
193 applicants who demonstrate experience in or business practices that  
194 promote economic empowerment in communities disproportionately  
195 impacted by high rates of arrest and conviction, as determined by the  
196 commission;

197 (6) Prohibiting the retail sale of cannabis via products and  
198 packaging designed to appeal to children, including banning the use of  
199 cartoons, toys, animals, or children, and banning products that look  
200 like any specific trademarked food product;

201 (7) Require cannabis products to be sold with a warning label or  
202 handout, developed by the commission after consultation with

203 researchers knowledgeable about the risks and benefits of cannabis.  
204 Such label or handout shall include advice about the potential risks of  
205 cannabis and cannabis products, including: (A) The risks of driving  
206 under the influence of cannabis and the fact that doing so remains  
207 illegal; (B) the risk of cannabis use disorder and where a person may  
208 seek assistance for the disorder; (C) potential exacerbation of psychotic  
209 disorders; (D) adverse effects unique to younger adults, including  
210 those related to the developing mind; (E) potential adverse events and  
211 other risks; (F) risks of using cannabis during pregnancy or breast  
212 feeding; and (G) the need to safeguard cannabis and cannabis products  
213 from children and pets;

214 (8) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards  
215 deemed necessary by the commissioner and the commission; and

216 (9) Require each licensed cannabis retailer to utilize an electronic  
217 identity verification system approved by the commission, to ensure  
218 compliance with this section.

219 (e) No cannabis or cannabis product shall be dispensed from,  
220 obtained from or transferred to a location outside of this state by the  
221 holder of a cannabis retailer license.

222 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Cannabis Commission  
223 may issue or renew a license for a person to be a cannabis cultivation  
224 facility. No person may act as a cannabis cultivation facility or  
225 represent that such person is a licensed cannabis cultivation facility  
226 unless such person has obtained a license from the commission  
227 pursuant to this section.

228 (b) The commission shall provide for the licensure and standards for  
229 cannabis cultivation facilities and shall determine the number of such  
230 facilities that may be licensed in this state to meet the needs of  
231 consumers. The commission may license any person who applies for a  
232 license, provided (1) such person is organized for the purpose of  
233 cultivating cannabis in this state, (2) the commission finds that such



234 person is qualified to cultivate cannabis and sell, deliver, transport or  
235 distribute cannabis solely within this state pursuant to this section, and  
236 (3) the number of cannabis cultivation facility licenses issued does not  
237 exceed the number appropriate to meet the needs of consumers, as  
238 determined by the commission pursuant to this subsection. At a  
239 minimum, the commission shall:

240 (A) Establish priority applicant status for cannabis cultivation  
241 license applicants who demonstrate experience in or business practices  
242 that promote economic empowerment in communities that have been  
243 disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and incarceration,  
244 as determined by the commission;

245 (B) Establish large, medium and small cannabis cultivation licenses  
246 based upon cultivation volume, scale and facility location;

247 (C) Establish a nonrefundable application fee structure for each  
248 cannabis cultivation license, with a fee for a large cannabis cultivation  
249 license of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars for each  
250 application submitted, except as applicable to equity applicants, as the  
251 commission may determine;

252 (D) Establish a licensing fee structure for each cannabis cultivation  
253 license, with a fee for a large cannabis cultivation license of not less  
254 than seventy-five thousand dollars for each application submitted,  
255 except as applicable to equity applicants, as the commission may  
256 determine; a renewal fee of not less than seventy-five thousand dollars  
257 for each large cannabis cultivation facility;

258 (E) Provide for renewal of such cannabis cultivation facility licenses  
259 annually;

260 (F) Designate permissible locations for licensed cannabis cultivation  
261 facilities in this state;

262 (G) Establish financial requirements for cannabis cultivation  
263 facilities, under which each applicant demonstrates the financial

264 capacity to build and operate a cannabis cultivation facility;

265 (H) Establish health, safety and security requirements for licensed  
266 cannabis cultivation facilities, which shall include, but need not be  
267 limited to, a requirement that each applicant or licensed cannabis  
268 cultivation facility demonstrate: (i) The ability to maintain adequate  
269 control against the diversion, theft and loss of cannabis cultivated by  
270 the cannabis cultivation facility, and (ii) the ability to cultivate such  
271 cannabis in a secure manner;

272 (I) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,  
273 summary suspension and nonrenewal of cannabis cultivation facility  
274 licenses, provided such standards and procedures are consistent with  
275 the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182 of the general statutes;

276 (J) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards  
277 deemed necessary by the commissioner and the commission;

278 (K) Require each licensed cannabis cultivation facility to utilize an  
279 electronic identity verification system approved by the commission, to  
280 ensure compliance with this section; and

281 (L) Provide that the holder of a cannabis cultivation facility license:  
282 (i) May not hold, or have an investment interest in, a cannabis retailer  
283 license, and (ii) may also hold a cannabis product manufacturing  
284 facility license.

285 (c) No cannabis cultivation facility shall cultivate cannabis for use  
286 outside of this state.

287 (d) The provisions of this section shall not prohibit an agricultural  
288 or farming operation, as defined in section 1-1 of the general statutes,  
289 from obtaining a cannabis cultivation license.

290 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Cannabis Commission  
291 may issue or renew a license for a person to be a cannabis product  
292 manufacturing facility. No person may act as a cannabis product

293 manufacturing facility or represent that such person is a licensed  
294 cannabis product manufacturing facility unless such person has  
295 obtained a license from the commission pursuant to this section.

296 (b) The commission shall provide for the licensure and standards for  
297 cannabis product manufacturing facilities. The commission may  
298 license any person who applies for a license, provided (1) such person  
299 is organized for the purpose of manufacturing cannabis products in  
300 this state, and (2) the commissioner finds that such applicant is  
301 qualified to manufacture cannabis products and sell, deliver, transport  
302 or distribute such products solely within this state pursuant to this  
303 section. At a minimum, the commission shall:

304 (A) Issue a cannabis product manufacturing facility extraction  
305 license that shall allow the holder of such license to perform any  
306 regulated extractions or chemical synthesis and all other  
307 manufacturing activities authorized pursuant to this section;

308 (B) Issue at least one other type of cannabis product manufacturing  
309 facility license that does not allow the holder of such license to perform  
310 regulated solvent-based extractions but allows all other manufacturing  
311 activities authorized pursuant to this section;

312 (C) Establish a nonrefundable application fee of not more than  
313 twenty-five thousand dollars for each application submitted for a  
314 cannabis product manufacturing facility license pursuant to  
315 subparagraph (A) of this subsection and establish a license fee of not  
316 more than thirty-five thousand dollars and a renewal fee of not more  
317 than thirty-five thousand dollars for each such cannabis product  
318 manufacturing facility;

319 (D) Establish a nonrefundable application fee and a licensing fee  
320 structure for all of the other cannabis product manufacturing facilities  
321 considered and approved pursuant to this section, and consistent with  
322 the provisions of this section regarding equity applicants;

323 (E) Provide for renewal of cannabis product manufacturing facility

324 licenses annually;

325 (F) Designate permissible locations for licensed cannabis product  
326 manufacturing facilities in this state;

327 (G) Establish financial requirements for cannabis product  
328 manufacturing facilities, under which each applicant demonstrates the  
329 financial capacity to build and operate a cannabis product  
330 manufacturing facility;

331 (H) Establish health, safety and security requirements for a licensed  
332 cannabis product manufacturing facility, which shall include, but need  
333 not be limited to, a requirement that the applicant or licensed cannabis  
334 product manufacturing facility demonstrates the ability to maintain  
335 adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss of cannabis and  
336 cannabis products;

337 (I) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,  
338 summary suspension and nonrenewal of cannabis product  
339 manufacturing facility licenses, provided such standards and  
340 procedures are consistent with the provisions of subsection (c) of  
341 section 4-182 of the general statutes;

342 (J) Require each licensed cannabis product manufacturing facility to  
343 utilize an electronic identity verification system approved by the  
344 commission, to ensure compliance with this section;

345 (K) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards  
346 deemed necessary by the commissioner and the commission; and

347 (L) Provide that the holder of a cannabis product manufacturing  
348 facility license: (i) May not hold, or have an investment interest in, a  
349 cannabis retailer license, and (ii) may also hold a cannabis cultivation  
350 facility license.

351 (c) No cannabis product manufacturing facility shall manufacture  
352 products for distribution outside of this state.

353 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Except as provided in  
354 subsection (b) of this section, no person may act as a laboratory or a  
355 laboratory employee or represent that such person is a licensed  
356 laboratory or laboratory employee unless such person has obtained a  
357 license from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to  
358 this section or section 21a-408r or 21a-246 of the general statutes.

359 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue a  
360 temporary license to a laboratory employee. The commissioner shall  
361 prescribe the standards, procedures and fees for obtaining a temporary  
362 license as a laboratory employee.

363 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall (1) provide for  
364 the licensure of laboratories and laboratory employees, (2) establish  
365 standards and procedures for the revocation, suspension, summary  
366 suspension and nonrenewal of laboratory and laboratory employee  
367 licenses, provided such standards and procedures are consistent with  
368 the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182 of the general statutes,  
369 (3) establish a license fee of not less than two hundred dollars and a  
370 renewal fee of not less than two hundred dollars for each licensed  
371 laboratory and licensed laboratory employee, and (4) establish other  
372 licensing, renewal and operational standards deemed necessary by the  
373 commissioner.

374 Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) No laboratory employee  
375 may (1) acquire cannabis from a person other than a licensed cannabis  
376 establishment or laboratory or organization engaged in a research  
377 program, (2) deliver, transport or distribute cannabis to (A) a person  
378 who is not so licensed, or (B) an organization not engaged in a research  
379 program, or (3) obtain or transport cannabis outside of this state in  
380 violation of state or federal law.

381 (b) Laboratory employees shall test samples of cannabis and  
382 cannabis products obtained from cannabis establishments for  
383 contaminants and potency. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection  
384 shall establish testing protocol and requirements for reporting results.

385 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Cannabis Commission  
386 may, in its discretion, suspend, revoke or refuse to grant or renew any  
387 license under sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act for the same reasons  
388 and using the same procedures as the Department of Consumer  
389 Protection may use to suspend, revoke or refuse to grant a permit for  
390 the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-47 of the general  
391 statutes.

392 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Any town may, by town  
393 meeting or ordinance, prohibit the establishment of, or restrict the  
394 hours and signage of, a cannabis establishment within the limits of  
395 such town. A town shall not impose application or any other fees on  
396 any equity applicant approved by the Commission.

397 (b) The commission shall refuse licenses to cannabis establishments  
398 (1) for locations in towns that have opted not to host such an  
399 establishment pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or (2) where  
400 prohibited by a zoning ordinance of any town.

401 Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any  
402 provision of the general statutes, the following acts, when performed  
403 by a cannabis retailer or a person who is acting in his or her capacity as  
404 an owner, employee or agent of a cannabis retailer, are not unlawful  
405 and shall not be an offense or a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets:

406 (1) Possessing, displaying, storing or transporting cannabis or  
407 cannabis products;

408 (2) Purchasing cannabis from a cannabis cultivation facility;

409 (3) Purchasing cannabis or cannabis products from a cannabis  
410 product manufacturing facility;

411 (4) Delivering or transferring cannabis or cannabis products to a  
412 laboratory; and

413 (5) Delivering, distributing or selling cannabis or cannabis products

414 to consumers.

415 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
416 following acts, when performed by a cannabis cultivation facility or a  
417 person who is acting in his or her capacity as an owner, employee or  
418 agent of a cannabis cultivation facility, are not unlawful and shall not  
419 be an offense or a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets:

420 (1) Cultivating, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting,  
421 displaying, storing or possessing cannabis;

422 (2) Delivering or transferring cannabis to a cannabis testing facility;

423 (3) Delivering, distributing or selling cannabis to a cannabis  
424 cultivation facility, cannabis product manufacturing facility or  
425 cannabis retailer;

426 (4) Receiving or purchasing cannabis from a cannabis cultivation  
427 facility; and

428 (5) Receiving cannabis seeds or immature cannabis plants from  
429 another person.

430 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following acts,  
431 when performed by a cannabis product manufacturing facility or a  
432 person who is acting in his or her capacity as an owner, employee or  
433 agent of a cannabis product manufacturing facility, are not unlawful  
434 and shall not be an offense or a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets:

435 (1) Packaging, processing, transporting, manufacturing, displaying  
436 or possessing cannabis or cannabis products;

437 (2) Delivering or transferring cannabis or cannabis products to a  
438 cannabis testing facility;

439 (3) Delivering or selling cannabis or cannabis products to a cannabis  
440 retailer or cannabis product manufacturing facility;

441 (4) Purchasing cannabis from a cannabis cultivation facility; and

442 (5) Purchasing cannabis or cannabis products from a cannabis  
443 product manufacturing facility.

444 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following acts,  
445 when performed by a laboratory or a person who is acting in his or her  
446 capacity as an owner, employee or agent of a laboratory, are not  
447 unlawful and shall not be an offense or a basis for seizure or forfeiture  
448 of assets:

449 (1) Possessing, cultivating, processing, repackaging, storing,  
450 transporting or displaying cannabis or cannabis products;

451 (2) Receiving cannabis or cannabis products from a cannabis  
452 establishment or another person;

453 (3) Returning cannabis or cannabis products to a cannabis  
454 establishment or another person.

455 (e) No provision of this section prevents the imposition of penalties  
456 for violating the provisions of sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act or  
457 section 21a-6 of the general statutes.

458 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of  
459 Consumer Protection, after consulting with the Cannabis Commission  
460 shall implement the provisions of sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act  
461 and section 21a-6 of the general statutes. At a minimum, the  
462 commissioner shall establish:

463 (1) Requirements for the transportation and storage of cannabis and  
464 cannabis products by cannabis establishments;

465 (2) Employment and training requirements, including requiring that  
466 each cannabis establishment create an identification badge for each  
467 employee or agent;

468 (3) Requirements designed to prevent the sale or diversion of



469 cannabis and cannabis products to persons under twenty-one years of  
470 age;

471 (4) Requirements regarding the delivery of cannabis and cannabis  
472 products by cannabis retailers and their employees, after considering  
473 methods to increase delivery employment opportunities for persons  
474 from communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest  
475 and conviction;

476 (5) Standards for cannabis product manufacturing facilities to  
477 determine the amount of cannabis that cannabis products are  
478 considered the equivalent to;

479 (6) Additional requirements for cannabis and cannabis products  
480 sold or distributed by a cannabis establishment, including cannabis  
481 products' labels and packaging requirements, including, but not  
482 limited to, the following:

483 (A) A disclosure concerning length of time it typically takes for the  
484 cannabis product to affect an individual;

485 (B) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is  
486 considered the equivalent to;

487 (C) A list of ingredients and possible allergens for cannabis and  
488 cannabis products;

489 (D) A nutritional fact panel, if such cannabis product is edible;

490 (E) An opaque, child-resistant packaging, which is designed or  
491 constructed to be significantly difficult for children under five years of  
492 age to open and not difficult for adults to use properly as defined by 16  
493 CFR 1700.20, as amended from time to time;

494 (F) Identification of edible cannabis products, when practicable,  
495 with a standard symbol indicating that it contains cannabis;

496 (G) The license number of the cannabis cultivation license;

- 497 (H) The license number of the cannabis retailer;
- 498 (I) The batch number of the cannabis or cannabis product;
- 499 (J) A net weight statement;
- 500 (K) A disclosure of any solvent used in the extraction process of  
501 cannabis concentrate, if applicable; and
- 502 (L) A recommended use by or expiration date for cannabis or  
503 cannabis products;
- 504 (7) Health and safety standards for the manufacture of cannabis  
505 products and indoor and outdoor cultivation of cannabis by cannabis  
506 cultivation facilities;
- 507 (8) Restrictions on advertising, marketing and signage, including,  
508 but not limited to, a prohibition on mass-market campaigns that have a  
509 high likelihood of reaching children;
- 510 (9) Restrictions on the display of cannabis and cannabis products, to  
511 ensure that cannabis and cannabis products may not be displayed in a  
512 manner that is visible to the general public from a public right-of-way;
- 513 (10) Restrictions or prohibitions on additives to cannabis and  
514 cannabis products, including, but not limited to, those that are toxic,  
515 designed to make the product more addictive, designed to make the  
516 product more appealing to children or misleading to consumers. The  
517 prohibition may not extend to common baking and cooking items;
- 518 (11) Protocols governing visits to cannabis cultivation facilities and  
519 cannabis product manufacturing facilities, including requiring the  
520 cannabis establishment to maintain a log of visitors;
- 521 (12) A definition of the amount of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol that  
522 constitutes a single serving in a cannabis product;
- 523 (13) Standards for the safe manufacture of cannabis concentrates;

524 (14) Requirements that educational materials be disseminated to  
525 consumers who purchase cannabis or cannabis products;

526 (15) Requirements for random sample testing to ensure quality  
527 control, including by ensuring that cannabis and cannabis products are  
528 accurately labeled for potency. Any such testing shall include testing  
529 for residual solvents, poisons, toxins, harmful chemicals, dangerous  
530 molds or mildew, filth, harmful microbials such as E. Coli or  
531 salmonella and pesticides;

532 (16) Standards for the operation of laboratories, including  
533 requirements for equipment and qualifications for personnel; and

534 (17) Civil penalties for the failure to comply with policies and  
535 procedures made pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act or  
536 section 21a-6 of the general statutes.

537 (b) No standard or requirement enacted pursuant to sections 1 to 18,  
538 inclusive, of this act shall require a consumer to provide a cannabis  
539 retailer with personal information other than government issued  
540 identification to determine the consumer's age or a cannabis retailer to  
541 acquire and record personal information about consumers.

542 Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of  
543 Consumer Protection and the Cannabis Equity Commission shall take  
544 steps to minimize the cost difference between cannabis products  
545 authorized pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act and those  
546 sold pursuant to chapter 420f of the general statutes. The  
547 commissioner shall cease charging the nonrefundable fee for  
548 administrative costs for each qualifying patient and the nonrefundable  
549 application fee for each qualifying patient and caregiver under chapter  
550 420f of the general statutes. The commissioner shall cease charging the  
551 renewal fee for each qualifying patient under chapter 420f of the  
552 general statutes. The commissioner shall amend existing regulations to  
553 eliminate fees in accordance with the provisions of this section.

554 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Cannabis

555 Commission shall conduct a study for the establishment of a program  
556 to subsidize purchases by low-income patients under chapter 420f of  
557 the general statutes. Not later than January 1, 2021, the commission  
558 shall report the conclusions of the study, in accordance with the  
559 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing  
560 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
561 relating to consumer protection and finance, revenue and bonding.

562 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Cannabis  
563 Commission shall (1) require that all cannabis retailers licensed  
564 pursuant to section 7 of this act shall, if offering cannabis products for  
565 sale pursuant to chapter 420f of the general statutes, maintain a "fast-  
566 track" dispensing system for all patients approved as qualifying  
567 patients pursuant to chapter 420f of the general statutes; and (2) allow  
568 patients approved as qualifying patients pursuant to chapter 420f of  
569 the general statutes to purchase higher potency products that are not  
570 available for retail purchase and allow such patients a higher per  
571 transaction amount, as determined by the commission and  
572 commissioner.

573 Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) For sufficient cause found, the  
574 commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, suspend, revoke,  
575 issue fines of not more than one thousand dollars per violation, accept  
576 an offer in compromise or refuse to grant or renew a license issued  
577 pursuant to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act, or place such license  
578 on probation, place conditions on such license, or take other actions  
579 permitted by law.

580 Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of  
581 Consumer Protection may adopt regulations pursuant to chapter 54 of  
582 the general statutes, including emergency regulations pursuant to  
583 section 4-168 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of  
584 sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act, including, but not limited to,  
585 requiring dispensaries to maintain expedited customer service for  
586 qualifying patients under chapter 420f of the general statutes and  
587 setting quantity restrictions on sales pursuant to sections 1 to 18,

588 inclusive, of this act, to ensure there are not shortages of medical  
 589 products under chapter 420f of the general statutes and to limit the  
 590 hours when dispensary facilities are allowed to be open for retail sales.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**GL**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*