



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 6915

LCO No. 5726



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS USE PREVENTION EFFORTS
RELATED TO YOUTH.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 12-330ll of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2023, and applicable to taxes due on or after that date*):

4 (i) The tax received by the state under this section shall be deposited
5 as follows:

6 (1) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, in the
7 cannabis regulatory and investment account established under section
8 21a-420f, as amended by this act;

9 (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, June 30, 2025, and June
10 30, 2026, [~~sixty~~] fifty per cent of such tax received in the Social Equity
11 and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, as amended by
12 this act, [~~twenty-five~~] forty per cent of such tax received in the
13 Prevention and Recovery Services Fund established under section 21a-
14 420f, as amended by this act, and [~~fifteen~~] ten per cent in the General

15 Fund;

16 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2027, and June 30, 2028, [sixty-
17 five] fifty per cent of such tax received in the Social Equity and
18 Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, as amended by this
19 act, [twenty-five] forty per cent of such tax received in the Prevention
20 and Recovery Services Fund and ten per cent in the General Fund; and

21 (4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, and each fiscal year
22 thereafter, [seventy-five] sixty per cent of such tax received in the Social
23 Equity and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, as
24 amended by this act, and [twenty-five] forty per cent of such tax
25 received in the Prevention and Recovery Services Fund established
26 under section 21a-420f, as amended by this act.

27 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes is
28 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
29 *2023*):

30 (d) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be known
31 as the "Prevention and Recovery Services Fund" which shall be a
32 separate, nonlapsing fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required
33 by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer
34 separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Moneys
35 in the fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of (1) substance abuse
36 prevention, treatment and recovery services, including, but not limited
37 to, the (A) provision of youth cannabis use prevention services by the
38 local advisory councils on drug use and prevention established by
39 municipalities pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 4126 of the Drug
40 Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986, as amended from time to
41 time, regional behavioral health action organizations described in
42 section 17a-484f, and youth service bureaus established pursuant to
43 section 10-19m, and (B) development of a public awareness campaign to
44 raise awareness of the mental and physical health risks of youth
45 cannabis use and cannabis use by pregnant persons, and (2) collection
46 and analysis of data regarding substance use. The Social Equity Council

47 may make recommendations to any relevant state agency regarding
48 expenditures to be made for the purposes set forth in this subsection.

49 Sec. 3. Section 17a-667 of the general statutes is repealed and the
50 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

51 (a) There is established a Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy
52 Council which shall be within the Department of Mental Health and
53 Addiction Services.

54 (b) The council shall consist of the following members: (1) The
55 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
56 designee; (2) the Commissioners of Children and Families, Consumer
57 Protection, Correction, Education, Mental Health and Addiction
58 Services, Public Health, Emergency Services and Public Protection,
59 Aging and Disability Services and Social Services, and the Insurance
60 Commissioner, or their designees; (3) the Chief Court Administrator, or
61 the Chief Court Administrator's designee; (4) the chairperson of the
62 Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the chairperson's designee;
63 (5) the president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's
64 designee; (6) the Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's
65 designee; (7) the Chief Public Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's
66 designee; (8) the Child Advocate, or the Child Advocate's designee; and
67 (9) the cochairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
68 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
69 relating to public health, criminal justice and appropriations, or their
70 designees. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services
71 and the Commissioner of Children and Families shall be cochairpersons
72 of the council and may jointly appoint up to seven individuals to the
73 council as follows: (A) Two individuals in recovery from a substance use
74 disorder or representing an advocacy group for individuals with a
75 substance use disorder; (B) a provider of community-based substance
76 abuse services for adults; (C) a provider of community-based substance
77 abuse services for adolescents; (D) an addiction medicine physician; (E)
78 a family member of an individual in recovery from a substance use
79 disorder; and (F) an emergency medicine physician currently practicing

80 in a Connecticut hospital. The cochairpersons of the council may
81 establish subcommittees and working groups, [and] including, but not
82 limited to, subcommittees on substance use prevention, treatment and
83 recovery that may collaborate with an academy of science and
84 engineering or an institution of higher education in the state to examine
85 effective substance use prevention, treatment and recovery efforts. The
86 chairpersons of the council may appoint individuals other than
87 members of the council to serve as members of the subcommittees or
88 working groups. Such individuals may include, but need not be limited
89 to: (i) Licensed alcohol and drug counselors; (ii) pharmacists; (iii)
90 municipal police chiefs; (iv) emergency medical services personnel; and
91 (v) representatives of organizations that provide education, prevention,
92 intervention, referrals, rehabilitation or support services to individuals
93 with substance use disorder or chemical dependency.

94 (c) The council shall review policies and practices of state agencies
95 and the Judicial Department concerning substance abuse treatment
96 programs, substance abuse prevention services, the referral of persons
97 to such programs and services, and criminal justice sanctions and
98 programs and shall develop and coordinate a state-wide, interagency,
99 integrated plan for such programs and services and criminal sanctions.

100 (d) Such plan shall be amended not later than January 1, 2017, to
101 contain measurable goals, including, but not limited to, a goal for a
102 reduction in the number of opioid-induced deaths in the state.

103 (e) On or before January 1, 2024, the council shall establish a cannabis
104 health review panel composed of members jointly selected by the
105 cochairpersons of the council. The review panel shall examine the effects
106 of the use of cannabis, including, but not limited to, (1) overdose of
107 cannabis by young people, (2) episodes of psychosis in persons who use
108 cannabis, and (3) the impact of cannabis of higher potencies on the
109 developing brain. On or before January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter,
110 the panel shall report its findings to the council.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023, and applicable to taxes due on or after that date</i>	12-33011(i)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	21a-420f(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	17a-667

Statement of Purpose:

To prevent cannabis use by youth.

[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.]