



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4259



Offered by:

REP. LEMAR, 96th Dist.

REP. TURCO, 27th Dist.

REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5350

File No. 401

Cal. No. 272

"AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS, HEMP AND INFUSED BEVERAGE REGULATION."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (q) of section 1-1 of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
5 *1, 2026*):

6 (q) Except as otherwise specifically defined, the words "agriculture"
7 and "farming" include cultivation of the soil, dairying, forestry, raising
8 or harvesting any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including the
9 raising, shearing, feeding, caring for, training and management of
10 livestock, including horses, bees, the production of honey, poultry, fur-
11 bearing animals and wildlife, and the raising or harvesting of oysters,
12 clams, mussels, other molluscan shellfish or fish; the operation,
13 management, conservation, improvement or maintenance of a farm and

14 its buildings, tools and equipment, or salvaging timber or cleared land
15 of brush or other debris left by a storm, as an incident to such farming
16 operations; the production or harvesting of maple syrup or maple sugar,
17 or any agricultural commodity, including lumber, as an incident to
18 ordinary farming operations or the harvesting of mushrooms, the
19 hatching of poultry, or the construction, operation or maintenance of
20 ditches, canals, reservoirs or waterways used exclusively for farming
21 purposes; handling, planting, drying, packing, packaging, processing,
22 freezing, grading, storing or delivering to storage or to market, or to a
23 carrier for transportation to market, or for direct sale any agricultural or
24 horticultural commodity as an incident to ordinary farming operations,
25 or, in the case of fruits and vegetables, as an incident to the preparation
26 of such fruits or vegetables for market or for direct sale. The term "farm"
27 includes farm buildings, and accessory buildings thereto, nurseries,
28 orchards, ranges, greenhouses, hoopouses and other temporary
29 structures or other structures used primarily for the raising and, as an
30 incident to ordinary farming operations, the sale of agricultural or
31 horticultural commodities. The terms "agriculture" and "farming" do not
32 include the cultivation of cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-
33 240, as amended by this act. The term "aquaculture" means the farming
34 of the waters of the state and tidal wetlands and the production of
35 protein food, including fish, oysters, clams, mussels and other
36 molluscan shellfish, on leased, franchised and public underwater farm
37 lands. Nothing herein shall restrict the power of a local zoning authority
38 under chapter 124.

39 Sec. 2. Subparagraph (H) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section
40 7-148 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted
41 in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

42 (H) (i) Secure the safety of persons in or passing through the
43 municipality by regulation of shows, processions, parades and music;

44 (ii) Regulate and prohibit the carrying on within the municipality of
45 any trade, manufacture, business or profession which is, or may be, so
46 carried on as to become prejudicial to public health, conducive to fraud

47 and cheating, or dangerous to, or constituting an unreasonable
48 annoyance to, those living or owning property in the vicinity;

49 (iii) Regulate auctions and garage and tag sales;

50 (iv) Prohibit, restrain, license and regulate the business of peddlers,
51 auctioneers and junk dealers in a manner not inconsistent with the
52 general statutes;

53 (v) Regulate and prohibit swimming or bathing in the public or
54 exposed places within the municipality;

55 (vi) Regulate and license the operation of amusement parks and
56 amusement arcades including, but not limited to, the regulation of
57 mechanical rides and the establishment of the hours of operation;

58 (vii) Prohibit, restrain, license and regulate all sports, exhibitions,
59 public amusements and performances and all places where games may
60 be played;

61 (viii) Preserve the public peace and good order, prevent and quell
62 riots and disorderly assemblages and prevent disturbing noises;

63 (ix) Establish a system to obtain a more accurate registration of births,
64 marriages and deaths than the system provided by the general statutes
65 in a manner not inconsistent with the general statutes;

66 (x) Control insect pests or plant diseases in any manner deemed
67 appropriate;

68 (xi) Provide for the health of the inhabitants of the municipality and
69 do all things necessary or desirable to secure and promote the public
70 health;

71 (xii) Regulate the use of streets, sidewalks, highways, public places
72 and grounds for public and private purposes;

73 (xiii) Make and enforce police, sanitary or other similar regulations

74 and protect or promote the peace, safety, good government and welfare
75 of the municipality and its inhabitants;

76 (xiv) Regulate, in addition to the requirements under section 7-282b,
77 the installation, maintenance and operation of any device or equipment
78 in a residence or place of business which is capable of automatically
79 calling and relaying recorded emergency messages to any state police
80 or municipal police or fire department telephone number or which is
81 capable of automatically calling and relaying recorded emergency
82 messages or other forms of emergency signals to an intermediate third
83 party which shall thereafter call and relay such emergency messages to
84 a state police or municipal police or fire department telephone number.
85 Such regulations may provide for penalties for the transmittal of false
86 alarms by such devices or equipment;

87 (xv) Make and enforce regulations for the prevention and
88 remediation of housing blight or blight upon any commercial real
89 property, including regulations reducing assessments and authorizing
90 designated agents of the municipality to enter property during
91 reasonable hours for the purpose of remediating blighted conditions,
92 provided such regulations define blight and require such municipality
93 to give written notice of any violation to the owner of the property and
94 provide a reasonable opportunity for the owner to remediate the
95 blighted conditions prior to any enforcement action being taken, except
96 that a municipality may take immediate enforcement action in the case
97 of a violation at a property that is the third or more such blight violation
98 at such property during the prior twelve-month period, and further
99 provided such regulations shall not authorize such municipality or its
100 designated agents to enter any dwelling house or structure on such
101 property, and including regulations establishing a duty to maintain
102 property and specifying standards to determine if there is neglect;
103 prescribe civil penalties for the violation of such regulations (I) for
104 housing blight upon real property containing six or fewer dwelling
105 units, of not more than one hundred fifty dollars for each day that a
106 violation continues if such violation occurs at an occupied property, not

107 more than two hundred fifty dollars for each day that a violation
108 continues if such violation occurs at a vacant property, and not more
109 than one thousand dollars for each day that a violation continues at a
110 property if such violation is the third or more such violation at such
111 property during the prior twelve-month period, (II) for housing blight
112 upon real property containing more than six but fewer than forty
113 dwelling units, not more than ten cents per square foot of each
114 residential building upon such real property for each day that a
115 violation continues, (III) for housing blight upon real property
116 containing forty or more dwelling units, not more than twelve cents per
117 square foot of each residential building upon such real property for each
118 day that a violation continues, and (IV) for blight upon any commercial
119 real property, not more than ten cents per square foot of any commercial
120 building upon such real property for each day that a violation continues.
121 If any such civil penalties are prescribed, such municipality shall adopt
122 a citation hearing procedure in accordance with section 7-152c. For the
123 sole purpose of determining if a violation is the third or more such
124 violation at such property during the prior twelve-month period,
125 "violation" means a violation of any municipal blight regulation for
126 which the municipality has issued a notice of violation and either, in the
127 determination of such municipality, the conditions creating such
128 violation were previously cured or one hundred twenty days have
129 passed from the notice of violation and the conditions creating such
130 violation have not been cured. A third violation may also be established
131 where three or more conditions constituting such violation exist at a
132 property simultaneously;

133 (xvi) Regulate, on any property owned by or under the control of the
134 municipality, any activity deemed to be deleterious to public health,
135 including the burning of a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe or similar device,
136 whether containing, wholly or in part, tobacco or cannabis, as defined
137 in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, and the use or
138 consumption of cannabis, including, but not limited to, electronic
139 cannabis delivery systems, as defined in section 19a-342a, as amended
140 by this act, or vapor products, as defined in said section, containing

141 cannabis. If the municipality's population is greater than fifty thousand,
142 such regulations shall designate a place in the municipality in which
143 public consumption of cannabis is permitted. Such regulations may
144 prohibit the smoking of cannabis and the use of electronic cannabis
145 delivery systems and vapor products containing cannabis in the
146 outdoor sections of a restaurant. Such regulations may prescribe
147 penalties for the violation of such regulations, provided such fine does
148 not exceed fifty dollars for a violation of such regulations regarding
149 consumption by an individual or a fine in excess of one thousand dollars
150 to any business for a violation of such regulations;

151 Sec. 3. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-330*ll* of the 2026
152 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
153 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

154 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section [21a-420]
155 21a-240, as amended by this act;

156 Sec. 4. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (120) of section 12-412 of the
157 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
158 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

159 (B) Nonprescription drugs or medicines do not include cosmetics,
160 dentifrices, mouthwash, shaving and hair care products, soaps,
161 deodorants or products containing cannabis or cannabinoids. As used
162 in this subparagraph, "cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in
163 section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, and "cannabinoids"
164 means manufactured cannabinoids or synthetic cannabinoids, as such
165 terms are defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this act.

166 Sec. 5. Section 12-650 of the general statutes is repealed and the
167 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

168 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, revision of 1958,
169 revised to January 1, 2021, any outstanding liabilities or assessments, or
170 any portion thereof, made under said chapter related to the sale,
171 purchase, acquisition or possession within the state or the transport or

172 importation into the state, of [marijuana] cannabis, as defined in section
173 21a-240, as amended by this act, shall be cancelled. The Commissioner
174 of Revenue Services may take any action necessary to effectuate the
175 cancellation of such liabilities and assessments. No cancellation of a
176 liability or an assessment pursuant to this section shall entitle any
177 person affected by such cancellation to a refund or credit of any amount
178 previously paid or collected in connection with such liability or
179 assessment.

180 Sec. 6. Subdivision (13) of subsection (a) of section 12-704d of the
181 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
182 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

183 (13) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section [21a-
184 420] 21a-240, as amended by this act; and

185 Sec. 7. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the 2026
186 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
187 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

188 (d) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued to any
189 applicant who is sixteen or seventeen years of age unless the applicant
190 has held a youth instruction permit and has satisfied the requirements
191 specified in this subsection. The applicant shall (A) submit to the
192 commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a
193 certificate of the successful completion (i) in a public secondary school,
194 a technical education and career school or a private secondary school of
195 a full course of study in motor vehicle operation prepared as provided
196 in section 14-36e, (ii) of training of similar nature provided by a licensed
197 drivers' school approved by the commissioner, or (iii) of home training
198 in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, including, in each
199 case, or by a combination of such types of training, successful
200 completion of: Not less than forty clock hours of behind-the-wheel, on-
201 the-road instruction for applicants to whom a youth instruction permit
202 is issued on or after August 1, 2008; (B) submit to the commissioner, in
203 such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a certificate of the

204 successful completion of (i) a course of not less than eight hours relative
205 to safe driving practices, including a minimum of four hours on the
206 nature and the medical, biological and physiological effects of alcohol
207 and drugs, including cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240,
208 as amended by this act, and their impact on the operator of a motor
209 vehicle, the dangers associated with the operation of a motor vehicle
210 after the consumption of alcohol or drugs by the operator, the problems
211 of alcohol and drug abuse, the penalties for alcohol and drug-related
212 motor vehicle violations and a video presentation specific to the impact
213 of cannabis on the operator of a motor vehicle and how the ingestion of
214 cannabis can cause impairment of motor function, reaction time,
215 perception and peripheral vision, and (ii) for applicants to whom a
216 youth instruction permit is issued on or after January 1, 2026, the
217 highway work zone and roadside vehicle safety awareness program
218 established in section 14-111r; and (C) pass an examination which may
219 include a comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws concerning
220 motor vehicles and the rules of the road in addition to the test required
221 under subsection (c) of this section and shall include an on-the-road
222 skills test as prescribed by the commissioner. At the time of application
223 and examination for a motor vehicle operator's license, an applicant
224 sixteen or seventeen years of age shall have held a youth instruction
225 permit for not less than one hundred eighty days, except that an
226 applicant who presents a certificate under subparagraph (A)(i) or
227 [subparagraph] (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall have held a youth
228 instruction permit for not less than one hundred twenty days and an
229 applicant who is undergoing training and instruction by the driver
230 training unit for persons with disabilities in accordance with the
231 provisions of section 14-11b shall have held such permit for the period
232 of time required by said unit. The commissioner shall approve the
233 content of the safe driving practices course at drivers' schools, high
234 schools and other secondary schools. Subject to such standards and
235 requirements as the commissioner may impose, the commissioner may
236 authorize any drivers' school, licensed in good standing in accordance
237 with the provisions of section 14-69, or secondary school driver
238 education program authorized pursuant to the provisions of section 14-

239 36e, to administer the comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws
240 concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road, required pursuant
241 to subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, as part of the safe driving
242 practices course required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this
243 subdivision, and to certify to the commissioner, under oath, the results
244 of each such test administered. Such hours of instruction required by
245 this subdivision shall be included as part of or in addition to any existing
246 instruction programs. Any fee charged for the course required under
247 subparagraph (B)(i) or (B)(ii) of this subdivision shall not exceed two
248 hundred dollars. Any applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who,
249 while a resident of another state, completed the course required in
250 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, but did not complete the safe
251 driving practices course required in subparagraph (B) of this
252 subdivision, shall complete the safe driving practices course. The
253 commissioner may waive any requirement in this subdivision, except
254 for the requirements of subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, in the case
255 of an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who holds a valid
256 motor vehicle operator's license issued by any other state, provided the
257 commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has received training and
258 instruction of a similar nature.

259 Sec. 8. Subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 14-227a of the 2026
260 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
261 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

262 (2) In any prosecution for a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection
263 (a) of this section in which it is alleged that the defendant's operation of
264 a motor vehicle was impaired, in whole or in part, by consumption of
265 cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act,
266 the court may take judicial notice that the ingestion of cannabis (A) can
267 impair a person's ability to operate a motor vehicle; (B) can cause
268 impairment of motor function, reaction time, tracking ability, cognitive
269 attention, decision-making, judgment, perception, peripheral vision,
270 impulse control or memory; and (C) does not enhance a person's ability
271 to safely operate a motor vehicle.

272 Sec. 9. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 15-140r of the
273 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
274 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

275 (2) In any prosecution for a violation of subsection (a) of this section
276 in which it is alleged that the defendant's operation of a vessel was
277 impaired, in whole or in part, by consumption of cannabis, as defined
278 in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, the court may take
279 judicial notice that the ingestion of cannabis (A) can impair a person's
280 ability to operate a vessel; (B) can cause impairment of motor function,
281 reaction time, tracking ability, cognitive attention, decision-making,
282 judgment, perception, peripheral vision, impulse control or memory;
283 and (C) does not enhance a person's ability to safely operate a vessel.

284 Sec. 10. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 19a-342 of the
285 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
286 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

287 (3) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
288 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act; and

289 Sec. 11. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 19a-342a of the
290 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
291 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

292 (6) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
293 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

294 Sec. 12. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-3b of the 2026
295 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
296 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

297 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section [21a-420]
298 21a-240, as amended by this act;

299 Sec. 13. Section 21a-8c of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
300 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*

301 October 1, 2026):

302 (a) There shall be a State-Wide Cannabis, [and] Hemp and Controlled
303 Substances Enforcement [Policy] Board consisting of the Attorney
304 General, the Chief State's Attorney, the Commissioner of Consumer
305 Protection, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
306 Protection, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services
307 [, the Commissioner of Public Health,] and the Commissioner of
308 Revenue Services, [and the executive director of the Social Equity
309 Council,] or their designees.

310 (b) The [policy] board shall convene quarterly to (1) identify areas of
311 need and enforcement opportunities concerning illegal cannabis sales,
312 [and] intoxicating hemp product sales and controlled substance sales,
313 and (2) [examine scientific developments and public health studies
314 concerning cannabis and hemp, (3)] examine developments in national
315 trends and best practices concerning cannabis, [and] hemp [regulation]
316 and controlled substance enforcement. [, and (4) examine developments
317 in the cannabis and hemp industries.]

318 (c) The quarterly meetings of the board, and all documents related to
319 such meetings, shall not be available to the public or subject to
320 inspection or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as
321 defined in section 1-200.

322 Sec. 14. Section 21a-12g of the general statutes is repealed and the
323 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

324 Not later than December 1, 2022, the Department of Consumer
325 Protection shall develop documents concerning the safe storage by
326 consumers of (1) prescription drugs, as defined in section 19a-754b, and
327 (2) cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this
328 act, and cannabis products, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended
329 by this act. Such documents shall contain, but need not be limited to,
330 information concerning best practices for (A) storing prescription drugs
331 and cannabis and cannabis products in a manner that renders such items

332 inaccessible to children, and (B) disposal of unused and expired
333 prescription drugs and cannabis and cannabis products. Not later than
334 December 15, 2022, the department shall publish such documents on its
335 Internet web site.

336 Sec. 15. Subsection (d) of section 21a-106 of the general statutes is
337 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
338 *1, 2026*):

339 (d) If it is for use by man and contains any quantity of the narcotic or
340 hypnotic substance alpha-eucaine, beta-eucaine, bromal, cannabis,
341 carbromal, chloral, coca, cocaine, codeine, heroin, [marijuana,]
342 morphine, opium, paraldehyde, peyote or sulphonmethane, or any
343 chemical derivative of any such substance, which derivative has been
344 designated as habit-forming by regulations promulgated under Section
345 352(d) of the federal act; unless its label bears the name and quantity or
346 proportion of such substance or derivative and in juxtaposition
347 therewith the statement "Warning-may be habit-forming";

348 Sec. 16. Subdivisions (20) to (29), inclusive, of section 21a-240 of the
349 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
350 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

351 (20) (A) "Drug paraphernalia" means equipment, products and
352 materials of any kind that are used, intended for use or designed for use
353 in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting,
354 manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing,
355 preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing,
356 containing or concealing, or ingesting, inhaling or otherwise
357 introducing into the human body, any controlled substance contrary to
358 the provisions of this chapter, including, but not limited to: (i) Kits
359 intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating,
360 cultivating, growing or harvesting [of] any species of plant that is a
361 controlled substance or from which a controlled substance can be
362 derived; (ii) kits used, intended for use or designed for use in
363 manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing or

364 preparing controlled substances; (iii) isomerization devices used or
365 intended for use in increasing the potency of any species of plant that is
366 a controlled substance; (iv) testing equipment used, intended for use or
367 designed for use in identifying or analyzing the strength, effectiveness
368 or purity of controlled substances; (v) dilutents and adulterants,
369 including, but not limited to, quinine hydrochloride, mannitol, mannite,
370 dextrose and lactose used, intended for use or designed for use in
371 cutting controlled substances; (vi) separation gins and sifters used,
372 intended for use or designed for use in removing twigs and seeds from,
373 or in otherwise cleaning or refining, [marijuana] cannabis; (vii) capsules
374 and other containers used, intended for use or designed for use in
375 packaging small quantities of controlled substances; (viii) containers
376 and other objects used, intended for use or designed for use in storing
377 or concealing controlled substances; and (ix) objects used, intended for
378 use or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing
379 [marijuana] cannabis, cocaine, hashish or hashish oil into the human
380 body, including, but not limited to, wooden, acrylic, glass, stone, plastic
381 or ceramic pipes with screens, permanent screens, hashish heads or
382 punctured metal bowls; water pipes; carburetion tubes and devices;
383 smoking and carburetion masks; roach clips; miniature cocaine spoons
384 and cocaine vials; chamber pipes; carburetor pipes; electric pipes; air-
385 driven pipes; chillums; bongs; ice pipes and chillers. "Drug
386 paraphernalia" does not include a product used by a manufacturer
387 licensed pursuant to this chapter for the activities permitted under the
388 license or by an individual to test any substance prior to injection,
389 inhalation or ingestion of the substance to prevent accidental overdose
390 by injection, inhalation or ingestion of the substance, provided the
391 licensed manufacturer or individual is not using the product to engage
392 in the unlicensed manufacturing or distribution of controlled
393 substances. As used in this subdivision, "roach clip" means an object
394 used to hold burning material, including, but not limited to, a
395 [marijuana] cannabis cigarette, that has become too small or too short to
396 be held between the fingers.

397 (B) "Factory" means any place used for the manufacturing, mixing,

398 compounding, refining, processing, packaging, distributing, storing,
399 keeping, holding, administering or assembling of illegal substances
400 contrary to the provisions of this chapter, or any building, rooms or
401 location which contains equipment or paraphernalia used for this
402 purpose.

403 (21) "Federal Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC 801 et seq." means
404 Public Law 91-513, the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and
405 Control Act of 1970.

406 (22) "Federal food and drug laws" means the federal Food, Drug and
407 Cosmetic Act, as amended, Title 21 USC 301 et seq.

408 (23) "Hallucinogenic substances" are psychodysleptic substances,
409 other than cannabis-type substances, which assert a confusional or
410 disorganizing effect upon mental processes or behavior and mimic
411 acute psychotic disturbances. Exemplary of such drugs are mescaline,
412 peyote, psilocyn and d-lysergic acid diethylamide, which are controlled
413 substances under this chapter unless modified.

414 (24) "Hospital", as used in sections 21a-243 to 21a-283, inclusive, as
415 amended by this act, means an institution for the care and treatment of
416 the sick and injured, approved by the Department of Public Health or
417 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as proper to
418 be entrusted with the custody of controlled drugs and substances and
419 professional use of controlled drugs and substances under the direction
420 of a licensed practitioner.

421 (25) "Intern" means a person who holds a degree of doctor of
422 medicine or doctor of dental surgery or medicine and whose period of
423 service has been recorded with the Department of Public Health and
424 who has been accepted and is participating in training by a hospital or
425 institution in this state. Doctors meeting the foregoing requirements and
426 commonly designated as "residents" and "fellows" shall be regarded as
427 interns for purposes of this chapter.

428 (26) "Immediate precursor" means a substance which the

429 Commissioner of Consumer Protection has found to be, and by
430 regulation designates as being, the principal compound commonly used
431 or produced primarily for use, and which is an immediate chemical
432 intermediary used or likely to be used, in the manufacture of a
433 controlled substance, the control of which is necessary to prevent, curtail
434 or limit manufacture.

435 (27) "Laboratory" means a laboratory approved by the Department of
436 Consumer Protection as proper to be entrusted with the custody of
437 controlled substances and the use of controlled substances for scientific
438 and medical purposes and for purposes of instruction, research or
439 analysis.

440 (28) "Manufacture" means the production, preparation, cultivation,
441 growing, propagation, compounding, conversion or processing of a
442 controlled substance, either directly or indirectly by extraction from
443 substances of natural origin, or independently by means of chemical
444 synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and
445 includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or
446 relabeling of its container, except that this term does not include the
447 preparation or compounding of a controlled substance by an individual
448 for the individual's own use or the preparation, compounding,
449 packaging or labeling of a controlled substance: (A) By a practitioner as
450 an incident to the practitioner administering or dispensing [of] a
451 controlled substance in the course of such practitioner's professional
452 practice; or (B) by a practitioner, or by the practitioner's authorized
453 agent under such practitioner's supervision, for the purpose of, or as an
454 incident to, research, teaching or chemical analysis and not for sale.

455 (29) ["Marijuana"] "Cannabis" (A) means all parts of any plant [,] or
456 species of the genus *cannabis*, or any infra specific taxon thereof,
457 whether growing or not; [the] (B) includes (i) every resin extracted from
458 any part of [the plant; every] such plant, including, but not limited to,
459 every resin extracted from (I) the mature stalks of such plant, (II) the
460 fiber produced from the mature stalks of such plant, or (III) the oil or
461 cake made from the seeds of such plant, (ii) every other compound,

462 manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of such plant [,] or
463 its resin, [; any] and (iii) every (I) high-THC hemp product, [;] (II)
464 manufactured [cannabinoids;] cannabinoid, or [cannabinon,] (III)
465 cannabinol or cannabidiol and chemical compounds which are similar
466 to [cannabinon,] cannabinol or cannabidiol in chemical structure or
467 which are similar thereto in physiological effect, which are controlled
468 substances under this chapter, except cannabidiol derived from hemp,
469 as defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act, that is not a high-
470 THC hemp product; ["Marijuana"] and (C) does not include [: (A) The]
471 (i) the mature stalks of such plant, (ii) the fiber produced from [such
472 stalks,] the mature stalks of such plant, (iii) the oil or cake made from
473 the seeds of such plant, (iv) any other compound, manufacture, salt,
474 derivative, mixture or preparation of [such] the mature stalks [, except
475 the resin extracted from such mature stalks or fiber, oil or cake; (B) the
476 seed] of such plant, (v) the seeds of such plant, [; (C)] (vi) hemp, as
477 defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act, [(i)] (I) with a total THC
478 concentration of not more than three-tenths per cent on a dry-weight
479 basis, and [(ii)] (II) that is not a high-THC hemp product, [; (D)] (vii)
480 cannabinol, cannabigerol, cannabichromene or any other minor
481 cannabinoid derived from hemp, (viii) any substance approved by the
482 federal Food and Drug Administration or successor agency as a drug
483 and reclassified in any schedule of controlled substances or
484 unscheduled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or
485 successor agency which is included in the same schedule designated by
486 the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency, [;] or
487 [(E)] (ix) any infused [beverages] beverage, as defined in section 21a-
488 425, as amended by this act.

489 Sec. 17. Subsection (e) of section 21a-243 of the 2026 supplement to
490 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
491 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

492 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall classify
493 [marijuana] cannabis as a controlled substance in schedule II under the
494 Connecticut controlled substance scheduling regulations, except that for

495 any [marijuana] cannabis product that has been approved by the federal
496 Food and Drug Administration or successor agency to have a medical
497 use and that is reclassified in any schedule of controlled substances or
498 unscheduled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or
499 successor agency, the commissioner shall adopt the schedule designated
500 by the Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency. In the
501 event that [marijuana] cannabis is reclassified as a controlled substance
502 in schedule III, IV or V of the federal Controlled Substances Act, or is
503 unscheduled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or
504 successor agency, the commissioner shall adopt the schedule designated
505 by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency.

506 Sec. 18. Subsection (a) of section 21a-246 of the general statutes is
507 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
508 *1, 2026*):

509 (a) No person within this state shall manufacture, wholesale,
510 repack, supply, compound, mix, cultivate or grow, or by other
511 process produce or prepare, controlled substances without first
512 obtaining a license to do so from the Commissioner of Consumer
513 Protection and no person within this state shall operate a laboratory for
514 the purpose of research or analysis using controlled substances without
515 first obtaining a license to do so from the Commissioner of Consumer
516 Protection, except that such activities by pharmacists or pharmacies in
517 the filling and dispensing of prescriptions or activities incident thereto,
518 or the dispensing or administering of controlled substances by dentists,
519 podiatrists, physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice
520 registered nurses or veterinarians, or other persons acting under their
521 supervision, in the treatment of patients shall not be subject to the
522 provisions of this section, and provided laboratories for instruction in
523 dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, pharmacology and
524 pharmacognosy in institutions duly licensed for such purposes in this
525 state shall not be subject to the provisions of this section except with
526 respect to narcotic drugs and schedule I and II controlled substances.
527 Upon application of any physician or physician assistant licensed

528 pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse
529 licensed pursuant to chapter 378, the Commissioner of Consumer
530 Protection shall without unnecessary delay, (1) license such physician to
531 possess and supply [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of glaucoma
532 or the side effects of chemotherapy, or (2) license such physician
533 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse to possess and supply
534 [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of the side effects of
535 chemotherapy. No person outside this state shall sell or supply
536 controlled substances within this state without first obtaining a license
537 to do so from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, provided no
538 such license shall be required of a manufacturer whose principal place
539 of business is located outside this state and who is registered with the
540 federal Drug Enforcement Administration or other federal agency, and
541 who files a copy of such registration with the appropriate licensing
542 authority under this chapter.

543 Sec. 19. Section 21a-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the
544 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

545 Any person may possess or have under [his] such person's control a
546 quantity of [marijuana] cannabis less than or equal to that quantity
547 supplied to [him] such person pursuant to a prescription made in
548 accordance with the provisions of section 21a-249 by (1) a physician
549 licensed under the provisions of chapter 370 and further authorized by
550 subsection (a) of section 21a-246, as amended by this act, by the
551 Commissioner of Consumer Protection to possess and supply
552 [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of glaucoma or the side effects of
553 chemotherapy, or (2) a physician assistant licensed under the provisions
554 of chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under
555 the provisions of chapter 378, and further authorized by subsection (a)
556 of section 21a-246, as amended by this act, by said commissioner to
557 possess and supply [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of the side
558 effects of chemotherapy.

559 Sec. 20. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 21a-277 of the
560 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

561 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

562 (3) For purposes of this subsection, "cannabis" has the same meaning
563 as provided in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act.

564 Sec. 21. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-279 of the
565 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
566 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

567 (a) (1) Any person who possesses or has under such person's control
568 any quantity of any controlled substance, except any quantity of
569 cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act,
570 and except as authorized in this chapter or chapter 420f, shall be guilty
571 of a class A misdemeanor.

572 Sec. 22. Subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 21a-279a of the
573 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
574 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

575 (j) (1) As used in this section, "cannabis" [.] has the same meaning as
576 provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act, and "cannabis
577 flower", "cannabis trim", "cannabis concentrate" and "cannabis product"
578 have the same meanings as provided in section 21a-420, as amended by
579 this act.

580 Sec. 23. Section 21a-408 of the general statutes is repealed and the
581 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

582 As used in this section, sections 21a-408a to 21a-408o, inclusive, as
583 amended by this act, and sections 21a-408r to 21a-408w, inclusive, as
584 amended by this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

585 (1) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means an advanced practice
586 registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378;

587 (2) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240,
588 as amended by this act;

589 [(2)] (3) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided
590 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

591 [(3)] (4) "Cannabis testing laboratory" means a person who (A) is
592 located in this state, (B) is licensed by the department to analyze
593 [marijuana] cannabis, and (C) meets the licensure requirements
594 established in section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the
595 regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as
596 amended by this act;

597 [(4)] (5) "Cannabis testing laboratory employee" means a person who
598 is (A) employed at a cannabis testing laboratory, and (B) registered
599 pursuant to section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the regulations
600 adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as amended by
601 this act;

602 [(5)] (6) "Caregiver" means a person, other than the qualifying patient
603 and the qualifying patient's physician, physician assistant or advanced
604 practice registered nurse, who is eighteen years of age or older and has
605 agreed to undertake responsibility for managing the well-being of the
606 qualifying patient with respect to the palliative use of [marijuana]
607 cannabis, provided (A) in the case of a qualifying patient (i) under
608 eighteen years of age and not an emancipated minor, or (ii) otherwise
609 lacking legal capacity, such person shall be a parent, guardian or person
610 having legal custody of such qualifying patient, and (B) in the case of a
611 qualifying patient eighteen years of age or older or an emancipated
612 minor, the need for such person shall be evaluated by the qualifying
613 patient's physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
614 nurse and such need shall be documented in the written certification;

615 [(6)] (7) "Cultivation" includes planting, propagating, cultivating,
616 growing and harvesting;

617 [(7)] (8) "Debilitating medical condition" means (A) cancer, glaucoma,
618 positive status for human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune
619 deficiency syndrome, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, damage to

620 the nervous tissue of the spinal cord with objective neurological
621 indication of intractable spasticity, epilepsy or uncontrolled intractable
622 seizure disorder, cachexia, wasting syndrome, Crohn's disease,
623 posttraumatic stress disorder, irreversible spinal cord injury with
624 objective neurological indication of intractable spasticity, cerebral palsy,
625 cystic fibrosis or terminal illness requiring end-of-life care, except, if the
626 qualifying patient is under eighteen years of age, "debilitating medical
627 condition" means terminal illness requiring end-of-life care, irreversible
628 spinal cord injury with objective neurological indication of intractable
629 spasticity, cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, severe epilepsy or uncontrolled
630 intractable seizure disorder, or (B) any medical condition, medical
631 treatment or disease approved for qualifying patients by the
632 Department of Consumer Protection and posted online pursuant to
633 section 21a-408~~l~~, as amended by this act;

634 [(8)] (9) "Dispensary facility" means a place of business, for which the
635 department has issued a dispensary facility license pursuant to this
636 chapter, where [marijuana] cannabis may be dispensed, sold or
637 distributed in accordance with this chapter and any regulations adopted
638 thereunder to qualifying patients, [and] qualifying out-of-state patients,
639 caregivers [and for which the department has issued a dispensary
640 facility license pursuant to this chapter] and qualifying out-of-state
641 caregivers;

642 [(9)] (10) "Employee" has the same meaning as provided in section
643 21a-420, as amended by this act;

644 [(10)] (11) "Institutional animal care and use committee" means a
645 committee that oversees an organization's animal program, facilities
646 and procedures to ensure compliance with federal policies, guidelines
647 and principles related to the care and use of animals in research;

648 [(11)] (12) "Institutional review board" means a specifically
649 constituted review body established or designated by an organization
650 to protect the rights and welfare of persons recruited to participate in
651 biomedical, behavioral or social science research;

652 [(12)] (13) "Licensed dispensary" or "dispensary" means an individual
653 who is a licensed pharmacist employed by a dispensary facility or a
654 hybrid retailer, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

655 [(13) "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
656 240;]

657 (14) "Nurse" means a person who is licensed as a nurse under chapter
658 378;

659 (15) "Palliative use" (A) means (i) the acquisition, distribution,
660 transfer, possession, use or transportation of [marijuana] cannabis or
661 paraphernalia relating to [marijuana] cannabis, including the transfer of
662 [marijuana] cannabis and paraphernalia relating to [marijuana]
663 cannabis from the qualifying patient's caregiver to the qualifying
664 patient, to alleviate a qualifying patient's symptoms of a debilitating
665 medical condition or the effects of such symptoms, [but] and (ii) the
666 acquisition, possession, use or transportation of cannabis or
667 paraphernalia relating to cannabis by a qualifying out-of-state patient,
668 including the transfer of cannabis and paraphernalia relating to
669 cannabis from the qualifying out-of-state patient's caregiver to the
670 qualifying out-of-state patient, and (B) does not include any such use of
671 [marijuana] cannabis by any person other than the qualifying patient or
672 qualifying out-of-state patient;

673 (16) "Paraphernalia" means drug paraphernalia, as defined in section
674 21a-240, as amended by this act;

675 (17) "Physician" means a person who is licensed as a physician under
676 chapter 370;

677 (18) "Physician assistant" means a person who is licensed as a
678 physician assistant under chapter 370;

679 (19) "Producer" means a person who is licensed as a producer
680 pursuant to section 21a-408i, as amended by this act;

681 (20) "Qualifying out-of-state caregiver" means a person, other than
682 the qualifying out-of-state patient, who (A) is eighteen years of age or
683 older, (B) is a resident of another state or jurisdiction of the United
684 States, (C) is a parent, guardian or person having legal custody of the
685 qualifying out-of-state patient, and (D) holds a valid qualifying out-of-
686 state credential from such other state or jurisdiction that entitles such
687 person to undertake responsibility for managing the well-being of the
688 qualifying out-of-state patient with respect to the palliative use of
689 cannabis in such other state or jurisdiction;

690 (21) "Qualifying out-of-state credential" means a card or other
691 physical document issued by another state or jurisdiction of the United
692 States to a resident of such other state or jurisdiction that entitles such
693 resident to (A) engage in the palliative use of cannabis in such other state
694 or jurisdiction, or (B) undertake responsibility for managing the well-
695 being of a qualifying out-of-state patient with respect to the palliative
696 use of cannabis in such other state or jurisdiction;

697 (22) "Qualifying out-of-state patient" means a person who (A) is a
698 resident of another state or jurisdiction of the United States, and (B)
699 holds a valid qualifying out-of-state credential from such other state or
700 jurisdiction that entitles such person to engage in the palliative use of
701 cannabis in such other state or jurisdiction;

702 ~~[(20)]~~ (23) "Qualifying patient" means a person who (A) is a resident
703 of Connecticut, (B) has been diagnosed by a physician, physician
704 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse as having a debilitating
705 medical condition, and (C) (i) is eighteen years of age or older, (ii) is an
706 emancipated minor, or (iii) has written consent from a custodial parent,
707 guardian or other person having legal custody of such person that
708 indicates that such person has permission from such parent, guardian
709 or other person for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis for a
710 debilitating medical condition and that such parent, guardian or other
711 person will (I) serve as a caregiver for the qualifying patient, and (II)
712 control the acquisition and possession of [marijuana] cannabis and any
713 related paraphernalia for palliative use on behalf of such person.

714 "Qualifying patient" does not include an inmate confined in a
715 correctional institution or facility under the supervision of the
716 Department of Correction;

717 [(21)] (24) "Research program" means a study approved by the
718 Department of Consumer Protection in accordance with this chapter
719 and undertaken to increase information or knowledge regarding the
720 growth or processing of [marijuana] cannabis, or the medical attributes,
721 dosage forms, administration or use of [marijuana] cannabis to treat or
722 alleviate symptoms of any medical conditions or the effects of such
723 symptoms;

724 [(22)] (25) "Research program employee" means a person who (A) is
725 registered as a research program employee under section 21a-408t, or
726 (B) holds a temporary certificate of registration issued pursuant to
727 section 21a-408t;

728 [(23)] (26) "Research program subject" means a person registered as a
729 research program subject pursuant to section 21a-408v, as amended by
730 this act;

731 [(24) "Usable marijuana"] (27) "Usable cannabis" means the dried
732 leaves and flowers of the [marijuana] cannabis plant, and any mixtures
733 or preparations of such leaves and flowers, that are appropriate for the
734 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis, but does not include the seeds,
735 stalks and roots of the [marijuana] cannabis plant; and

736 [(25)] (28) "Written certification" means a written certification issued
737 by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
738 nurse pursuant to section 21a-408c, as amended by this act.

739 Sec. 24. Section 21a-408a of the general statutes is repealed and the
740 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

741 (a) A qualifying patient shall register with the Department of
742 Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-408d, as amended by this
743 act, prior to engaging in the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis. A

744 qualifying patient who has a valid registration certificate from the
745 Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
746 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and complies with the
747 requirements of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
748 this act, shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any
749 manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty,
750 or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being
751 subject to any disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for
752 the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis if:

753 (1) The qualifying patient's physician, physician assistant or
754 advanced practice registered nurse has issued a written certification to
755 the qualifying patient for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis after
756 the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse
757 has prescribed, or determined it is not in the best interest of the patient
758 to prescribe, prescription drugs to address the symptoms or effects for
759 which the certification is being issued;

760 (2) The combined amount of [marijuana] cannabis possessed by the
761 qualifying patient and the caregiver for palliative use does not exceed
762 five ounces;

763 (3) The qualifying patient has not more than one caregiver at any
764 time; and

765 (4) Any cannabis plants grown by the qualifying patient in [his or]
766 the qualifying patient's home [is] are in compliance with subsection (b)
767 of section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and any applicable
768 regulations.

769 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section do not apply to:

770 (1) Any palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis that endangers the
771 health or well-being of a person other than the qualifying patient or the
772 caregiver; or

773 (2) The ingestion of [marijuana] cannabis (A) in a motor bus or a

774 school bus or in any other moving vehicle, (B) in the workplace, (C) on
775 any school grounds or any public or private school, dormitory, college
776 or university property, unless such college or university is participating
777 in a research program and such use is pursuant to the terms of the
778 research program, (D) in any public place, or (E) in the presence of a
779 person under the age of eighteen, unless such person is a qualifying
780 patient or research program subject. For the purposes of this
781 subdivision, (i) "presence" means within the direct line of sight of the
782 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis or exposure to second-hand
783 [marijuana] cannabis smoke, or both; (ii) "public place" means any area
784 that is used or held out for use by the public whether owned or operated
785 by public or private interests; (iii) "vehicle" means a vehicle, as defined
786 in section 14-1; (iv) "motor bus" means a motor bus, as defined in section
787 14-1; and (v) "school bus" means a school bus, as defined in section 14-
788 1.

789 (c) (1) A qualifying out-of-state patient who complies with the
790 requirements of this chapter and chapter 420h shall not be subject to
791 arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not
792 limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or
793 privilege, including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary
794 action by a professional licensing board, for the palliative use of
795 cannabis if the amount of cannabis possessed by the qualifying out-of-
796 state patient and the qualifying out-of-state caregiver for palliative use
797 does not exceed five ounces.

798 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection do not apply
799 to (A) any palliative use of cannabis described in subdivision (1) of
800 subsection (b) of this section, or (B) any ingestion of cannabis described
801 in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section.

802 Sec. 25. Section 21a-408b of the general statutes is repealed and the
803 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

804 (a) No person may serve as a caregiver for a qualifying patient unless
805 such qualifying patient has a valid registration certificate from the

806 Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
807 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act. A caregiver may not be
808 responsible for the care of more than one qualifying patient at any time,
809 except that a caregiver may be responsible for the care of more than one
810 qualifying patient if the caregiver and each qualifying patient have a
811 parental, grandparental, guardianship, conservatorship, spousal or
812 sibling relationship.

813 (b) (1) A caregiver who has a valid registration certificate from the
814 Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
815 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and complies with the
816 requirements of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
817 this act, shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any
818 manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty,
819 or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being
820 subject to any disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for
821 the acquisition, distribution, possession or transportation of [marijuana]
822 cannabis or paraphernalia related to [marijuana] cannabis on behalf of
823 such caregiver's qualifying patient, provided the amount of any
824 [marijuana] cannabis so acquired, distributed, possessed or transported,
825 together with the combined amount of usable [marijuana] cannabis
826 possessed by the qualifying patient and the caregiver, does not exceed
827 five ounces.

828 (2) A qualifying out-of-state caregiver who complies with the
829 requirements of this chapter and chapter 420h shall not be subject to
830 arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not
831 limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or
832 privilege, including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary
833 action by a professional licensing board, for the acquisition, distribution,
834 possession or transportation of cannabis or paraphernalia related to
835 cannabis on behalf of such qualifying out-of-state caregiver's qualifying
836 out-of-state patient, provided the amount of any cannabis so acquired,
837 distributed, possessed or transported, together with the combined
838 amount of usable cannabis possessed by the qualifying out-of-state

839 patient and the qualifying out-of-state caregiver, does not exceed five
840 ounces.

841 (3) For the purposes of this subsection, "distribution" or "distributed"
842 means the transfer of [marijuana] cannabis and paraphernalia related to
843 [marijuana] cannabis from the caregiver to the qualifying patient or
844 from the qualifying out-of-state caregiver to the qualifying out-of-state
845 patient.

846 (c) A dispensary facility shall not dispense any cannabis product, as
847 defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act, in a smokable,
848 inhalable or vaporizable form (1) to a caregiver for a qualifying patient
849 who is under eighteen years of age, or (2) to a qualifying out-of-state
850 caregiver for a qualifying out-of-state patient who is under eighteen
851 years of age.

852 Sec. 26. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-408c of the 2026
853 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
854 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

855 (a) (1) A physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
856 registered nurse may issue a written certification to a qualifying patient
857 that authorizes the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis by the
858 qualifying patient. Such written certification shall be in the form
859 prescribed by the Department of Consumer Protection and shall include
860 a statement signed and dated by the qualifying patient's physician,
861 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in
862 such physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered
863 nurse's professional opinion, (A) the qualifying patient has a
864 debilitating medical condition, and (B) the potential benefits of the
865 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis would likely outweigh the health
866 risks of such use to the qualifying patient.

867 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (6) of this subsection, any
868 written certification issued by a physician, physician assistant or
869 advanced practice registered nurse pursuant to subdivision (1) of this

870 subsection shall be valid for a period not to exceed one of the following
871 durations, as determined by the physician, physician assistant or
872 advanced practice registered nurse and beginning on the date on which
873 such written certification is signed and dated by the physician,
874 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse: (A) Six
875 months; (B) one year; (C) eighteen months; or (D) two years.

876 (3) Except as provided in subdivision (6) of this subsection, not later
877 than ten calendar days after the expiration of the period determined by
878 the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse
879 under subdivision (2) of this subsection, or at any time before the
880 expiration of such period should the qualifying patient no longer wish
881 to possess [marijuana] cannabis for palliative use, the qualifying patient
882 or the caregiver shall destroy all usable [marijuana] cannabis possessed
883 by the qualifying patient and the caregiver for palliative use.

884 (4) A physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
885 nurse shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any
886 manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty,
887 or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being
888 subject to any disciplinary action by the Connecticut Medical Examining
889 Board, the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing or other
890 professional licensing board, for providing a written certification under
891 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-408a, as amended by this
892 act, if:

893 (A) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
894 registered nurse has diagnosed the qualifying patient as having a
895 debilitating medical condition;

896 (B) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
897 nurse has explained the potential risks and benefits of the palliative use
898 of [marijuana] cannabis to the qualifying patient and, if the qualifying
899 patient lacks legal capacity, to a parent, guardian or person having legal
900 custody of the qualifying patient, to the qualifying patient's caregiver or
901 to a person legally authorized to make medical decisions on behalf of

902 the qualifying patient;

903 (C) The written certification issued by the physician, physician
904 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse is based upon the
905 physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered nurse's
906 professional opinion after having completed a medically reasonable
907 assessment of the qualifying patient's medical history and current
908 medical condition made in the course of a bona fide health care
909 professional-patient relationship; and

910 (D) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
911 registered nurse has no financial interest in a cannabis establishment,
912 except for retailers and delivery services, as such terms are defined in
913 section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

914 (5) A physician assistant or nurse shall not be subject to arrest or
915 prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
916 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
917 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
918 the Connecticut Medical Examining Board, Board of Examiners for
919 Nursing or other professional licensing board, for administering
920 [marijuana] cannabis to a qualifying patient or research program subject
921 in a hospital or health care facility licensed by the Department of Public
922 Health.

923 (6) A licensed dispensary, acting in the course of the licensed
924 dispensary's employment on the premises of the dispensary facility or
925 hybrid retailer, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act,
926 that employs such licensed dispensary, may grant a temporary
927 extension of a written certification issued by a physician, physician
928 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse pursuant to subdivision
929 (1) of this subsection for a period not to exceed ninety consecutive days
930 following expiration of such written certification.

931 (b) (1) A licensed dispensary, acting in the course of the licensed
932 dispensary's employment and on the premises of the dispensary facility

933 or hybrid retailer, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act,
934 that employs such licensed dispensary, may issue a temporary written
935 certification to an individual that authorizes the individual to engage in
936 the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis as a qualifying patient for a
937 period not to exceed ninety consecutive days, provided such licensed
938 dispensary has:

939 (A) Reasonably determined, after reviewing such individual's
940 medical history, that such individual is at least eighteen years of age and
941 has a debilitating medical condition;

942 (B) Conducted an in-person assessment of such individual at the
943 dispensary facility or on the premises of the hybrid retailer that employs
944 the licensed dispensary; and

945 (C) Reviewed the electronic prescription drug monitoring program
946 established pursuant to section 21a-254 and verified that no other
947 licensed dispensary had prescribed or dispensed [marijuana] cannabis
948 to such individual during the one-year period immediately preceding
949 the date of such review.

950 (2) Each temporary written certification issued pursuant to
951 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be in a form prescribed by the
952 Department of Consumer Protection and shall include a statement
953 signed and dated by the licensed dispensary stating that, in such
954 licensed dispensary's professional opinion, (A) the individual has
955 provided sufficient proof that such individual has a debilitating medical
956 condition, and (B) the potential benefits the individual would derive
957 from the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis likely outweigh the
958 health risks that such use would pose to such individual.

959 (3) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification
960 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, or the dispensary facility
961 or hybrid retailer that employs such licensed dispensary, may impose a
962 fee for such temporary written certification, which fee shall not exceed
963 twenty-five dollars. Such licensed dispensary, dispensary facility or

964 hybrid retailer shall not impose any other fee in connection with such
965 temporary written certification.

966 (4) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification
967 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall maintain all patient
968 assessment and eligibility documentation concerning such temporary
969 written certification for a period of at least three years beginning on the
970 date on which the licensed dispensary issued such temporary written
971 certification. Such documentation shall be organized and maintained
972 (A) in hard copy at the dispensary facility or hybrid retailer premises at
973 which the licensed dispensary conducted an in-person assessment of the
974 patient, or (B) electronically in a system readily accessible by the
975 licensed dispensary.

976 (5) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification
977 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall ensure that all patient
978 assessment and eligibility documentation maintained pursuant to
979 subdivision (4) of this subsection is made readily available to the
980 department, and shall submit any such documentation to the
981 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, not
982 later than forty-eight hours after the department requests such
983 documentation.

984 (6) A licensed dispensary shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution,
985 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to
986 any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not
987 limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by the Commission
988 of Pharmacy or any other professional licensing board, for providing a
989 temporary written certification pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
990 subsection if:

991 (A) The licensed dispensary has reasonably determined, after
992 reviewing the individual's medical history, that the individual is
993 eighteen years of age or older and has a debilitating medical condition;
994 and

995 (B) The licensed dispensary has explained the potential risks and
996 benefits of the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis to the individual
997 and, if the individual lacks legal capacity, to a parent, guardian or
998 person having legal custody of the individual or to a person legally
999 authorized to make medical decisions on behalf of the individual.

1000 Sec. 27. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 21a-408d of the
1001 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1002 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1003 (a) Each qualifying patient who is issued a written certification for the
1004 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis under subdivision (1) of
1005 subsection (a) of section 21a-408a, as amended by this act, and the
1006 caregiver of such qualifying patient, shall register with the Department
1007 of Consumer Protection. Such registration shall be effective from the
1008 date the Department of Consumer Protection issues a certificate of
1009 registration until the expiration of the written certification issued by the
1010 physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.
1011 The qualifying patient and the caregiver shall provide sufficient
1012 identifying information, as determined by the department, to establish
1013 the personal identity of the qualifying patient and the caregiver. If the
1014 qualifying patient is under eighteen years of age and not an
1015 emancipated minor, the custodial parent, guardian or other person
1016 having legal custody of the qualifying patient shall also provide a letter
1017 from both the qualifying patient's care provider and a physician who is
1018 board certified in an area of medicine involved in the treatment of the
1019 debilitating condition for which the qualifying patient was certified that
1020 confirms that the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis is in the best
1021 interest of the qualifying patient. A physician may issue a written
1022 certification for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis by a
1023 qualifying patient who is under eighteen years of age, provided such
1024 written certification shall not be for [marijuana] cannabis in a dosage
1025 form that requires that the [marijuana] cannabis be smoked, inhaled or
1026 vaporized. The qualifying patient or the caregiver shall report any
1027 change in the identifying information to the department not later than

1028 five business days after such change. The department shall issue a
1029 registration certificate to the qualifying patient and to the caregiver.

1030 (b) Any qualifying patient who is eighteen years of age or older may
1031 cultivate up to three mature cannabis plants and three immature
1032 cannabis plants in the patient's primary residence at any given time,
1033 provided such plants are secure from access by any individual other
1034 than the patient or patient's caregiver and no more than twelve cannabis
1035 plants may be grown per household.

1036 (c) A dispensary shall not dispense any [marijuana] cannabis
1037 products in a smokable, inhalable or vaporizable form to (1) a qualifying
1038 patient who is under eighteen years of age or such qualifying patient's
1039 caregiver, or (2) a qualifying out-of-state patient who is under eighteen
1040 years of age or such qualifying out-of-state patient's qualifying out-of-
1041 state caregiver.

1042 Sec. 28. Section 21a-408e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1043 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1044 No person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution solely for being in
1045 the presence or vicinity of the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis as
1046 permitted under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1047 this act.

1048 Sec. 29. Section 21a-408f of the general statutes is repealed and the
1049 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1050 Any [marijuana] cannabis, paraphernalia relating to [marijuana]
1051 cannabis, or other property seized by law enforcement officials from a
1052 qualifying patient, [or a] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver or
1053 qualifying out-of-state caregiver in connection with the claimed
1054 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis under sections 21a-408 to 21a-
1055 408m, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall be returned to the
1056 qualifying patient, [or the] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver or
1057 qualifying out-of-state caregiver immediately upon the determination
1058 by a court that the qualifying patient, [or the] qualifying out-of-state

1059 patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver is entitled to the
1060 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis under sections 21a-408 to 21a-
1061 408m, inclusive, as amended by this act, as evidenced by a decision not
1062 to prosecute, a dismissal of charges or an acquittal. The provisions of
1063 this section do not apply to any qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-
1064 of-state patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver who fails
1065 to comply with the requirements for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1066 cannabis under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1067 this act.

1068 Sec. 30. Section 21a-408g of the general statutes is repealed and the
1069 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1070 (a) Any person who makes a fraudulent representation to a law
1071 enforcement official of any fact or circumstance relating to the palliative
1072 use of [marijuana] cannabis in order to avoid arrest or prosecution
1073 under chapter 420b or any other provision of the general statutes shall
1074 be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

1075 (b) Any person who makes a fraudulent representation to a law
1076 enforcement official of any fact or circumstance relating to the issuance,
1077 contents or validity of a written certification for the palliative use of
1078 [marijuana] cannabis, or a document purporting to be such a written
1079 certification, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

1080 Sec. 31. Section 21a-408h of the general statutes is repealed and the
1081 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1082 (a) No person may act as a dispensary or represent that such person
1083 is a licensed dispensary unless such person has obtained a license from
1084 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.

1085 (b) No person may act as a dispensary facility or represent that such
1086 person is a licensed dispensary facility unless such person has obtained
1087 a license from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to
1088 this section.

1089 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall determine the
1090 number of dispensary facilities appropriate to meet the needs of
1091 qualifying patients in this state and shall adopt regulations, in
1092 accordance with chapter 54, to provide for the licensure and standards
1093 for dispensary facilities in this state and specify the maximum number
1094 of dispensary facilities that may be licensed in this state. On and after
1095 the effective date of such regulations, the commissioner may license any
1096 person who applies for a license in accordance with such regulations,
1097 provided the commissioner deems such applicant qualified to acquire,
1098 possess, distribute and dispense marijuana pursuant to sections 21a-408
1099 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act. At a minimum, such
1100 regulations shall:

1101 (1) Indicate the maximum number of dispensary facilities that may
1102 be licensed in this state;

1103 (2) Provide that no marijuana may be dispensed from, obtained from
1104 or transferred to a location outside of this state;

1105 (3) Provide for renewal of dispensary facility licenses at least every
1106 two years;

1107 (4) Describe areas in this state where dispensary facilities may not be
1108 located, after considering the criteria for the location of retail liquor
1109 permit premises set forth in subsection (a) of section 30-46;

1110 (5) Establish health, safety and security requirements for dispensary
1111 facilities, which may include, but need not be limited to: (A) The ability
1112 to maintain adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss of
1113 marijuana acquired or possessed by the dispensary facility, and (B) the
1114 ability to maintain the knowledge, understanding, judgment,
1115 procedures, security controls and ethics to ensure optimal safety and
1116 accuracy in the distributing, dispensing and use of palliative marijuana;

1117 (6) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,
1118 summary suspension and nonrenewal of dispensary facility licenses,
1119 provided such standards and procedures are consistent with the

1120 provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182; and

1121 (7) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards
1122 deemed necessary by the commissioner.

1123 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or chapter 420h:

1124 (1) Only a licensed dispensary or dispensary technician under the
1125 direction of a licensed dispensary may upload data to the electronic
1126 prescription drug monitoring program established pursuant to section
1127 21a-254, except such upload may be accomplished by way of an
1128 automated upload from the dispensary facility's point-of-sale system. A
1129 licensed dispensary shall conduct a daily audit of the data uploaded to
1130 such program pursuant to this subdivision. All other authorized
1131 activities of the dispensary facility, including, but not limited to, all such
1132 activities performed in connection with the sale, handling or
1133 management of marijuana for palliative use, may be performed by a
1134 licensed dispensary, dispensary technician or other registered employee
1135 of the dispensary facility.

1136 (2) A dispensary facility shall ensure that a licensed dispensary is
1137 available, either in-person or remotely, when the dispensary facility is
1138 open. The dispensary facility shall ensure that a licensed dispensary is
1139 readily available to provide telehealth consultations and, upon request
1140 by qualifying patients or caregivers, in-person consultations. Nothing in
1141 this subdivision shall be construed to require a dispensary facility to
1142 maintain a licensed dispensary at the dispensary facility for more than
1143 thirty-five hours per week either in-person or remotely.

1144 (3) A dispensary facility that offers telehealth consultations with a
1145 licensed dispensary shall (A) maintain technology that is capable of
1146 facilitating such telehealth consultations, and (B) make such telehealth
1147 consultations readily available and accessible, including, but not limited
1148 to, by telephone from a remote location outside of the dispensary
1149 facility.

1150 (4) Each dispensary facility shall conspicuously post and maintain a

1151 sign (A) at the main entrance of the dispensary facility, which sign shall
1152 (i) be at least twelve inches in height and eighteen inches in width, (ii)
1153 incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and (iii)
1154 state the name of the licensed dispensary who is available for
1155 consultations either in person or through telehealth, and (B) at each
1156 register or comparable point of sale within the dispensary facility, and
1157 on any Internet web site maintained by such dispensary facility, which
1158 sign shall (i) be at least eight inches in height and ten inches in width,
1159 (ii) incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and
1160 (iii) state "Pharmacist available for consultation" in a clear and legible
1161 manner.

1162 (5) No registered employee of a dispensary facility shall sell any
1163 marijuana for palliative use, unless such registered employee has
1164 completed at least (A) one hour of education concerning the types,
1165 availability, dosage and methods of administration of marijuana for
1166 palliative use, (B) one hour of education concerning professional ethics,
1167 (C) one hour of education concerning state and federal laws and
1168 regulations concerning patient privacy, and (D) one hour of education
1169 concerning developments in the palliative use of marijuana.

1170 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt or amend
1171 regulations, as applicable, to implement the provisions of subsection (d)
1172 of this section. Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-
1173 172, inclusive, in order to effectuate the purposes of subsection (d) of
1174 this section and to protect public health and safety, prior to adopting
1175 such regulations, the commissioner shall issue policies and procedures
1176 to implement the provisions of subsection (d) of this section that shall
1177 have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all policies
1178 and procedures on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet
1179 web site, and submit such policies and procedures to the joint standing
1180 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
1181 relating to consumer protection and the Secretary of the State for posting
1182 on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective
1183 date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no

1184 longer be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such policy or
1185 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or July 1, 2028.

1186 Sec. 32. Section 21a-408h of the general statutes, as amended by
1187 section 31 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1188 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1189 (a) No person may act as a dispensary or represent that such person
1190 is a licensed dispensary unless such person has obtained a license from
1191 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.

1192 (b) No person may act as a dispensary facility or represent that such
1193 person is a licensed dispensary facility unless such person has obtained
1194 a license from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to
1195 this section.

1196 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall determine the
1197 number of dispensary facilities appropriate to meet the needs of
1198 qualifying patients in this state and shall adopt regulations, in
1199 accordance with chapter 54, to provide for the licensure and standards
1200 for dispensary facilities in this state and specify the maximum number
1201 of dispensary facilities that may be licensed in this state. On and after
1202 the effective date of such regulations, the commissioner may license any
1203 person who applies for a license in accordance with such regulations,
1204 provided the commissioner deems such applicant qualified to acquire,
1205 possess, distribute and dispense [marijuana] cannabis pursuant to
1206 sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act. At a
1207 minimum, such regulations shall:

1208 (1) Indicate the maximum number of dispensary facilities that may
1209 be licensed in this state;

1210 (2) Provide that no [marijuana] cannabis may be dispensed from,
1211 obtained from or transferred to a location outside of this state;

1212 (3) Provide for renewal of dispensary facility licenses at least every
1213 two years;

1214 (4) Describe areas in this state where dispensary facilities may not be
1215 located, after considering the criteria for the location of retail liquor
1216 permit premises set forth in subsection (a) of section 30-46;

1217 (5) Establish health, safety and security requirements for dispensary
1218 facilities, which may include, but need not be limited to: (A) The ability
1219 to maintain adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss of
1220 [marijuana] cannabis acquired or possessed by the dispensary facility,
1221 and (B) the ability to maintain the knowledge, understanding,
1222 judgment, procedures, security controls and ethics to ensure optimal
1223 safety and accuracy in the distributing, dispensing and use of palliative
1224 [marijuana] cannabis;

1225 (6) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,
1226 summary suspension and nonrenewal of dispensary facility licenses,
1227 provided such standards and procedures are consistent with the
1228 provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182; and

1229 (7) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards
1230 deemed necessary by the commissioner.

1231 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this
1232 section, a retailer or hybrid retailer, as such terms are defined in section
1233 21a-420, as amended by this act, may use the term "dispensary" in any
1234 marketing, advertising or promotional material or in any signage,
1235 branding item, logo or label.

1236 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or chapter
1237 420h:

1238 (1) Only a licensed dispensary or dispensary technician under the
1239 direction of a licensed dispensary may upload data to the electronic
1240 prescription drug monitoring program established pursuant to section
1241 21a-254, except such upload may be accomplished by way of an
1242 automated upload from the dispensary facility's point-of-sale system. A
1243 licensed dispensary shall conduct a daily audit of the data uploaded to
1244 such program pursuant to this subdivision. All other authorized

1245 activities of the dispensary facility, including, but not limited to, all such
1246 activities performed in connection with the sale, handling or
1247 management of [marijuana] cannabis for palliative use, may be
1248 performed by a licensed dispensary, dispensary technician or other
1249 registered employee of the dispensary facility.

1250 (2) A dispensary facility shall ensure that a licensed dispensary is
1251 available, either in-person or remotely, when the dispensary facility is
1252 open. The dispensary facility shall ensure that a licensed dispensary is
1253 readily available to provide telehealth consultations and, upon request
1254 by qualifying patients, [or] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers
1255 or qualifying out-of-state caregivers, in-person consultations. Nothing
1256 in this subdivision shall be construed to require a dispensary facility to
1257 maintain a licensed dispensary at the dispensary facility for more than
1258 thirty-five hours per week either in-person or remotely.

1259 (3) A dispensary facility that offers telehealth consultations with a
1260 licensed dispensary shall (A) maintain technology that is capable of
1261 facilitating such telehealth consultations, and (B) make such telehealth
1262 consultations readily available and accessible, including, but not limited
1263 to, by telephone from a remote location outside of the dispensary
1264 facility.

1265 (4) Each dispensary facility shall conspicuously post and maintain a
1266 sign (A) at the main entrance of the dispensary facility, which sign shall
1267 (i) be at least twelve inches in height and eighteen inches in width, (ii)
1268 incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and (iii)
1269 state the name of the licensed dispensary who is available for
1270 consultations either in person or through telehealth, and (B) at each
1271 register or comparable point of sale within the dispensary facility, and
1272 on any Internet web site maintained by such dispensary facility, which
1273 sign shall (i) be at least eight inches in height and ten inches in width,
1274 (ii) incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and
1275 (iii) state "Pharmacist available for consultation" in a clear and legible
1276 manner.

1277 (5) No registered employee of a dispensary facility shall sell any
1278 [marijuana] cannabis for palliative use, unless such registered employee
1279 has completed at least (A) one hour of education concerning the types,
1280 availability, dosage and methods of administration of [marijuana]
1281 cannabis for palliative use, (B) one hour of education concerning
1282 professional ethics, (C) one hour of education concerning state and
1283 federal laws and regulations concerning patient privacy, and (D) one
1284 hour of education concerning developments in the palliative use of
1285 [marijuana] cannabis.

1286 (6) Dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers may dispense, sell or
1287 distribute cannabis for palliative use to qualifying out-of-state patients
1288 and qualifying out-of-state caregivers, provided:

1289 (A) A qualifying out-of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state
1290 caregiver who purchases cannabis for palliative use submits to the
1291 dispensary facility or hybrid retailer, at the time of purchase, (i) the valid
1292 qualifying out-of-state credential that was issued to the qualifying out-
1293 of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state caregiver, and (ii) a
1294 registration form, in a form and manner prescribed by the
1295 commissioner, that (I) is signed by the qualifying out-of-state patient or
1296 qualifying out-of-state caregiver, (II) includes the name of the qualifying
1297 out-of-state patient and qualifying out-of-state caregiver, (III) includes
1298 an acknowledgment by the qualifying out-of-state patient or qualifying
1299 out-of-state caregiver that the qualifying out-of-state patient or
1300 qualifying out-of-state caregiver understands the laws and regulations
1301 of this state concerning the palliative use of cannabis by qualifying out-
1302 of-state patients and qualifying out-of-state caregivers, shall be
1303 ineligible to engage in the palliative use of cannabis in this state if the
1304 qualifying out-of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state caregiver
1305 violates any such law or regulation and shall not transport cannabis
1306 across any state or international boundary, and (IV) includes any other
1307 information the commissioner may reasonably require for the purposes
1308 of this chapter or chapter 420h; and

1309 (B) A qualifying out-of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state

1310 caregiver who purchases cannabis for palliative use possesses the valid
1311 qualifying out-of-state credential that was issued to the qualifying out-
1312 of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state caregiver at all times while
1313 such qualifying out-of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state caregiver
1314 is in this state and in possession of cannabis for palliative use; and

1315 (C) A dispensary facility or hybrid retailer submits the registration
1316 form described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision to the
1317 Department of Consumer Protection in a form and manner prescribed
1318 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

1319 [(e)] (f) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt or
1320 amend regulations, as applicable, to implement the provisions of
1321 subsection [(d)] (e) of this section. Notwithstanding the requirements of
1322 sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to effectuate the purposes of
1323 subsection [(d)] (e) of this section and to protect public health and safety,
1324 prior to adopting such regulations, the commissioner shall issue policies
1325 and procedures to implement the provisions of subsection [(d)] (e) of
1326 this section that shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner
1327 shall post all policies and procedures on the Department of Consumer
1328 Protection's Internet web site, and submit such policies and procedures
1329 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
1330 cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection and the Secretary
1331 of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days
1332 prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy
1333 or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either
1334 adoption of such policy or procedure as a final regulation under section
1335 4-172 or July 1, 2028.

1336 Sec. 33. Subsection (b) of section 21a-408i of the general statutes is
1337 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1338 *1, 2026*):

1339 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall determine the
1340 number of producers appropriate to meet the needs of qualifying
1341 patients in this state and shall adopt regulations, in accordance with

1342 chapter 54, to provide for the licensure, standards and locations for
1343 producers in this state and specify the maximum number of producers
1344 that may be licensed in this state at any time. On and after the effective
1345 date of such regulations, the commissioner may license any person who
1346 applies for a license in accordance with such regulations, provided (1)
1347 such person is organized for the purpose of cultivating [marijuana]
1348 cannabis for palliative use in this state, (2) the commissioner finds that
1349 such applicant has appropriate expertise in agriculture and that such
1350 applicant is qualified to cultivate [marijuana] cannabis and sell, deliver,
1351 transport or distribute [marijuana] cannabis solely within this state
1352 pursuant to sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this
1353 act, and (3) the number of producer licenses issued does not exceed the
1354 number appropriate to meet the needs of qualifying patients in this
1355 state, as determined by the commissioner pursuant to this subsection.
1356 At a minimum, such regulations shall:

1357 (A) Indicate the maximum number of producers that may be licensed
1358 in this state at any time, which number shall not be less than three nor
1359 more than ten producers;

1360 (B) Provide that no [marijuana] cannabis may be sold, delivered,
1361 transported or distributed by a producer from or to a location outside of
1362 this state;

1363 (C) Establish a nonrefundable application fee of not less than twenty-
1364 five thousand dollars for each application submitted for a producer
1365 license;

1366 (D) Establish a license fee and renewal fee for each licensed producer,
1367 provided the aggregate amount of such license and renewal fees shall
1368 not be less than the amount necessary to cover the direct and indirect
1369 cost of licensing and regulating producers pursuant to sections 21a-408
1370 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act;

1371 (E) Provide for renewal of such producer licenses at least every five
1372 years;

1373 (F) Provide that no producer may cultivate [marijuana] cannabis for
1374 palliative use outside of this state and designate permissible locations
1375 for licensed producers in this state;

1376 (G) Establish financial requirements for producers, under which (i)
1377 each applicant demonstrates the financial capacity to build and operate
1378 a [marijuana] cannabis production facility, and (ii) each licensed
1379 producer may be required to maintain an escrow account in a financial
1380 institution in this state in an amount of two million dollars;

1381 (H) Establish health, safety and security requirements for licensed
1382 producers, which shall include, but need not be limited to, a
1383 requirement that the applicant or licensed producer demonstrate: (i) The
1384 ability to maintain adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss
1385 of [marijuana] cannabis cultivated by the producer, and (ii) the ability
1386 to cultivate pharmaceutical grade [marijuana] cannabis for palliative
1387 use in a secure indoor facility;

1388 (I) Define "pharmaceutical grade [marijuana] cannabis for palliative
1389 use" for the purposes of this section;

1390 (J) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,
1391 summary suspension and nonrenewal of producer licenses, provided
1392 such standards and procedures are consistent with the provisions of
1393 subsection (c) of section 4-182; and

1394 (K) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards
1395 deemed necessary by the commissioner.

1396 Sec. 34. Section 21a-408j of the general statutes is repealed and the
1397 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1398 (a) No dispensary facility or employee of the dispensary facility may:
1399 (1) Acquire [marijuana] cannabis from a person other than a producer,
1400 [from a] cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer, food and
1401 beverage manufacturer, product packager [,] or transporter, as such
1402 terms are defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act; (2) transfer

1403 or transport [marijuana] cannabis to a person who is not (A) a qualifying
1404 patient registered under section 21a-408d, as amended by this act; (B) a
1405 caregiver of [such] a qualifying patient [~~;~~ (C)] registered under section
1406 21a-408d, as amended by this act; (C) a qualifying out-of-state patient;
1407 (D) a qualifying out-of-state caregiver of a qualifying out-of-state
1408 patient; (E) a hospice or other inpatient care facility licensed by the
1409 Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that has a
1410 protocol for the handling and distribution of [marijuana] cannabis that
1411 has been approved by the Department of Consumer Protection; [(D)] (F)
1412 a cannabis testing laboratory; [(E)] (G) an organization engaged in a
1413 research program; [(F)] (H) a delivery service, as defined in section 21a-
1414 420, as amended by this act; or [(G)] (I) a transporter, as defined in
1415 section 21a-420, as amended by this act; or (3) obtain or transport
1416 [marijuana] cannabis outside of this state in violation of state or federal
1417 law.

1418 (b) No dispensary or employee of the dispensary facility acting
1419 within the scope of his or her employment shall be subject to arrest or
1420 prosecution or penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1421 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1422 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1423 a professional licensing board, for acquiring, possessing, distributing or
1424 dispensing [marijuana] cannabis pursuant to sections 21a-408 to 21a-
1425 408m, inclusive, as amended by this act.

1426 Sec. 35. Section 21a-408k of the general statutes is repealed and the
1427 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1428 (a) No producer or employee of the producer may: (1) Sell, deliver,
1429 transport or distribute [marijuana] cannabis to a person who is not (A)
1430 a cannabis establishment, (B) a cannabis testing laboratory, or (C) an
1431 organization engaged in a research program, or (2) obtain or transport
1432 [marijuana] cannabis outside of this state in violation of state or federal
1433 law.

1434 (b) No licensed producer or employee of the producer acting within

1435 the scope of such employee's employment shall be subject to arrest or
1436 prosecution or penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1437 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1438 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1439 a professional licensing board, for cultivating [marijuana] cannabis or
1440 selling, delivering, transferring, transporting or distributing [marijuana]
1441 cannabis to a cannabis establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or
1442 research program.

1443 Sec. 36. Section 21a-408l of the general statutes is repealed and the
1444 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1445 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall establish a Board
1446 of Physicians consisting of eight physicians or surgeons who are
1447 knowledgeable about the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis and
1448 certified by the appropriate American board in the medical specialty in
1449 which they practice, at least one of whom shall be a board certified
1450 pediatrician appointed in consultation with the Connecticut Chapter of
1451 the American Academy of Pediatrics. Four of the members of the board
1452 first appointed shall serve for a term of three years and four of the
1453 members of the board first appointed shall serve for a term of four years.
1454 Thereafter, members of the board shall serve for a term of four years and
1455 shall be eligible for reappointment. Any member of the board may serve
1456 until a successor is appointed. The Commissioner of Consumer
1457 Protection shall serve as an ex-officio member of the board, and shall
1458 select a chairperson from among the members of the board.

1459 (b) A quorum of the Board of Physicians shall consist of four
1460 members.

1461 (c) The Board of Physicians shall:

1462 (1) Review and recommend to the Department of Consumer
1463 Protection for approval the debilitating medical conditions, medical
1464 treatments or diseases to be added to the list of debilitating medical
1465 conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis for

1466 qualifying patients eighteen years of age or older;

1467 (2) Review and recommend to the Department of Consumer
1468 Protection for approval any illnesses that are severely debilitating, as
1469 defined in 21 CFR 312.81(b), to be added to the list of debilitating
1470 medical conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1471 cannabis for qualifying patients under eighteen years of age, taking into
1472 account, among other things, the effect of the palliative use of
1473 [marijuana] cannabis on the brain development of such patients, which
1474 recommendations shall be accepted or rejected by the commissioner in
1475 [his or her] the commissioner's discretion;

1476 (3) Accept and review petitions to add medical conditions, medical
1477 treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating medical conditions that
1478 qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis;

1479 (4) Convene as necessary to conduct public hearings and to evaluate
1480 petitions, which shall be maintained as confidential pursuant to
1481 subsection (e) of this section, for the purpose of adding medical
1482 conditions, medical treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating
1483 medical conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1484 cannabis;

1485 (5) Review and recommend to the Department of Consumer
1486 Protection protocols for determining the amounts of [marijuana]
1487 cannabis that may be reasonably necessary to ensure uninterrupted
1488 availability for a period of one month for qualifying patients, including
1489 amounts for topical treatments; and

1490 (6) Perform other duties related to the palliative use of [marijuana]
1491 cannabis upon the request of the Commissioner of Consumer
1492 Protection.

1493 (d) The Board of Physicians may review the list of debilitating
1494 medical conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1495 cannabis and make recommendations to the joint standing committees
1496 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to

1497 [general law] consumer protection and public health for the removal of
1498 a debilitating medical condition, medical treatment or disease from such
1499 list.

1500 (e) Any individually identifiable health information contained in a
1501 petition received under this section shall be confidential and shall not
1502 be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as
1503 defined in section 1-200.

1504 (f) [On and after October 1, 2021, conditions] Conditions added
1505 pursuant to this section to the list of debilitating medical conditions that
1506 qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis shall be posted by
1507 the commissioner on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet
1508 web site. Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
1509 inclusive, the list of debilitating medical conditions that qualify for the
1510 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis shall be deemed approved and
1511 effective without further action as of the date such conditions are posted
1512 on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site.

1513 Sec. 37. Section 21a-408m of the general statutes is repealed and the
1514 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1515 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
1516 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to establish (1) a standard
1517 form for written certifications for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1518 cannabis issued by physicians, physician assistants and advanced
1519 practice registered nurses under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
1520 section 21a-408a, as amended by this act, and (2) procedures for
1521 registrations under section 21a-408d, as amended by this act. Such
1522 regulations, if any, shall be adopted after consultation with the Board of
1523 Physicians established in section 21a-408l, as amended by this act.

1524 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt or amend
1525 regulations, as applicable, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement
1526 the provisions of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408g, inclusive, as amended by
1527 this act, and section 21a-408l, as amended by this act. Notwithstanding

1528 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
1529 effectuate the purposes of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408g, inclusive, as
1530 amended by this act, and section 21a-408l, as amended by this act, and
1531 protect public health and safety, prior to adopting or amending such
1532 regulations the commissioner shall adopt policies and procedures to
1533 implement the provisions of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408g, inclusive, as
1534 amended by this act, and section [21a-408] 21a-408l, as amended by this
1535 act, that shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall
1536 post all policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site,
1537 and submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for
1538 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
1539 effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure
1540 shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such
1541 policies or procedures as a final regulation pursuant to section 4-172 or
1542 forty-eight months from October 1, 2021, if such policies or procedures
1543 have not been submitted to the legislative regulation review committee
1544 for consideration under section 4-170. Such policies and procedures and
1545 regulations shall include, but not be limited to, how the department
1546 shall:

1547 (1) Accept applications for the issuance and renewal of registration
1548 certificates for qualifying patients and caregivers;

1549 (2) Establish criteria for adding medical conditions, medical
1550 treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating medical conditions that
1551 qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis;

1552 (3) Establish a petition process under which members of the public
1553 may submit petitions [,] regarding the addition of medical conditions,
1554 medical treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating medical
1555 conditions;

1556 (4) Establish requirements for the growing of cannabis plants by a
1557 qualifying patient in his or her primary residence as authorized under
1558 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, including requirements for
1559 securing such plants to prevent access by any individual other than the

1560 patient or the patient's caregiver, the location of such plants and any
1561 other requirements necessary to protect public health or safety;

1562 (5) Develop a distribution system for [marijuana] cannabis for
1563 palliative use that provides for:

1564 (A) [Marijuana] Cannabis production facilities within this state that
1565 are housed on secured grounds and operated by producers;

1566 (B) The transfer of [marijuana] cannabis between dispensary
1567 facilities; and

1568 (C) Distribution of [marijuana] cannabis for palliative use to
1569 qualifying patients or their caregivers by dispensary facilities, hybrid
1570 retailers and delivery services, as such terms are defined in section 21a-
1571 420, as amended by this act; and

1572 (6) Ensure an adequate supply and variety of [marijuana] cannabis to
1573 dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers to ensure uninterrupted
1574 availability for qualifying patients, based on historical [marijuana]
1575 cannabis purchase patterns by qualifying patients.

1576 Sec. 38. Section 21a-408o of the general statutes is repealed and the
1577 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1578 Nothing in sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1579 this act, or section 21a-243, as amended by this act, shall be construed to
1580 require health insurance coverage for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1581 cannabis.

1582 Sec. 39. Section 21a-408p of the general statutes is repealed and the
1583 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1584 (a) For the purposes of this section:

1585 (1) "Action" has the meaning provided in section 47a-1;

1586 (2) "Dwelling unit" has the meaning provided in section 47a-1;

1587 (3) "Employer" means a person engaged in business who has one or
1588 more employees, including the state and any political subdivision of the
1589 state;

1590 (4) "Landlord" has the meaning provided in section 47a-1;

1591 (5) "Palliative use" has the meaning provided in section 21a-408, as
1592 amended by this act;

1593 (6) "Caregiver" has the meaning provided in section 21a-408, as
1594 amended by this act;

1595 (7) "Qualifying out-of-state caregiver" has the meaning provided in
1596 section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

1597 (8) "Qualifying out-of-state patient" has the meaning provided in
1598 section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

1599 [(7)] (9) "Qualifying patient" has the meaning provided in section 21a-
1600 408, as amended by this act;

1601 [(8)] (10) "School" means a public or private elementary or secondary
1602 school in this state or a public or private institution of higher education
1603 in this state; and

1604 [(9)] (11) "Tenant" has the meaning provided in section 47a-1.

1605 (b) Unless required by federal law or required to obtain federal
1606 funding:

1607 (1) No school may refuse to enroll any person or discriminate against
1608 any student solely on the basis of such person's or student's status as a
1609 qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver or
1610 qualifying out-of-state caregiver under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m,
1611 inclusive, as amended by this act;

1612 (2) No landlord may refuse to rent a dwelling unit to a person or take
1613 action against a tenant solely on the basis of such person's or tenant's

1614 status as a qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state patient,
1615 caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver under sections 21a-408 to
1616 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act; and

1617 (3) No employer may refuse to hire a person or may discharge,
1618 penalize or threaten an employee solely on the basis of such person's or
1619 employee's status as a qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state
1620 patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver under sections
1621 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act. Nothing in this
1622 subdivision shall restrict an employer's ability to prohibit the use of
1623 intoxicating substances during work hours or restrict an employer's
1624 ability to discipline an employee for being under the influence of
1625 intoxicating substances during work hours.

1626 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the palliative
1627 use of [marijuana] cannabis in violation of subsection (b) or (c) of section
1628 21a-408a, as amended by this act.

1629 Sec. 40. Subsection (d) of section 21a-408r of the general statutes is
1630 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1631 *1, 2026*):

1632 (d) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt
1633 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to (1) provide for the
1634 licensure or registration of cannabis testing laboratories and cannabis
1635 testing laboratory employees, (2) establish standards and procedures for
1636 the revocation, suspension, summary suspension and nonrenewal of
1637 cannabis testing laboratory licenses and cannabis testing laboratory
1638 employee registrations, provided such standards and procedures are
1639 consistent with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182, (3)
1640 establish a registration renewal fee for each registered cannabis testing
1641 laboratory employee, provided the aggregate amount of such fees shall
1642 not be less than the amount necessary to cover the direct and indirect
1643 cost of registering and regulating cannabis testing laboratory employees
1644 in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, (4) establish
1645 procedures by which cannabis testing laboratories shall accept

1646 [marijuana] cannabis samples from caregivers, qualifying patients and
1647 consumers for testing, and (5) establish other licensing, registration,
1648 renewal and operational standards deemed necessary by the
1649 commissioner. For the purposes of this subsection, "consumer" has the
1650 same meaning as provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

1651 Sec. 41. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 21a-408s of the
1652 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1653 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1654 (a) No cannabis testing laboratory or cannabis testing laboratory
1655 employee may (1) acquire [marijuana] cannabis from a person other
1656 than (A) a cannabis establishment or an organization engaged in a
1657 research program, or (B) a caregiver, a qualifying patient or a consumer,
1658 as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act, providing a
1659 [marijuana] cannabis sample under regulations adopted by the
1660 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (d) of
1661 section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, (2) deliver, transport or
1662 distribute [marijuana] cannabis to (A) a person who is not a cannabis
1663 establishment from which the [marijuana] cannabis was originally
1664 acquired by the cannabis testing laboratory or cannabis testing
1665 laboratory employee, or (B) an organization not engaged in a research
1666 program, or (3) obtain or transport [marijuana] cannabis outside of this
1667 state in violation of state or federal law.

1668 (b) (1) No cannabis testing laboratory employee acting within the
1669 scope of such cannabis testing laboratory employee's employment shall
1670 be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner, including,
1671 but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right
1672 or privilege, including, but not limited to, being subject to any
1673 disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for acquiring,
1674 possessing, delivering, transporting or distributing [marijuana]
1675 cannabis to a cannabis establishment or an organization engaged in an
1676 approved research program under the provisions of this chapter.

1677 (2) No cannabis testing laboratory shall be subject to prosecution,

1678 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to
1679 any civil penalty or denied any right or privilege, for acquiring,
1680 possessing, delivering, transporting or distributing [marijuana]
1681 cannabis to a cannabis establishment or an organization engaged in an
1682 approved research program under the provisions of this chapter.

1683 (c) A cannabis testing laboratory shall be independent from all other
1684 persons involved in the [marijuana] cannabis industry in Connecticut,
1685 which shall mean that no person with a direct or indirect financial,
1686 managerial or controlling interest in the cannabis testing laboratory
1687 shall have a direct or indirect financial, managerial or controlling
1688 interest in a cannabis establishment or any other entity that may benefit
1689 from the laboratory test results for a cannabis [or marijuana] sample or
1690 product.

1691 Sec. 42. Section 21a-408u of the general statutes is repealed and the
1692 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1693 (a) No research program or research program employee may (1)
1694 acquire [marijuana] cannabis from a person other than a cannabis
1695 establishment or cannabis testing laboratory, (2) deliver, transport or
1696 distribute [marijuana] cannabis to a person who is not (A) a cannabis
1697 establishment, (B) a cannabis testing laboratory, or (C) a research
1698 program subject, (3) distribute or administer [marijuana] cannabis to an
1699 animal unless such animal is an animal research subject, or (4) obtain or
1700 transport [marijuana] cannabis outside of this state in violation of state
1701 or federal law.

1702 (b) No research program employee acting within the scope of such
1703 research program employee's employment shall be subject to arrest or
1704 prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1705 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1706 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1707 a professional licensing board, for acquiring, possessing, delivering,
1708 transporting or distributing [marijuana] cannabis to a cannabis
1709 establishment or cannabis testing laboratory, or a research program

1710 subject or distributing or administering [marijuana] cannabis to an
1711 animal research subject under the provisions of this chapter.

1712 Sec. 43. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 21a-408v of the general
1713 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1714 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1715 (b) A research program subject who has a valid registration certificate
1716 from the Department of Consumer Protection and is acting within the
1717 scope of [his or her] the research program subject's involvement in an
1718 approved research program shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution,
1719 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to
1720 any civil penalty or denied any right or privilege, including, but not
1721 limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by a professional
1722 licensing board, for the use of [marijuana] cannabis.

1723 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section do not apply to:

1724 (1) Any use of [marijuana] cannabis that endangers the health or well-
1725 being of a person other than the research program subject or a research
1726 program employee; or

1727 (2) The ingestion of [marijuana] cannabis (A) in a motor bus or a
1728 school bus or in any other moving vehicle, (B) in the workplace, (C) on
1729 any school grounds or any public or private school, dormitory, college
1730 or university property unless such college or university is participating
1731 in a research program and such use is pursuant to the terms of the
1732 research program, (D) in any public place, or (E) in the presence of a
1733 person under eighteen years of age unless such person is a qualifying
1734 patient or research program subject. For purposes of this subdivision, (i)
1735 "presence" means within the direct line of sight of the palliative use of
1736 [marijuana] cannabis or exposure to second-hand [marijuana] cannabis
1737 smoke, or both; (ii) "public place" means any area that is used or held
1738 out for use by the public, whether owned or operated by public or
1739 private interests; (iii) "vehicle" means a vehicle, as defined in section 14-
1740 1; (iv) "motor bus" means a motor bus, as defined in section 14-1; and (v)

1741 "school bus" means a school bus, as defined in section 14-1.

1742 Sec. 44. Section 21a-408w of the general statutes is repealed and the
1743 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1744 (a) (1) Each cannabis establishment shall submit [marijuana] cannabis
1745 samples to a cannabis testing laboratory for testing [as set forth in
1746 subsection (b) of this section] in accordance with the laboratory testing
1747 standards established in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner
1748 of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by
1749 this act. The quantity and number of cannabis samples submitted shall
1750 be sufficient to ensure representative sampling of the corresponding
1751 cannabis batch size.

1752 [(b) (1) A cannabis testing laboratory shall test each marijuana sample
1753 submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section (A) for
1754 microbiological contaminants, mycotoxins, heavy metals and pesticide
1755 chemical residue, and (B) for purposes of conducting an active
1756 ingredient analysis, if applicable.

1757 (2) Microbiological contaminant testing conducted pursuant to
1758 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall include, but
1759 not be limited to, microbiological contaminant testing for *Aspergillus*
1760 species as set forth by the Department of Consumer Protection and
1761 posted on the department's Internet web site.

1762 (c) When conducting microbiological testing as set forth in subsection
1763 (b) of this section, the marijuana sample shall be tested by using (1) a
1764 molecular method that (A) includes quantitative polymerase chain
1765 reaction, (B) is certified for identifying microbiological DNA, and (C) is
1766 approved by (i) the Association of Official Analytical Collaboration
1767 International, or (ii) a comparable national or international standards
1768 organization designated by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,
1769 or (2) an alternative testing method approved by the Department of
1770 Consumer Protection and posted on the department's Internet web site.

1771 (d) If a marijuana sample does not pass the testing set forth in

1772 subsection (b) of this section, the cannabis establishment that submitted
1773 such failing marijuana sample to the cannabis testing laboratory shall:

1774 (1) Repeat testing as set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section
1775 on the marijuana batch from which such marijuana sample was taken,
1776 in a form and manner approved by the Department of Consumer
1777 Protection. If all repeated testing yields satisfactory results, the
1778 marijuana batch from which the marijuana samples were taken shall be
1779 released for sale;

1780 (2) If such cannabis establishment submits to the Commissioner of
1781 Consumer Protection a remediation plan that is sufficient to ensure
1782 public health and safety, and the commissioner approves such
1783 remediation plan, remediate the marijuana batch from which such
1784 marijuana sample was taken and repeat all testing as set forth in
1785 subsections (a) and (b) of this section on such remediated marijuana
1786 batch, in a form and manner approved by the Department of Consumer
1787 Protection. If all repeated testing yields satisfactory results, the
1788 marijuana batch from which the marijuana samples were taken shall be
1789 released for sale; or

1790 (3) If such cannabis establishment does not comply with subdivision
1791 (1) or (2) of this subsection, or if any subsequent laboratory testing does
1792 not yield satisfactory results for the testing set forth in subsections (a)
1793 and (b) of this section, dispose of the entire marijuana batch from which
1794 the marijuana sample was taken in accordance with procedures
1795 established by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, as published
1796 on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site.

1797 (e) For purposes of the testing set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of
1798 this section, the quantity and number of marijuana samples taken shall
1799 be sufficient to ensure representative sampling of the corresponding
1800 marijuana batch size.]

1801 (2) If the cannabis samples taken from a cannabis batch pass the
1802 laboratory testing required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the

1803 cannabis batch shall be released for sale.

1804 (3) If the cannabis samples taken from a cannabis batch fail the
1805 laboratory testing required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the
1806 cannabis establishment that submitted the failing cannabis samples to
1807 the cannabis testing laboratory shall, not later than sixty days after the
1808 date of such failed laboratory testing:

1809 (A) Repeat the laboratory testing required under subdivision (1) of
1810 this subsection on the cannabis batch in a form and manner approved
1811 by the commissioner;

1812 (B) Submit to the Department of Consumer Protection a remediation
1813 plan for the cannabis batch, in accordance with the provisions of
1814 subsection (c) of this section; or

1815 (C) Dispose of the entire cannabis batch in accordance with
1816 procedures established by the commissioner and published on the
1817 department's Internet web site, unless the cannabis establishment
1818 submits to the department during such sixty-day period, and the
1819 commissioner approves, a request to extend the disposal period by sixty
1820 days. The commissioner shall not grant more than two such requests for
1821 any cannabis batch.

1822 (b) Not later than sixty days after any repeated laboratory testing
1823 performed pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of
1824 subsection (a) of this section:

1825 (1) If the cannabis samples pass such repeated laboratory testing, the
1826 cannabis batch from which such cannabis samples were taken shall be
1827 released for sale; or

1828 (2) If the cannabis samples fail such repeated laboratory testing, the
1829 cannabis establishment that submitted such failing cannabis samples
1830 shall:

1831 (A) Submit to the Department of Consumer Protection a remediation

1832 plan for the cannabis batch from which such failing cannabis samples
1833 were taken, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this
1834 section; or

1835 (B) Dispose of the entire cannabis batch from which such failing
1836 cannabis samples were taken in accordance with procedures established
1837 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and published on the
1838 department's Internet web site, unless the cannabis establishment
1839 submits to the department during such sixty-day period, and the
1840 commissioner approves, a request to extend the disposal period by sixty
1841 days. The commissioner shall not grant more than two such requests for
1842 any cannabis batch.

1843 (c) (1) Each remediation plan submitted to the Department of
1844 Consumer Protection under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of
1845 subsection (a) of this section or subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of
1846 subsection (b) of this section shall be submitted in a form and manner
1847 prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

1848 (2) Not later than sixty days after the commissioner receives a
1849 remediation plan described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the
1850 commissioner shall:

1851 (A) Review the remediation plan to determine whether such
1852 remediation plan is sufficient to ensure public health and safety;

1853 (B) On the basis of such determination, approve or reject such
1854 remediation plan; and

1855 (C) Send to the cannabis establishment that submitted such
1856 remediation plan, in a form and manner prescribed by the
1857 commissioner, a written notice disclosing such approval or rejection
1858 and, in the case of a rejection, the reasons for such rejection.

1859 (3) If the commissioner does not send a written notice to the cannabis
1860 establishment pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of this
1861 subsection within the sixty-day period required under subdivision (2)

1862 of this subsection, such cannabis establishment's remediation plan shall
1863 be deemed approved.

1864 (4) If the commissioner approves the remediation plan under
1865 subdivision (2) of this subsection, or if such remediation plan is deemed
1866 approved under subdivision (3) of this subsection, the cannabis
1867 establishment shall remediate the cannabis batch from which the failing
1868 cannabis samples were taken and repeat all laboratory testing required
1869 under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section in a form and
1870 manner approved by the commissioner; and:

1871 (A) If the cannabis samples pass such repeated laboratory testing,
1872 such cannabis batch shall be released for sale; or

1873 (B) If the cannabis samples fail such repeated laboratory testing, the
1874 cannabis establishment that submitted such failing cannabis samples for
1875 such repeated laboratory testing shall, not later than sixty days after the
1876 date of such failed repeated laboratory testing, dispose of such cannabis
1877 batch in accordance with procedures established by the commissioner
1878 and published on the department's Internet web site, unless the
1879 cannabis establishment submits to the department during such sixty-
1880 day period, and the commissioner approves, a request to extend the
1881 disposal period by an additional sixty days. The commissioner shall not
1882 grant more than two such requests for any cannabis batch.

1883 Sec. 45. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 21a-409 of the general
1884 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1885 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1886 (b) Hemp or manufacturer hemp products purchased by producers
1887 from third parties shall be tracked as a separate batch throughout the
1888 manufacturing process in order to document the disposition of such
1889 hemp or manufacturer hemp products. Hemp or manufacturer hemp
1890 products obtained, manufactured, marketed, cultivated or stored by a
1891 producer shall be deemed [marijuana] cannabis and shall comply with
1892 the requirements for [marijuana] cannabis contained in the applicable

1893 provisions of the general statutes and any regulations adopted pursuant
1894 to such provisions. Producers shall retain a copy of the certificate of
1895 analysis for purchased hemp or manufacturer hemp products and
1896 invoice and transport documents that evidence the quantity purchased
1897 and date received.

1898 (c) (1) No hemp or producer hemp products shall be sold or
1899 distributed within a dispensary facility that is licensed pursuant to this
1900 chapter.

1901 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, manufacturer
1902 hemp products may be sold within a dispensary facility that is licensed
1903 pursuant to this chapter, provided such manufacturer hemp products
1904 are:

1905 (A) Stored separately from [marijuana] cannabis;

1906 (B) Separated, by a physical separation, from [marijuana] cannabis in
1907 any display area;

1908 (C) Displayed with signage approved by the department;

1909 (D) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation
1910 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
1911 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
1912 may be located outside of this state;

1913 (E) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (i) a manufacturer
1914 hemp product, (ii) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
1915 [or marijuana,] and (iii) not cannabis; [or marijuana;] and

1916 (F) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
1917 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters.

1918 Sec. 46. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-410 of the general
1919 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1920 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1921 (a) For purposes of this section:

1922 (1) "Material change" means: (A) The addition of a dispensary facility
1923 backer or producer backer, (B) a change in the ownership interest of an
1924 existing dispensary facility backer or producer backer, (C) the merger,
1925 consolidation or other affiliation of a medical [marijuana] cannabis
1926 business with another person, (D) the acquisition of all or part of a
1927 medical [marijuana] cannabis business by another person, and (E) the
1928 transfer of assets or security interests from a medical [marijuana]
1929 cannabis business to another person;

1930 (2) ["Medical marijuana business"] "Medical cannabis business"
1931 means a medical [marijuana] cannabis dispensary facility or production
1932 facility, licensed pursuant to this chapter and the regulations adopted
1933 under this chapter;

1934 (3) "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership, corporation,
1935 company, association, trust or other business or tribal entity; and

1936 (4) "Transfer" means to sell, transfer, lease, exchange, option, convey,
1937 give or otherwise dispose of or transfer control over, including, but not
1938 limited to, transfer by way of merger or joint venture not in the ordinary
1939 course of business.

1940 (b) No person shall, directly or indirectly, enter into a transaction that
1941 results in a material change to a medical [marijuana] cannabis business,
1942 unless all persons involved in the transaction file a written notification
1943 with the Attorney General pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and
1944 the waiting period described in subsection (d) of this section has
1945 expired.

1946 Sec. 47. Section 21a-420 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
1947 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1948 *October 1, 2026*):

1949 As used in RERACA, unless the context otherwise requires:

1950 (1) "Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis
1951 Act" or "RERACA" means this section, sections 2-56j, 7-294kk, 7-294ll,
1952 12-330ll to 12-330nn, inclusive, as amended by this act, 14-227p, 21a-
1953 278b, 21a-278c, 21a-279c, 21a-279d, 21a-408w, as amended by this act,
1954 21a-420a to 21a-420j, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-420l to 21a-
1955 421u, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-421aa to 21a-421ff, inclusive,
1956 as amended by this act, 21a-421aaa to 21a-421iii, inclusive, 21a-422 to
1957 21a-422c, inclusive, 21a-422e to 21a-422g, inclusive, as amended by this
1958 act, 21a-422j to 21a-422s, inclusive, 21a-422u, 22-61n, as amended by this
1959 act, 23-4b, 47a-9a, 53-247a, as amended by this act, 53a-213a, as amended
1960 by this act, 53a-213b, as amended by this act, 54-33p, 54-56q, 54-56r, 54-
1961 125k and 54-142u, sections 23, 60, 63 to 65, inclusive, 124, 144 and 165 of
1962 public act 21-1, as amended by this act, of the June special session, and
1963 the amendments in public act 21-1, as amended by this act, of the June
1964 special session to sections 7-148, as amended by this act, 10-221, 12-30a,
1965 12-35b, 12-412, as amended by this act, 12-650, as amended by this act,
1966 12-704d, as amended by this act, 14-44k, 14-111e, 14-227a to 14-227c,
1967 inclusive, as amended by this act, 14-227j, 15-140q, 15-140r, as amended
1968 by this act, 18-100h, 19a-342, as amended by this act, 19a-342a, as
1969 amended by this act, 21a-267, 21a-277, as amended by this act, 21a-279,
1970 as amended by this act, 21a-279a, as amended by this act, 21a-408 to 21a-
1971 408f, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-408h to 21a-408p, inclusive,
1972 as amended by this act, 21a-408r to 21a-408v, inclusive, as amended by
1973 this act, 30-89a, 31-40q, as amended by this act, 32-39, 46b-120, 51-164n,
1974 53-394, 53a-39c, 54-1m, 54-33g, 54-41b, 54-56e, 54-56g, 54-56i, 54-56k, 54-
1975 56n, 54-63d, 54-66a and 54-142e, [and] section 22 of public act 25-101 and
1976 sections 48 to 52, inclusive, of this act;

1977 (2) "Backer" means any individual with a direct or indirect financial
1978 interest in a cannabis establishment. "Backer" does not include (A) a
1979 bank, bank and trust company, bank holding company, Connecticut
1980 bank, Connecticut credit union, federal bank, federal branch, federal
1981 credit union, financial institution, foreign bank, holding company, out-
1982 of-state bank, out-of-state credit union, out-of-state trust company,
1983 savings and loan association, savings bank or savings and loan holding

1984 company, as such terms are defined in section 36a-2, or a wholly-owned
1985 subsidiary thereof, that provides nonequity financing to a cannabis
1986 establishment and does not directly participate in the control,
1987 management or operation of the cannabis establishment, or (B) an
1988 individual with an investment interest in a cannabis establishment if (i)
1989 the interest held by such individual and such individual's spouse,
1990 parent or child, in the aggregate, does not exceed five per cent of the
1991 total ownership or interest rights in such cannabis establishment, and
1992 (ii) such individual does not participate directly or indirectly in the
1993 control, management or operation of the cannabis establishment;

1994 (3) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
1995 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

1996 (4) "Cannabis establishment" means a producer, dispensary facility,
1997 cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage
1998 manufacturer, product manufacturer, product packager, delivery
1999 service or transporter;

2000 (5) "Cannabis flower" means the flower, including abnormal and
2001 immature flowers, of a plant of the genus cannabis that has been
2002 harvested, dried, cured, chopped or ground, and prior to any processing
2003 whereby the flower material is transformed into a cannabis product.
2004 "Cannabis flower" does not include (A) the leaves or stem of such plant,
2005 or (B) hemp, as defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

2006 (6) "Cannabis testing laboratory" means a laboratory that (A) is
2007 located in this state, (B) is licensed by the department to analyze
2008 cannabis, and (C) meets the licensure requirements established in
2009 section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the regulations adopted
2010 pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as amended by this act;

2011 (7) "Cannabis testing laboratory employee" means an individual who
2012 is (A) employed at a cannabis testing laboratory, and (B) registered
2013 pursuant to section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the regulations
2014 adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as amended by

2015 this act;

2016 (8) "Cannabis trim" means all parts, including abnormal or immature
2017 parts, of a plant of the genus cannabis, other than cannabis flower, that
2018 have been harvested, dried and cured, and prior to any processing,
2019 excluding chopping or grinding, whereby the plant material is
2020 transformed into a cannabis product. "Cannabis trim" does not include
2021 hemp, as defined in section 22-611, as amended by this act;

2022 (9) "Cannabis product" means cannabis, intended for use or
2023 consumption, that is in the form of (A) a cannabis concentrate, or (B) a
2024 product that contains cannabis and at least one other cannabis or
2025 noncannabis ingredient or component, excluding cannabis flower;

2026 (10) "Cannabis concentrate" means any form of concentration,
2027 including, but not limited to, extracts, oils, tinctures, [~~shatter~~] shatters
2028 and waxes, that is extracted from cannabis;

2029 (11) "Cannabis-type substances" [~~have~~] has the same meaning as
2030 ["marijuana"] cannabis, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended by
2031 this act;

2032 (12) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
2033 Protection and includes any designee of the commissioner;

2034 (13) "Consumer" means an individual who is twenty-one years of age
2035 or older;

2036 (14) "Control" means the power to direct, or cause the direction of, the
2037 management and policies of a cannabis establishment, regardless of
2038 whether such power is possessed directly or indirectly;

2039 (15) "Cultivation" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
2040 408, as amended by this act;

2041 (16) "Cultivator" means a person that is licensed to engage in the
2042 cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an
2043 establishment with not less than fifteen thousand square feet of grow

2044 space;

2045 (17) "Delivery service" means a person that is licensed to deliver
2046 cannabis from (A) micro-cultivators, retailers and hybrid retailers to
2047 consumers and research program subjects, and (B) hybrid retailers and
2048 dispensary facilities to qualifying patients, caregivers and research
2049 program subjects, as defined in section 21a-408, as amended by this act,
2050 or to hospices or other inpatient care facilities licensed by the
2051 Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that have a
2052 protocol for the handling and distribution of cannabis that has been
2053 approved by the department, or a combination thereof;

2054 (18) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

2055 (19) "Dispensary facility" means a place of business, for which the
2056 department has issued a dispensary facility license pursuant to chapter
2057 420f, where cannabis may be dispensed, sold or distributed in
2058 accordance with chapter 420f and any regulations adopted pursuant to
2059 said chapter, to qualifying patients, [and] qualifying out-of-state
2060 patients, caregivers [, and to which the department has issued a
2061 dispensary facility license pursuant to chapter 420f and any regulations
2062 adopted pursuant to said chapter] and qualifying out-of-state
2063 caregivers;

2064 (20) "Disproportionately impacted area" means (A) for the period
2065 beginning July 1, 2021, and ending July 31, 2023, a United States census
2066 tract in the state that has, as determined by the Social Equity Council
2067 under subdivision (1) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, as amended
2068 by this act, (i) a historical conviction rate for drug-related offenses
2069 greater than one-tenth, or (ii) an unemployment rate greater than ten
2070 per cent, and (B) on and after August 1, 2023, a United States census tract
2071 in this state that has been identified by the Social Equity Council
2072 pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, as
2073 amended by this act;

2074 (21) "Disqualifying conviction" means a conviction within the last ten

2075 years which has not been the subject of an absolute pardon under the
2076 provisions of section 54-130a, or an equivalent pardon process under the
2077 laws of another state or the federal government, for an offense under (A)
2078 section 53a-276, 53a-277 or 53a-278, (B) section 53a-291, 53a-292 or 53a-
2079 293, (C) section 53a-215, (D) section 53a-138 or 53a-139, (E) section 53a-
2080 142a, (F) sections 53a-147 to 53a-162, inclusive, (G) sections 53a-125c to
2081 53a-125f, inclusive, (H) section 53a-129b, 53a-129c or 53a-129d, (I)
2082 subsection (b) of section 12-737, (J) section 53a-48 or 53a-49, if the offense
2083 which is attempted or is an object of the conspiracy is an offense under
2084 the statutes listed in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of this
2085 subdivision, or (K) the law of any other state or of the federal
2086 government, if the offense on which such conviction is based is defined
2087 by elements that substantially include the elements of an offense under
2088 the statutes listed in subparagraphs (A) to (J), inclusive, of this
2089 subdivision;

2090 (22) "Dispensary technician" means an individual who has had an
2091 active pharmacy technician or dispensary technician registration in this
2092 state within the past five years, is affiliated with a dispensary facility or
2093 hybrid retailer and is registered with the department in accordance with
2094 chapter 420f and any regulations adopted pursuant to said chapter;

2095 (23) "Edible cannabis product" means a cannabis product intended
2096 for humans to eat or drink;

2097 (24) "Employee" means any person who is not a backer, but is a
2098 member of the board of a company with an ownership interest in a
2099 cannabis establishment, and any person employed by a cannabis
2100 establishment or who otherwise has access to such establishment or the
2101 vehicles used to transport cannabis, including, but not limited to, an
2102 independent contractor who has routine access to the premises of such
2103 establishment or to the cannabis handled by such establishment;

2104 (25) "Equity" and "equitable" means efforts, regulations, policies,
2105 programs, standards, processes and any other functions of government
2106 or principles of law and governance intended to (A) identify and

2107 remedy past and present patterns of discrimination and disparities of
2108 race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, (B) ensure that such
2109 patterns of discrimination and disparities, whether intentional or
2110 unintentional, are neither reinforced nor perpetuated, and (C) prevent
2111 the emergence and persistence of foreseeable future patterns of
2112 discrimination or disparities of race, ethnicity, gender and sexual
2113 orientation;

2114 (26) "Equity joint venture" means a business entity that is controlled,
2115 and at least fifty per cent owned, by an individual or individuals, or such
2116 applicant is an individual, who meets the criteria of subparagraphs (A)
2117 and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (54) of this section;

2118 (27) "Extract" means the preparation, compounding, conversion or
2119 processing of cannabis, either directly or indirectly by extraction or
2120 independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of
2121 extraction and chemical synthesis to produce a cannabis concentrate;

2122 (28) "Financial interest" means any right to, ownership, an investment
2123 or a compensation arrangement with another person, directly, through
2124 business, investment or family. "Financial interest" does not include
2125 ownership of investment securities in a publicly-held corporation that
2126 is traded on a national exchange or over-the-counter market, provided
2127 the investment securities held by such person and such person's spouse,
2128 parent or child, in the aggregate, do not exceed one-half of one per cent
2129 of the total number of shares issued by the corporation;

2130 (29) "Food and beverage manufacturer" means a person that is
2131 licensed to own and operate a place of business that acquires cannabis
2132 and creates food and beverages;

2133 (30) "Grow space" means the portion of a premises owned and
2134 controlled by a producer, cultivator or micro-cultivator that is utilized
2135 for the cultivation, growing or propagation of the cannabis plant, and
2136 contains cannabis plants in an active stage of growth, measured starting
2137 from the outermost wall of the room containing cannabis plants and

2138 continuing around the outside of the room. "Grow space" does not
2139 include space used to cure, process, store harvested cannabis or
2140 manufacture cannabis once the cannabis has been harvested;

2141 (31) "Historical conviction count for drug-related offenses" means, for
2142 a given area, the number of convictions of residents of such area (A) for
2143 violations of sections 21a-267, 21a-277, as amended by this act, 21a-278,
2144 21a-279, as amended by this act, and 21a-279a, as amended by this act,
2145 and (B) who were arrested for such violations between January 1, 1982,
2146 and December 31, 2020, inclusive, where such arrest was recorded in
2147 databases maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and
2148 Public Protection;

2149 (32) "Historical conviction rate for drug-related offenses" means, for
2150 a given area, the historical conviction count for drug-related offenses
2151 divided by the population of such area, as determined by the five-year
2152 estimates of the most recent American Community Survey conducted
2153 by the United States Census Bureau;

2154 (33) "Hybrid retailer" means a person that is licensed to purchase
2155 cannabis and sell cannabis and medical [marijuana] cannabis products;

2156 (34) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
2157 21a-425, as amended by this act;

2158 (35) "Key employee" means an employee with the following
2159 management position or an equivalent title within a cannabis
2160 establishment: (A) President or chief officer, who is the top ranking
2161 individual at the cannabis establishment and is responsible for all staff
2162 and overall direction of business operations; (B) financial manager, who
2163 is the individual who reports to the president or chief officer and who is
2164 responsible for oversight of the financial operations of the cannabis
2165 establishment, which financial operations include one or more of the
2166 following: (i) Revenue and expense management; (ii) distributions; (iii)
2167 tax compliance; (iv) budget development; and (v) budget management
2168 and implementation; or (C) compliance manager, who is the individual

2169 who reports to the president or chief officer and who is generally
2170 responsible for ensuring the cannabis establishment complies with all
2171 laws, regulations and requirements related to the operation of the
2172 cannabis establishment;

2173 (36) "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between a
2174 cannabis establishment and a bona fide labor organization under section
2175 21a-421d, as amended by this act, pursuant to which the owners and
2176 management of the cannabis establishment agree not to lock out
2177 employees and that prohibits the bona fide labor organization from
2178 engaging in picketing, work stoppages or boycotts against the cannabis
2179 establishment;

2180 (37) "Manufacture" means to add or incorporate cannabis into other
2181 products or ingredients or create a cannabis product;

2182 (38) ["Medical marijuana product"] "Medical cannabis product"
2183 means cannabis that may be exclusively sold to qualifying patients,
2184 [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-
2185 state caregivers by dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers and which
2186 are designated by the commissioner as reserved for sale to qualifying
2187 patients, [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and
2188 qualifying out-of-state caregivers and published on the department's
2189 Internet web site;

2190 (39) "Micro-cultivator" means a person licensed to engage in the
2191 cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an
2192 establishment containing not less than two thousand square feet and not
2193 more than ten thousand square feet of grow space, prior to any
2194 expansion authorized by the commissioner;

2195 (40) "Municipality" means any town, city or borough, consolidated
2196 town and city or consolidated town and borough;

2197 (41) "Paraphernalia" means drug paraphernalia, as defined in section
2198 21a-240, as amended by this act;

2199 (42) "Person" means an individual, partnership, limited liability
2200 company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, estate,
2201 receiver, trustee, assignee, referee or any other legal entity and any other
2202 person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether
2203 appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination thereof;

2204 (43) "Personal data" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-
2205 515;

2206 [(43)] (44) "Producer" means a person that is licensed as a producer
2207 pursuant to section 21a-408i, as amended by this act, and any
2208 regulations adopted pursuant to said section;

2209 [(44)] (45) "Product manufacturer" means a person that is licensed to
2210 obtain cannabis, extract and manufacture products;

2211 [(45)] (46) "Product packager" means a person that is licensed to
2212 package and label cannabis;

2213 (47) "Qualifying out-of-state caregiver" has the same meaning as
2214 provided in section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2215 (48) "Qualifying out-of-state patient" has the same meaning as
2216 provided in section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2217 [(46)] (49) "Qualifying patient" has the same meaning as provided in
2218 section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2219 [(47)] (50) "Research program" has the same meaning as provided in
2220 section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2221 [(48)] (51) "Retailer" means a person, excluding a dispensary facility
2222 and hybrid retailer, that is licensed to purchase cannabis from
2223 producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product manufacturers and
2224 food and beverage manufacturers and to sell cannabis to consumers and
2225 research programs;

2226 [(49)] (52) "Sale" or "sell" has the same meaning as provided in section

2227 21a-240, as amended by this act;

2228 [(50)] (53) "Social Equity Council" or "council" means the council
2229 established under section 21a-420d, as amended by this act;

2230 [(51)] (54) "Social equity applicant" means a person that has applied
2231 for a license for a cannabis establishment, where such applicant is
2232 controlled, and at least sixty-five per cent owned, by an individual or
2233 individuals, or such applicant is an individual, who:

2234 (A) Had an average household income of less than three hundred per
2235 cent of the state median household income over the three tax years
2236 immediately preceding such individual's application; and

2237 (B) (i) Was a resident of a disproportionately impacted area for not
2238 less than five of the ten years immediately preceding the date of such
2239 application; or

2240 (ii) Was a resident of a disproportionately impacted area for not less
2241 than nine years prior to attaining the age of eighteen;

2242 [(52)] (55) "THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
2243 240, as amended by this act;

2244 [(53)] (56) "Third-party lottery operator" means a person, or a
2245 constituent unit of the state system of higher education, that conducts
2246 lotteries pursuant to section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, identifies
2247 the cannabis establishment license applications for consideration
2248 without performing any review of the applications that are identified
2249 for consideration, and that has no direct or indirect oversight of or
2250 investment in a cannabis establishment or a cannabis establishment
2251 applicant;

2252 [(54)] (57) "Transfer" means to transfer, change, give or otherwise
2253 dispose of control over or interest in;

2254 [(55)] (58) "Transport" means to physically move from one place to
2255 another;

2256 [(56)] (59) "Transporter" means a person licensed to transport
2257 cannabis between cannabis establishments, cannabis testing
2258 laboratories and research programs; and

2259 [(57)] (60) "Unemployment rate" means, in a given area, the number
2260 of people sixteen years of age or older who are in the civilian labor force
2261 and unemployed divided by the number of people sixteen years of age
2262 or older who are in the civilian labor force.

2263 Sec. 48. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) There is established a
2264 cannabis regulatory working group to (1) study regulations adopted or
2265 proposed, and policies and procedures issued or proposed, by the
2266 Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Social Equity Council
2267 concerning cannabis, (2) recommend the adoption or amendment of
2268 regulations concerning cannabis, (3) recommend the issuance or
2269 amendment of policies and procedures concerning cannabis, and (4)
2270 propose legislation concerning cannabis.

2271 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

2272 (1) One appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing
2273 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2274 relating to consumer protection;

2275 (2) One appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing
2276 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2277 relating to consumer protection;

2278 (3) One appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing
2279 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2280 relating to consumer protection; and

2281 (4) One appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing
2282 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2283 relating to consumer protection.

2284 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subsection

2285 (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

2286 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
2287 later than October 31, 2026. Any vacancy shall be filled by the
2288 appointing authority.

2289 (e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
2290 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection
2291 shall select the chairpersons of the working group from among the
2292 members of the working group. The chairpersons of the working group
2293 shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be
2294 held not later than December 1, 2026.

2295 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
2296 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer
2297 protection shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

2298 (g) Not later than January 1, 2027, and periodically thereafter as the
2299 working group deems appropriate, the working group shall submit a
2300 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
2301 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2302 relating to consumer protection, in accordance with the provisions of
2303 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

2304 Sec. 49. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) No retailer, hybrid retailer
2305 or dispensary facility shall borrow money or receive credit, directly or
2306 indirectly, in any form for a period in excess of thirty days from any
2307 cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer.

2308 Sec. 50. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Notwithstanding any
2309 provision of chapter 420f or 420h of the general statutes, no cannabis
2310 establishment licensed to deliver or transport cannabis shall be required
2311 to staff any cannabis delivery or transport vehicle with more than one
2312 employee in order to deliver or transport cannabis to another cannabis
2313 establishment, a cannabis testing laboratory or a research program
2314 location if such vehicle is equipped with the following devices and
2315 container for the purpose of preventing any diversion, theft or loss of

2316 cannabis:

2317 (1) An electronic recording device that electronically records video of
2318 such vehicle's interior at all times while such vehicle is used to deliver
2319 or transport cannabis;

2320 (2) An electronic tracking device that tracks, in real time, the
2321 geospatial location of such vehicle by means of the global positioning
2322 system at all times while such vehicle is used to deliver or transport
2323 cannabis; and

2324 (3) A secure container that is permanently affixed to such vehicle and
2325 contains all cannabis delivered or transported by such vehicle.

2326 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
2327 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
2328 general statutes to implement the provisions of subsection (a) of this
2329 section, and may adopt policies and procedures as set forth in section
2330 21a-421j of the general statutes, as amended by this act, prior to adopting
2331 such regulations.

2332 Sec. 51. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding any
2333 provision of chapter 420f or 420h of the general statutes, no producer,
2334 cultivator or micro-cultivator engaged in the outdoor cultivation of
2335 cannabis shall be required to maintain a fence on the perimeter of the
2336 outdoor cannabis cultivation area that is more than eight feet in height.

2337 Sec. 52. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) (1) Each cannabis
2338 establishment shall submit cannabis samples to a cannabis testing
2339 laboratory for testing in accordance with the laboratory testing
2340 standards established in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner
2341 of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-421j of the general
2342 statutes, as amended by this act. The quantity and number of cannabis
2343 samples submitted shall be sufficient to ensure representative sampling
2344 of the corresponding cannabis batch size.

2345 (2) If the cannabis samples taken from a cannabis batch pass the

2346 laboratory testing required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the
2347 cannabis batch shall be released for sale.

2348 (3) If the cannabis samples taken from a cannabis batch fail the
2349 laboratory testing required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the
2350 cannabis establishment that submitted the failing cannabis samples to
2351 the cannabis testing laboratory shall, not later than sixty days after the
2352 date of such failed laboratory testing:

2353 (A) Repeat the laboratory testing required under subdivision (1) of
2354 this subsection on the cannabis batch in a form and manner approved
2355 by the commissioner;

2356 (B) Submit to the Department of Consumer Protection a remediation
2357 plan for the cannabis batch, in accordance with the provisions of
2358 subsection (c) of this section; or

2359 (C) Dispose of the entire cannabis batch in accordance with
2360 procedures established by the commissioner and published on the
2361 department's Internet web site, unless the cannabis establishment
2362 submits to the department during such sixty-day period, and the
2363 commissioner approves, a request to extend the disposal period by sixty
2364 days. The commissioner shall not grant more than two such requests for
2365 any cannabis batch.

2366 (b) Not later than sixty days after any repeated laboratory testing
2367 performed pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of
2368 subsection (a) of this section:

2369 (1) If the cannabis samples pass such repeated laboratory testing, the
2370 cannabis batch from which such cannabis samples were taken shall be
2371 released for sale; or

2372 (2) If the cannabis samples fail such repeated laboratory testing, the
2373 cannabis establishment that submitted such failing cannabis samples
2374 shall:

2375 (A) Submit to the Department of Consumer Protection a remediation
2376 plan for the cannabis batch from which such failing cannabis samples
2377 were taken, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this
2378 section; or

2379 (B) Dispose of the entire cannabis batch from which such failing
2380 cannabis samples were taken in accordance with procedures established
2381 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and published on the
2382 department's Internet web site, unless the cannabis establishment
2383 submits to the department during such sixty-day period, and the
2384 commissioner approves, a request to extend the disposal period by sixty
2385 days. The commissioner shall not grant more than two such requests for
2386 any cannabis batch.

2387 (c) (1) Each remediation plan submitted to the Department of
2388 Consumer Protection under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of
2389 subsection (a) of this section or subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of
2390 subsection (b) of this section shall be submitted in a form and manner
2391 prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

2392 (2) Not later than sixty days after the commissioner receives a
2393 remediation plan described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the
2394 commissioner shall:

2395 (A) Review the remediation plan to determine whether such
2396 remediation plan is sufficient to ensure public health and safety;

2397 (B) On the basis of such determination, approve or reject such
2398 remediation plan; and

2399 (C) Send to the cannabis establishment that submitted such
2400 remediation plan, in a form and manner prescribed by the
2401 commissioner, a written notice disclosing such approval or rejection
2402 and, in the case of a rejection, the reasons for such rejection.

2403 (3) If the commissioner does not send a written notice to the cannabis
2404 establishment pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of this

2405 subsection within the sixty-day period required under subdivision (2)
2406 of this subsection, such cannabis establishment's remediation plan shall
2407 be deemed approved.

2408 (4) If the commissioner approves the remediation plan under
2409 subdivision (2) of this subsection, or if such remediation plan is deemed
2410 approved under subdivision (3) of this subsection, the cannabis
2411 establishment shall remediate the cannabis batch from which the failing
2412 cannabis samples were taken and repeat all laboratory testing required
2413 under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section in a form and
2414 manner approved by the commissioner; and:

2415 (A) If the cannabis samples pass such repeated laboratory testing,
2416 such cannabis batch shall be released for sale; or

2417 (B) If the cannabis samples fail such repeated laboratory testing, the
2418 cannabis establishment that submitted such failing cannabis samples for
2419 such repeated laboratory testing shall, not later than sixty days after the
2420 date of such failed repeated laboratory testing, dispose of such cannabis
2421 batch in accordance with procedures established by the commissioner
2422 and published on the department's Internet web site, unless the
2423 cannabis establishment submits to the department during such sixty-
2424 day period, and the commissioner approves, a request to extend the
2425 disposal period by an additional sixty days. The commissioner shall not
2426 grant more than two such requests for any cannabis batch.

2427 Sec. 53. Subsections (a) to (e), inclusive, of section 21a-420c of the 2026
2428 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
2429 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2430 (a) As used in this section:

2431 (1) "Cigarette" has the same meaning as provided in section 4-28h;

2432 (2) "Electronic cigarette liquid" has the same meaning as provided in
2433 section 21a-415;

2434 (3) "Electronic nicotine delivery system" has the same meaning as
2435 provided in section 21a-415;

2436 (4) "Immediate threat to public health and safety" includes, but is not
2437 limited to, (A) the presence of [(A)] (i) any cannabis or cannabis product
2438 in connection with a violation of this section, [or (B)] (ii) any cigarette,
2439 tobacco product, electronic cigarette liquid, electronic nicotine delivery
2440 system, [or] liquid nicotine container or nicotine product stored or
2441 displayed adjacent or proximate to any cannabis or cannabis product or
2442 otherwise being sold unlawfully, (iii) any controlled substance in
2443 schedule I or II, (iv) any product offered or sold for human consumption
2444 that any federal, state or local government agency acting within the
2445 scope of its authority has deemed unsafe based on reports that such
2446 product has caused personal injury or illness, or (v) any unlawful
2447 firearm, or (B) any documented sale of any product to an individual who
2448 is under the minimum age to purchase such product;

2449 (5) "Liquid nicotine container" has the same meaning as provided in
2450 section 19a-342a, as amended by this act; [and]

2451 (6) "Nicotine product" means any product, regardless of form, that is
2452 made from or otherwise contains nicotine; and

2453 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) "Tobacco product" has the same meaning as provided in
2454 section 12-330a.

2455 (b) Except as provided in RERACA and chapter 420b or 420f, (1) no
2456 person, other than a retailer, hybrid retailer, micro-cultivator or delivery
2457 service, or an employee thereof in the course of such employee's
2458 employment, may sell or offer any cannabis or cannabis product to a
2459 consumer, [and] (2) no person, other than a hybrid retailer, dispensary
2460 facility or a delivery service, or an employee thereof in the course of such
2461 employee's employment, may sell or offer any cannabis or cannabis
2462 product to a qualifying patient or caregiver, and (3) no person, other
2463 than a hybrid retailer or dispensary facility, or an employee thereof in
2464 the course of such employee's employment, may sell or offer any

2465 cannabis or cannabis product to a qualifying out-of-state patient or
2466 qualifying out-of-state caregiver.

2467 (c) No person except a delivery service, or an employee of a delivery
2468 service, subject to the restrictions set forth in section 21a-420z, as
2469 amended by this act, acting in the course of such employee's
2470 employment, may deliver any cannabis or cannabis product to a
2471 consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver.

2472 (d) Any violation of the provisions of subsection (b) or (c) of this
2473 section shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under
2474 subsection (a) of section 42-110b.

2475 (e) (1) Any municipality may, by vote of its legislative body, prohibit
2476 the operation of any business within such municipality that is found to
2477 be in violation of the provisions of this section or if such operation poses
2478 an immediate threat to public health and safety.

2479 (2) If the chief executive officer of a municipality determines that a
2480 business within the municipality is operating in violation of the
2481 provisions of this section or poses an immediate threat to public health
2482 and safety, the chief executive officer may apply to the Superior Court
2483 for an order under subdivision (3) of this subsection and, upon making
2484 such application, submit a written copy of such application to the
2485 Attorney General and the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

2486 (3) Upon an application under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
2487 Superior Court, upon a finding that a business within the municipality
2488 is operating in violation of the provisions of this section or poses an
2489 immediate threat to public health and safety, may issue forthwith, ex
2490 parte and without a hearing, an order that shall direct the chief law
2491 enforcement officer of the municipality to summarily close such
2492 business, seal the premises of such business and take from such business
2493 possession and control of any merchandise related to such violation or
2494 immediate threat to public health and safety, which merchandise shall
2495 include, but need not be limited to, (A) any cannabis or cannabis

2496 product, (B) any cigarette, tobacco, tobacco product, electronic cigarette
2497 liquid, electronic nicotine delivery system, [or] liquid nicotine container
2498 or nicotine product, (C) any merchandise related to the merchandise
2499 described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision, and (D) any
2500 proceeds related to the merchandise described in subparagraphs (A) to
2501 (C), inclusive, of this subdivision.

2502 (4) As used in this subsection, "operation" and "operating" mean
2503 engaging in the sale of goods and services to the general public,
2504 including, but not limited to, through indirect retail sales.

2505 Sec. 54. Section 21a-420d of the 2026 supplement to the general
2506 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2507 (*Effective from passage*):

2508 (a) There is established a Social Equity Council, which shall be within
2509 the Department of Economic and Community Development for
2510 administrative purposes only.

2511 (b) The Social Equity Council shall consist of seventeen members as
2512 follows:

2513 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
2514 who has a professional background of not less than five years working
2515 in the field of either social justice or civil rights;

2516 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
2517 has a professional background of not less than five years working in the
2518 field of either social justice or civil rights;

2519 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
2520 Representatives, who has a professional background of not less than five
2521 years working in the field of economic development to help minority-
2522 owned businesses;

2523 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who has a
2524 professional background of not less than five years in providing access

2525 to capital to minorities, as defined in section 32-9n;

2526 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
2527 Representatives, who is from a community that has been
2528 disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and enforcement;

2529 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who has a
2530 professional background of not less than five years in providing access
2531 to capital to minorities, as defined in section 32-9n;

2532 (7) Two appointed by the chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican
2533 Caucus of the General Assembly, one of whom shall be designated by
2534 the chairperson of the Black Caucus of the General Assembly and one of
2535 whom shall be designated by the chairperson of the Puerto Rican and
2536 Latino Caucus of the General Assembly;

2537 (8) Five appointed by the Governor, one who is from a community
2538 that has been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and
2539 enforcement, one who has a professional background of not less than
2540 five years working in the field of economic development and one who
2541 is an executive branch official focused on workforce development;

2542 (9) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's
2543 designee;

2544 (10) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
2545 or the commissioner's designee;

2546 (11) The State Treasurer, or the State Treasurer's designee; and

2547 (12) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
2548 secretary's designee.

2549 (c) (1) In making the appointments in subsection (b) of this section,
2550 the appointing authority shall use best efforts to make appointments
2551 that reflect the racial, gender and geographic diversity of the population
2552 of the state.

2553 (2) Members appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of four
2554 years from the time of appointment and members appointed by any
2555 other appointing authority shall serve a term of three years from the
2556 time of appointment. The appointing authority shall fill any vacancy for
2557 the unexpired term.

2558 (3) (A) The Governor shall appoint an interim executive director to
2559 operationalize and support the Social Equity Council until,
2560 notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-9a, the council appoints an
2561 executive director. Subject to the provisions of chapter 67, and within
2562 available appropriations, the council may thereafter appoint an
2563 executive director and such other employees as may be necessary for the
2564 discharge of the duties of the council.

2565 (B) Not later than July 1, 2024, the council shall adopt bylaws
2566 specifying which duties are retained by the members of the council and
2567 which duties are delegated to the executive director.

2568 (C) The council may, by a simple majority vote of the members of the
2569 council, take any formal personnel action concerning the executive
2570 director for any reason.

2571 (D) In addition to the council's authority under subparagraph (C) of
2572 this subdivision, if a final review board consisting of the chairperson
2573 and the members of the council appointed under subdivisions (1), (2),
2574 (5) and (6) of subsection (b) of this section determines, by a simple
2575 majority vote of the members of the final review board, that removing
2576 the executive director is in the best interest of serving the council's
2577 mission, such final review board shall issue a letter to the council
2578 recommending that the council remove the executive director.

2579 (4) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the council from
2580 among the members of the council. The chairperson shall directly
2581 supervise, establish annual goals for and conduct an annual
2582 performance review of the executive director.

2583 (5) The chairperson and executive director shall jointly develop, and

2584 the council shall review and approve, (A) allocations of moneys in the
2585 social equity and innovation account established under section 21a-420f,
2586 for the purposes that the council determines under subsection (a) of
2587 section 21a-420f, further the principles of equity, and (B) any plans for
2588 expenditures to provide (i) access to capital for businesses, (ii) technical
2589 assistance for the start-up and operation of a business, (iii) funding for
2590 workforce education, (iv) funding for community investments, and (v)
2591 funding for investments in disproportionately impacted areas.

2592 (d) A majority of the members of the Social Equity Council shall
2593 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. The members
2594 of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall, within
2595 available appropriations, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily
2596 incurred in the performance of their duties. Any member who fails to
2597 attend three consecutive meetings, or who fails to attend fifty per cent
2598 of all meetings held during any calendar year, may be removed from
2599 office by a simple majority vote of the members of the council. The
2600 appointing authority shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of any
2601 member who is removed from office under this subsection, and shall
2602 use best efforts to ensure such appointment reflects the racial, gender
2603 and geographic diversity of the population of the state.

2604 (e) The Social Equity Council may (1) request, and shall receive, from
2605 any state agency such information and assistance as the council may
2606 require to carry out its duties, (2) use such funds as may be available
2607 from federal, state or other sources [and may] to carry out its duties, (3)
2608 enter into contracts or agreements to carry out [the purposes of the
2609 council] its duties, including, but not limited to, contracts or agreements
2610 with Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, constituent units of the
2611 state system of higher education, regional workforce development
2612 boards and community development financial institutions, [(3)] (4)
2613 utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services of private
2614 individuals, state or federal agencies and organizations as may, from
2615 time to time, be offered and needed [, (4)] to carry out its duties, (5)
2616 accept any gift, donation or bequest [for the purpose of performing the]

2617 to carry out its duties, [of the council, (5)] (6) conduct such investigations
2618 as the council may deem necessary to carry out its duties, provided such
2619 investigations concern matters, complaints or concerns that (A) are
2620 brought before the council by individuals who meet the criteria
2621 established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (51) of section
2622 21a-420, as amended by this act, and (B) relate to the protection,
2623 enforcement or advancement of equity under this chapter, (7) hold
2624 public hearings, [(6)] (8) establish such standing committees, as
2625 necessary, to [perform the] carry out its duties, [of the council,] and [(7)]
2626 (9) adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,
2627 as the council may deem necessary to carry out [the] its duties. [of the
2628 council.]

2629 (f) The Social Equity Council shall promote and encourage full
2630 participation in the cannabis industry by persons from communities
2631 that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and
2632 enforcement.

2633 (g) Not later than forty-five days after June 22, 2021, or at a later date
2634 determined by the Social Equity Council, the council shall establish
2635 criteria for proposals to conduct a study under this section and the
2636 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall post on the State
2637 Contracting Portal a request for proposals to conduct a study, and shall
2638 select an independent third party to conduct such study and provide
2639 detailed findings of fact regarding the following matters in the state or
2640 other matters determined by the council:

2641 (1) Historical and present-day social, economic and familial
2642 consequences of cannabis prohibition, the criminalization and
2643 stigmatization of cannabis use and related public policies;

2644 (2) Historical and present-day structures, patterns, causes and
2645 consequences of intentional and unintentional racial discrimination and
2646 racial disparities in the development, application and enforcement of
2647 cannabis prohibition and related public policies;

2648 (3) Foreseeable long-term social, economic and familial consequences
2649 of unremedied past racial discrimination and disparities arising from
2650 past and continued cannabis prohibition, stigmatization and
2651 criminalization;

2652 (4) Existing patterns of racial discrimination and racial disparities in
2653 access to entrepreneurship, employment and other economic benefits
2654 arising in the lawful palliative use cannabis sector as established
2655 pursuant to chapter 420f; and

2656 (5) Any other matters that the council deems relevant and feasible for
2657 study for the purpose of making reasonable and practical
2658 recommendations for the establishment of an equitable and lawful
2659 adult-use cannabis business sector in this state.

2660 (h) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Social Equity Council shall,
2661 taking into account the results of the study conducted in accordance
2662 with subsection (g) of this section, make written recommendations, in
2663 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and the
2664 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
2665 of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, consumer
2666 protection and the judiciary regarding legislation to implement the
2667 provisions of this section. The council shall make recommendations
2668 regarding:

2669 (1) Creating programs to ensure that individuals from communities
2670 that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and
2671 enforcement are provided equal access to licenses for cannabis
2672 establishments;

2673 (2) Specifying additional qualifications for social equity applicants;

2674 (3) Providing for expedited or priority license processing for each
2675 license as a retailer, hybrid retailer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product
2676 manufacturer, food and beverage manufacturer, product packager,
2677 transporter and delivery service license for social equity applicants;

2678 (4) Establishing minimum criteria for any cannabis establishment
2679 licensed on or after January 1, 2022, to comply with an approved
2680 workforce development plan to reinvest or provide employment and
2681 training opportunities for individuals in disproportionately impacted
2682 areas;

2683 (5) Establishing criteria for a social equity plan for any cannabis
2684 establishment licensed on or after January 1, 2022, to further the
2685 principles of equity;

2686 (6) Recruiting individuals from communities that have been
2687 disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and enforcement to
2688 enroll in the workforce training program established pursuant to section
2689 21a-421g;

2690 (7) Potential uses for revenue generated under RERACA to further
2691 equity;

2692 (8) Encouraging participation of investors, cannabis establishments
2693 and entrepreneurs in the cannabis business accelerator program
2694 established pursuant to section 21a-421f;

2695 (9) Establishing a process to best ensure that social equity applicants
2696 have access to the capital and training needed to own and operate a
2697 cannabis establishment; and

2698 (10) Developing a vendor list of women-owned and minority-owned
2699 businesses that cannabis establishments may contract with for necessary
2700 services, including, but not limited to, office supplies, information
2701 technology infrastructure and cleaning services.

2702 (i) (1) Not later than August 1, 2021, and annually thereafter until July
2703 31, 2023, the Social Equity Council shall use the most recent five-year
2704 United States Census Bureau American Community Survey estimates
2705 or any successor data to determine one or more United States census
2706 tracts in the state that are a disproportionately impacted area and shall
2707 publish a list of such tracts on the council's Internet web site.

2708 (2) Not later than August 1, 2023, the council shall use poverty rate
2709 data from the most recent five-year United States Census Bureau
2710 American Community Survey estimates, population data from the most
2711 recent decennial census and conviction information from databases
2712 managed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public
2713 Protection to identify all United States census tracts in the state that are
2714 disproportionately impacted areas and shall publish a list of such tracts
2715 on the council's Internet web site. In identifying which census tracts in
2716 this state are disproportionately impacted areas and preparing such list,
2717 the council shall:

2718 (A) Not deem any census tract with a poverty rate that is less than the
2719 state-wide poverty rate to be a disproportionately impacted area;

2720 (B) After eliminating the census tracts described in subparagraph (A)
2721 of this subdivision, rank the remaining census tracts in order from the
2722 census tract with the greatest historical conviction rate for drug-related
2723 offenses to the census tract with the lowest historical conviction rate for
2724 drug-related offenses; and

2725 (C) Include census tracts in the order of rank described in
2726 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision until including the next census
2727 tract would cause the total population of all included census tracts to
2728 exceed twenty-five per cent of the state's population.

2729 (j) After developing criteria for workforce development plans as
2730 described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this section, the Social
2731 Equity Council shall review and approve or deny in writing any such
2732 plan submitted by an applicant for a final license. If the Social Equity
2733 Council does not approve a workforce development plan for a cannabis
2734 establishment on or before July 1, 2025, the cannabis establishment shall
2735 submit a workforce development plan to the council not later than
2736 October 1, 2025, or sixty days prior to the next renewal date for such
2737 cannabis establishment's license, whichever is earlier. Not later than
2738 sixty days after the cannabis establishment submits the workforce
2739 development plan to the council, the council shall send notice to the

2740 cannabis establishment disclosing whether such workforce
2741 development plan has been approved, rejected or requires modification.

2742 (k) (1) The Social Equity Council shall develop criteria for evaluating
2743 the ownership and control of any equity joint venture created under
2744 section 21a-420j, as amended by this act, 21a-420m, as amended by this
2745 act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as amended by this act,
2746 [21a-420bbb] 21a-420bb, as amended by this act, or [21a-420ccc] 21a-
2747 420cc, as amended by this act, and shall review and approve or deny in
2748 writing such equity joint venture prior to such equity joint venture being
2749 licensed under section 21a-420j, as amended by this act, 21a-420m, as
2750 amended by this act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as
2751 amended by this act, [21a-420bbb] 21a-420bb, as amended by this act, or
2752 [21a-420ccc] 21a-420cc, as amended by this act. The council shall not
2753 approve any equity joint venture applicant which shares with an equity
2754 joint venture any individual owner who meets the criteria established
2755 in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (51) of section 21a-420, as
2756 amended by this act, other than an individual owner in their capacity as
2757 a backer licensed under section 21a-420o.

2758 (2) No contract entered into or renewed on or after the effective date
2759 of this section shall provide that any change may be made in the
2760 ownership or control of any equity joint venture created under section
2761 21a-420j, as amended by this act, 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-
2762 420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as amended by this act, 21a-
2763 420bb, as amended by this act, or 21a-420cc, as amended by this act, that
2764 would cause such equity joint venture not to be controlled, and at least
2765 fifty per cent owned, by an individual who meets the criteria established
2766 in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (51) of section 21a-420, as
2767 amended by this act, unless:

2768 (A) At least five years have elapsed since a final license was issued to
2769 the equity joint venture;

2770 (B) At least ninety days before the effective date of such change, the
2771 equity joint venture (i) submits a written notice to the council, in a form

2772 and manner prescribed by the council, disclosing that the equity joint
2773 venture intends to make such change, and (ii) sends a written notice to
2774 the individual who meets the criteria established in subparagraphs (A)
2775 and (B) of subdivision (51) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act,
2776 disclosing that such individual may, not later than sixty days before the
2777 effective date of such change, submit a written request to the council, in
2778 a form and manner prescribed by the council, that the council perform
2779 an optional nonfinancial review of such change pursuant to
2780 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision;

2781 (C) If the council receives a written request submitted under
2782 subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision, the council, not later than thirty
2783 days before the effective date of such change, (i) completes the optional
2784 nonfinancial review to determine (I) whether the individual described
2785 in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision has retained legal counsel to
2786 advise such individual regarding such change, understands the
2787 structure and implications of such change, understands the financial
2788 terms of such change, has engaged with such individual's business
2789 partners, if any, to ensure that such change is appropriate and consents
2790 to such change free of any coercion or undue pressure, and (II) whether
2791 such change complies with the organizational documents of the equity
2792 joint venture, and (ii) sends a written notice to the individual described
2793 in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision and the equity joint venture,
2794 in a form and manner prescribed by the council, disclosing the results
2795 of such optional nonfinancial review; and

2796 (D) The person acquiring ownership or control of the equity joint
2797 venture from the individual described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this
2798 subdivision has paid to the council, in a form and manner prescribed by
2799 the council, (i) a nonrefundable transaction processing fee in the amount
2800 of eight thousand dollars, which the council shall deposit in the social
2801 equity and innovation account established under section 21a-420f, and
2802 (ii) the outstanding balance of all loans issued to the equity joint venture,
2803 or the individual described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision,
2804 as part of the revolving loan program established pursuant to section

2805 21a-421i.

2806 (3) Nothing in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be construed to
2807 authorize the council to delay or reject any change described in said
2808 subdivision due to the results of an optional nonfinancial review
2809 performed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of said subdivision. Any
2810 change made in violation of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be
2811 void and of no effect.

2812 (l) The Social Equity Council shall, upon receipt of funds from
2813 producers in accordance with subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section
2814 21a-420l, as amended by this act, develop a program to assist social
2815 equity applicants to open not more than two micro-cultivator
2816 establishment businesses in total. Producers shall provide mentorship
2817 to such social equity applicants. The council shall, with the department,
2818 determine a system to select social equity applicants to participate in
2819 such program without participating in a lottery or request for proposals.

2820 (m) (1) The Social Equity Council shall review and either approve or
2821 deny, in writing, any social equity plan submitted by a cannabis
2822 establishment as part of the cannabis establishment's final license
2823 application. The council shall approve or deny such social equity plan
2824 not later than thirty days after such social equity plan is submitted to
2825 the council. If the council denies any such social equity plan, the
2826 applicant may revise and resubmit such social equity plan without
2827 prejudice.

2828 (2) (A) Each licensed cannabis establishment shall (i) maintain an
2829 active social equity plan at all times while such cannabis establishment
2830 is in operation, and (ii) not later than March [1, 2026, and annually
2831 thereafter] first, annually, submit to the council a report disclosing the
2832 impact such social equity plan had on the disproportionately impacted
2833 area in which such cannabis establishment is located during the
2834 preceding calendar year.

2835 (B) The council shall review each report submitted pursuant to

2836 subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision and may, not later than sixty
2837 days after completing such review, request that the licensed cannabis
2838 establishment that submitted such report revise such cannabis
2839 establishment's social equity plan to ensure that such social equity plan
2840 furthers the principles of equity.

2841 (3) Not later than July 1, 2024, the council shall update the criteria for
2842 social equity plans described in subdivision (5) of subsection (h) of this
2843 section to include a specific, points-based rubric to evaluate social equity
2844 plans.

2845 (n) The Social Equity Council shall approve the amounts, grantees
2846 and purposes of any grants made by the council from the social equity
2847 and innovation account or the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation
2848 Fund, established under section 21a-420f, and any contract executed by
2849 and between the council and a grant maker shall require that the
2850 amounts, grantees and purposes of any subgrants made by such grant
2851 maker shall be approved by the council.

2852 (o) Not later than [July 1, 2024, and quarterly thereafter] the first days
2853 of January, April, July and October for the preceding calendar quarter,
2854 the Social Equity Council shall prepare and submit a quarterly report,
2855 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor, the
2856 speaker of the House of Representatives, the president pro tempore of
2857 the Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the
2858 majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of
2859 Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate, [and] the joint
2860 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
2861 matters relating to appropriations and consumer protection and the
2862 chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the General
2863 Assembly. The report shall include, but need not be limited to:

2864 (1) The fiscal-year-to-date expenditures of the council, which
2865 expenditures shall disclose, at a minimum: (A) All expenditures made
2866 for personal services and the fringe benefit costs associated therewith;
2867 (B) all expenditures made for consultants retained for the purpose of

2868 reviewing applications for social equity applicant status; (C) all
2869 expenditures made to provide businesses with access to capital and the
2870 number of businesses that received access to such capital; (D) all
2871 expenditures made to provide technical assistance for the start-up and
2872 operation of businesses and the number of businesses that received such
2873 assistance; (E) all expenditures made to fund workforce education, the
2874 number of persons served by the workforce education programs
2875 supported by such expenditures and the number of persons successfully
2876 placed in relevant professional roles after completing such workforce
2877 education programs; (F) all expenditures made to fund community
2878 investment grants, the amounts, grantees and purposes of such grants
2879 and, if any of such grants were made to a grant maker, the amounts,
2880 grantees and purposes of any subgrants made by such grant maker; (G)
2881 all expenditures made for promotional or branding items and which
2882 promotional or branding items were purchased; (H) all expenditures
2883 made for advertising or marketing campaigns; (I) all expenditures made
2884 to advertising or marketing firms; (J) all expenditures made for
2885 sponsorships; (K) all expenditures made for other community outreach;
2886 (L) all expenditures made for travel; and (M) all other expenditures not
2887 described in subparagraphs (A) to (L), inclusive, of this subdivision; and

2888 (2) The status of the council's performance of the council's
2889 responsibilities in the licensing process under RERACA, including, but
2890 not limited to: (A) The number of applications for social equity applicant
2891 status, social equity plans and workforce development plans pending
2892 before the council, categorized into the number of applications, social
2893 equity plans and workforce development plans pending before the
2894 council for (i) less than thirty days, (ii) at least thirty days but less than
2895 sixty days, (iii) at least sixty days but less than ninety days, and (iv) at
2896 least ninety days; (B) the number of applications for social equity
2897 applicant status, social equity plans and workforce development plans
2898 approved during the then current fiscal year, broken down by license
2899 type; and (C) the number of applications for social equity applicant
2900 status, social equity plans and workforce development plans denied
2901 during the then current fiscal year, broken down by license type.

2902 [(p) Not later than July 1, 2024, and monthly thereafter, the executive
2903 director of the council shall prepare and submit a report, in accordance
2904 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the council and the Black and
2905 Puerto Rican Caucus of the General Assembly. The report shall include,
2906 but need not be limited to:

2907 (1) The expenditures the council plans to make during the month
2908 immediately following submission of such report, which expenditures
2909 shall disclose, at a minimum: (A) All expenditures the council plans to
2910 make for consultants retained for the purpose of reviewing applications
2911 for social equity applicant status; (B) all expenditures the council plans
2912 to make to fund community investment grants, the amounts, grantees
2913 and purposes of such grants and, if any of such grants are to be made to
2914 a grant maker, the amounts, grantees and purposes of any subgrants to
2915 be made by such grant maker; (C) all expenditures the council plans to
2916 make for promotional or branding items, for advertising or marketing
2917 campaigns, to advertising or marketing firms and for sponsorships; (D)
2918 all expenditures the council plans to make for community outreach; and
2919 (E) all expenditures the council plans to make for travel; and

2920 (2) The status of the council's performance of the council's
2921 responsibilities in the licensing process under RERACA, including, but
2922 not limited to, the following information for the date of such report: (A)
2923 The number of applications for social equity applicant status that are
2924 pending before the council and the date each such application was
2925 submitted, broken down by license type, municipality, assembly district
2926 and senate district; (B) the number of social equity plans that are
2927 pending before the council and the date each such social equity plan was
2928 submitted, broken down by license type; and (C) the number of
2929 workforce development plans that are pending before the council and
2930 the date each such workforce development plan was submitted, broken
2931 down by license type.]

2932 [(q)] (p) Not later than October 1, 2025, the council shall develop and
2933 submit a strategic plan to the Governor and the joint standing
2934 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters

2935 relating to appropriations and consumer protection. The strategic plan
2936 shall include a framework that outlines the council's goals, planned
2937 actions and priorities for the three-year period beginning October 1,
2938 2025, and ending September 30, 2028.

2939 ~~[(r)]~~ (q) Not later than October 1, 2025, the council shall develop and
2940 adopt an ethical code of conduct for council members and staff.

2941 ~~[(s)]~~ (r) Not later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the
2942 members of the council and council staff shall complete an ethics
2943 training course focusing on disproportionately impacted areas and the
2944 cannabis industry.

2945 (s) The council shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
2946 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of subsection (k)
2947 of this section and subsection (a) of section 21a-420g, as amended by this
2948 act. Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
2949 inclusive, in order to implement the provisions of subsection (k) of this
2950 section and subsection (a) of section 21a-420g, as amended by this act,
2951 prior to adopting such regulations the council shall, not later than
2952 October 1, 2026, issue policies and procedures to implement the
2953 provisions of subsection (k) of this section and subsection (a) of section
2954 21a-420g, as amended by this act, that shall have the force and effect of
2955 law. The council shall post all policies and procedures on its Internet
2956 web site, and submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of
2957 the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days
2958 prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy
2959 or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either the
2960 adoption of such policy or procedure as a final regulation under section
2961 4-172 or October 1, 2027, if such regulations have not been submitted to
2962 the legislative regulation review committee for consideration under
2963 section 4-170. Any violation of such policies and procedures or any
2964 violation of such regulations related to any change in ownership or
2965 control may be referred by the council to the Department of Consumer
2966 Protection for administrative enforcement action, which may result in a
2967 fine of not more than ten million dollars or action against the cannabis

2968 establishment's license.

2969 Sec. 55. Subsections (e) to (s), inclusive, of section 21a-420d of the 2026
2970 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 54 of this act,
2971 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
2972 *October 1, 2026*):

2973 (e) The Social Equity Council may (1) request, and shall receive, from
2974 any state agency such information and assistance as the council may
2975 require to carry out its duties, (2) use such funds as may be available
2976 from federal, state or other sources to carry out its duties, (3) enter into
2977 contracts or agreements to carry out its duties, including, but not limited
2978 to, contracts or agreements with Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated,
2979 constituent units of the state system of higher education, regional
2980 workforce development boards and community development financial
2981 institutions, (4) utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services of
2982 private individuals, state or federal agencies and organizations as may,
2983 from time to time, be offered and needed to carry out its duties, (5)
2984 accept any gift, donation or bequest to carry out its duties, (6) conduct
2985 such investigations as the council may deem necessary to carry out its
2986 duties, provided such investigations concern matters, complaints or
2987 concerns that (A) are brought before the council by individuals who
2988 meet the criteria established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision
2989 [(51)] (54) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act, and (B) relate to the
2990 protection, enforcement or advancement of equity under this chapter,
2991 (7) hold public hearings, (8) establish such standing committees, as
2992 necessary, to carry out its duties, and (9) adopt regulations, in
2993 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, as the council may deem
2994 necessary to carry out its duties.

2995 (f) The Social Equity Council shall promote and encourage full
2996 participation in the cannabis industry by persons from communities
2997 that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and
2998 enforcement.

2999 (g) Not later than forty-five days after June 22, 2021, or at a later date

3000 determined by the Social Equity Council, the council shall establish
3001 criteria for proposals to conduct a study under this section and the
3002 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall post on the State
3003 Contracting Portal a request for proposals to conduct a study, and shall
3004 select an independent third party to conduct such study and provide
3005 detailed findings of fact regarding the following matters in the state or
3006 other matters determined by the council:

3007 (1) Historical and present-day social, economic and familial
3008 consequences of cannabis prohibition, the criminalization and
3009 stigmatization of cannabis use and related public policies;

3010 (2) Historical and present-day structures, patterns, causes and
3011 consequences of intentional and unintentional racial discrimination and
3012 racial disparities in the development, application and enforcement of
3013 cannabis prohibition and related public policies;

3014 (3) Foreseeable long-term social, economic and familial consequences
3015 of unremedied past racial discrimination and disparities arising from
3016 past and continued cannabis prohibition, stigmatization and
3017 criminalization;

3018 (4) Existing patterns of racial discrimination and racial disparities in
3019 access to entrepreneurship, employment and other economic benefits
3020 arising in the lawful palliative use cannabis sector as established
3021 pursuant to chapter 420f; and

3022 (5) Any other matters that the council deems relevant and feasible for
3023 study for the purpose of making reasonable and practical
3024 recommendations for the establishment of an equitable and lawful
3025 adult-use cannabis business sector in this state.

3026 (h) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Social Equity Council shall,
3027 taking into account the results of the study conducted in accordance
3028 with subsection (g) of this section, make written recommendations, in
3029 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and the
3030 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance

3031 of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, consumer
3032 protection and the judiciary regarding legislation to implement the
3033 provisions of this section. The council shall make recommendations
3034 regarding:

3035 (1) Creating programs to ensure that individuals from communities
3036 that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and
3037 enforcement are provided equal access to licenses for cannabis
3038 establishments;

3039 (2) Specifying additional qualifications for social equity applicants;

3040 (3) Providing for expedited or priority license processing for each
3041 license as a retailer, hybrid retailer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product
3042 manufacturer, food and beverage manufacturer, product packager,
3043 transporter and delivery service license for social equity applicants;

3044 (4) Establishing minimum criteria for any cannabis establishment
3045 licensed on or after January 1, 2022, to comply with an approved
3046 workforce development plan to reinvest or provide employment and
3047 training opportunities for individuals in disproportionately impacted
3048 areas;

3049 (5) Establishing criteria for a social equity plan for any cannabis
3050 establishment licensed on or after January 1, 2022, to further the
3051 principles of equity;

3052 (6) Recruiting individuals from communities that have been
3053 disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and enforcement to
3054 enroll in the workforce training program established pursuant to section
3055 21a-421g;

3056 (7) Potential uses for revenue generated under RERACA to further
3057 equity;

3058 (8) Encouraging participation of investors, cannabis establishments
3059 and entrepreneurs in the cannabis business accelerator program

3060 established pursuant to section 21a-421f;

3061 (9) Establishing a process to best ensure that social equity applicants
3062 have access to the capital and training needed to own and operate a
3063 cannabis establishment; and

3064 (10) Developing a vendor list of women-owned and minority-owned
3065 businesses that cannabis establishments may contract with for necessary
3066 services, including, but not limited to, office supplies, information
3067 technology infrastructure and cleaning services.

3068 (i) (1) Not later than August 1, 2021, and annually thereafter until July
3069 31, 2023, the Social Equity Council shall use the most recent five-year
3070 United States Census Bureau American Community Survey estimates
3071 or any successor data to determine one or more United States census
3072 tracts in the state that are a disproportionately impacted area and shall
3073 publish a list of such tracts on the council's Internet web site.

3074 (2) Not later than August 1, 2023, the council shall use poverty rate
3075 data from the most recent five-year United States Census Bureau
3076 American Community Survey estimates, population data from the most
3077 recent decennial census and conviction information from databases
3078 managed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public
3079 Protection to identify all United States census tracts in the state that are
3080 disproportionately impacted areas and shall publish a list of such tracts
3081 on the council's Internet web site. In identifying which census tracts in
3082 this state are disproportionately impacted areas and preparing such list,
3083 the council shall:

3084 (A) Not deem any census tract with a poverty rate that is less than the
3085 state-wide poverty rate to be a disproportionately impacted area;

3086 (B) After eliminating the census tracts described in subparagraph (A)
3087 of this subdivision, rank the remaining census tracts in order from the
3088 census tract with the greatest historical conviction rate for drug-related
3089 offenses to the census tract with the lowest historical conviction rate for
3090 drug-related offenses; and

3091 (C) Include census tracts in the order of rank described in
3092 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision until including the next census
3093 tract would cause the total population of all included census tracts to
3094 exceed twenty-five per cent of the state's population.

3095 (j) After developing criteria for workforce development plans as
3096 described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this section, the Social
3097 Equity Council shall review and approve or deny in writing any such
3098 plan submitted by an applicant for a final license. If the Social Equity
3099 Council does not approve a workforce development plan for a cannabis
3100 establishment on or before July 1, 2025, the cannabis establishment shall
3101 submit a workforce development plan to the council not later than
3102 October 1, 2025, or sixty days prior to the next renewal date for such
3103 cannabis establishment's license, whichever is earlier. Not later than
3104 sixty days after the cannabis establishment submits the workforce
3105 development plan to the council, the council shall send notice to the
3106 cannabis establishment disclosing whether such workforce
3107 development plan has been approved, rejected or requires modification.

3108 (k) (1) The Social Equity Council shall develop criteria for evaluating
3109 the ownership and control of any equity joint venture created under
3110 section 21a-420j, as amended by this act, 21a-420m, as amended by this
3111 act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as amended by this act,
3112 21a-420bb, as amended by this act, or 21a-420cc, as amended by this act,
3113 and shall review and approve or deny in writing such equity joint
3114 venture prior to such equity joint venture being licensed under section
3115 21a-420j, as amended by this act, 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-
3116 420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as amended by this act, 21a-
3117 420bb, as amended by this act, or 21a-420cc, as amended by this act. The
3118 council shall not approve any equity joint venture applicant which
3119 shares with an equity joint venture any individual owner who meets the
3120 criteria established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)]
3121 (54) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act, other than an individual
3122 owner in their capacity as a backer licensed under section 21a-420o.

3123 (2) No contract entered into or renewed on or after the effective date

3124 of this section shall provide that any change may be made in the
3125 ownership or control of any equity joint venture created under section
3126 21a-420j, as amended by this act, 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-
3127 420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as amended by this act, 21a-
3128 420bb, as amended by this act, or 21a-420cc, as amended by this act, that
3129 would cause such equity joint venture not to be controlled, and at least
3130 fifty per cent owned, by an individual who meets the criteria established
3131 in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (54) of section 21a-
3132 420, as amended by this act, unless:

3133 (A) At least five years have elapsed since a final license was issued to
3134 the equity joint venture;

3135 (B) At least ninety days before the effective date of such change, the
3136 equity joint venture (i) submits a written notice to the council, in a form
3137 and manner prescribed by the council, disclosing that the equity joint
3138 venture intends to make such change, and (ii) sends a written notice to
3139 the individual who meets the criteria established in subparagraphs (A)
3140 and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (54) of section 21a-420, as amended by this
3141 act, disclosing that such individual may, not later than sixty days before
3142 the effective date of such change, submit a written request to the council,
3143 in a form and manner prescribed by the council, that the council perform
3144 an optional nonfinancial review of such change pursuant to
3145 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision;

3146 (C) If the council receives a written request submitted under
3147 subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision, the council, not later than thirty
3148 days before the effective date of such change, (i) completes the optional
3149 nonfinancial review to determine (I) whether the individual described
3150 in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision has retained legal counsel to
3151 advise such individual regarding such change, understands the
3152 structure and implications of such change, understands the financial
3153 terms of such change, has engaged with such individual's business
3154 partners, if any, to ensure that such change is appropriate and consents
3155 to such change free of any coercion or undue pressure, and (II) whether
3156 such change complies with the organizational documents of the equity

3157 joint venture, and (ii) sends a written notice to the individual described
3158 in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision and the equity joint venture,
3159 in a form and manner prescribed by the council, disclosing the results
3160 of such optional nonfinancial review; and

3161 (D) The person acquiring ownership or control of the equity joint
3162 venture from the individual described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this
3163 subdivision has paid to the council, in a form and manner prescribed by
3164 the council, (i) a nonrefundable transaction processing fee in the amount
3165 of eight thousand dollars, which the council shall deposit in the social
3166 equity and innovation account established under section 21a-420f, and
3167 (ii) the outstanding balance of all loans issued to the equity joint venture,
3168 or the individual described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of this subdivision,
3169 as part of the revolving loan program established pursuant to section
3170 21a-421i.

3171 (3) Nothing in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be construed to
3172 authorize the council to delay or reject any change described in said
3173 subdivision due to the results of an optional nonfinancial review
3174 performed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of said subdivision. Any
3175 change made in violation of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be
3176 void and of no effect.

3177 (l) The Social Equity Council shall, upon receipt of funds from
3178 producers in accordance with subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section
3179 21a-420l, as amended by this act, develop a program to assist social
3180 equity applicants to open not more than two micro-cultivator
3181 establishment businesses in total. Producers shall provide mentorship
3182 to such social equity applicants. The council shall, with the department,
3183 determine a system to select social equity applicants to participate in
3184 such program without participating in a lottery or request for proposals.

3185 (m) (1) The Social Equity Council shall review and either approve or
3186 deny, in writing, any social equity plan submitted by a cannabis
3187 establishment as part of the cannabis establishment's final license
3188 application. The council shall approve or deny such social equity plan

3189 not later than thirty days after such social equity plan is submitted to
3190 the council. If the council denies any such social equity plan, the
3191 applicant may revise and resubmit such social equity plan without
3192 prejudice.

3193 (2) (A) Each licensed cannabis establishment shall (i) maintain an
3194 active social equity plan at all times while such cannabis establishment
3195 is in operation, and (ii) not later than March first, annually, submit to
3196 the council a report disclosing the impact such social equity plan had on
3197 the disproportionately impacted area in which such cannabis
3198 establishment is located during the preceding calendar year.

3199 (B) The council shall review each report submitted pursuant to
3200 subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision and may, not later than sixty
3201 days after completing such review, request that the licensed cannabis
3202 establishment that submitted such report revise such cannabis
3203 establishment's social equity plan to ensure that such social equity plan
3204 furthers the principles of equity.

3205 (3) Not later than July 1, 2024, the council shall update the criteria for
3206 social equity plans described in subdivision (5) of subsection (h) of this
3207 section to include a specific, points-based rubric to evaluate social equity
3208 plans.

3209 (n) The Social Equity Council shall approve the amounts, grantees
3210 and purposes of any grants made by the council from the social equity
3211 and innovation account or the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation
3212 Fund, established under section 21a-420f, and any contract executed by
3213 and between the council and a grant maker shall require that the
3214 amounts, grantees and purposes of any subgrants made by such grant
3215 maker shall be approved by the council.

3216 (o) Not later than the first days of January, April, July and October
3217 for the preceding calendar quarter, the Social Equity Council shall
3218 prepare and submit a quarterly report, in accordance with the
3219 provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor, the speaker of the House of

3220 Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority
3221 leader of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate,
3222 the minority leader of the House of Representatives, the minority leader
3223 of the Senate, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
3224 having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and consumer
3225 protection and the chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of
3226 the General Assembly. The report shall include, but need not be limited
3227 to:

3228 (1) The fiscal-year-to-date expenditures of the council, which
3229 expenditures shall disclose, at a minimum: (A) All expenditures made
3230 for personal services and the fringe benefit costs associated therewith;
3231 (B) all expenditures made for consultants retained for the purpose of
3232 reviewing applications for social equity applicant status; (C) all
3233 expenditures made to provide businesses with access to capital and the
3234 number of businesses that received access to such capital; (D) all
3235 expenditures made to provide technical assistance for the start-up and
3236 operation of businesses and the number of businesses that received such
3237 assistance; (E) all expenditures made to fund workforce education, the
3238 number of persons served by the workforce education programs
3239 supported by such expenditures and the number of persons successfully
3240 placed in relevant professional roles after completing such workforce
3241 education programs; (F) all expenditures made to fund community
3242 investment grants, the amounts, grantees and purposes of such grants
3243 and, if any of such grants were made to a grant maker, the amounts,
3244 grantees and purposes of any subgrants made by such grant maker; (G)
3245 all expenditures made for promotional or branding items and which
3246 promotional or branding items were purchased; (H) all expenditures
3247 made for advertising or marketing campaigns; (I) all expenditures made
3248 to advertising or marketing firms; (J) all expenditures made for
3249 sponsorships; (K) all expenditures made for other community outreach;
3250 (L) all expenditures made for travel; and (M) all other expenditures not
3251 described in subparagraphs (A) to (L), inclusive, of this subdivision; and

3252 (2) The status of the council's performance of the council's

3253 responsibilities in the licensing process under RERACA, including, but
3254 not limited to: (A) The number of applications for social equity applicant
3255 status, social equity plans and workforce development plans pending
3256 before the council, categorized into the number of applications, social
3257 equity plans and workforce development plans pending before the
3258 council for (i) less than thirty days, (ii) at least thirty days but less than
3259 sixty days, (iii) at least sixty days but less than ninety days, and (iv) at
3260 least ninety days; (B) the number of applications for social equity
3261 applicant status, social equity plans and workforce development plans
3262 approved during the then current fiscal year, broken down by license
3263 type; and (C) the number of applications for social equity applicant
3264 status, social equity plans and workforce development plans denied
3265 during the then current fiscal year, broken down by license type.

3266 (p) Not later than October 1, 2025, the council shall develop and
3267 submit a strategic plan to the Governor and the joint standing
3268 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
3269 relating to appropriations and consumer protection. The strategic plan
3270 shall include a framework that outlines the council's goals, planned
3271 actions and priorities for the three-year period beginning October 1,
3272 2025, and ending September 30, 2028.

3273 (q) Not later than October 1, 2025, the council shall develop and adopt
3274 an ethical code of conduct for council members and staff.

3275 (r) Not later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the
3276 members of the council and council staff shall complete an ethics
3277 training course focusing on disproportionately impacted areas and the
3278 cannabis industry.

3279 (s) The council shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
3280 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of subsection (k)
3281 of this section and subsection (a) of section 21a-420g, as amended by this
3282 act. Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
3283 inclusive, in order to implement the provisions of subsection (k) of this
3284 section and subsection (a) of section 21a-420g, as amended by this act,

3285 prior to adopting such regulations the council shall, not later than
3286 October 1, 2026, issue policies and procedures to implement the
3287 provisions of subsection (k) of this section and subsection (a) of section
3288 21a-420g, as amended by this act, that shall have the force and effect of
3289 law. The council shall post all policies and procedures on its Internet
3290 web site, and submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of
3291 the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days
3292 prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy
3293 or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either the
3294 adoption of such policy or procedure as a final regulation under section
3295 4-172 or October 1, 2027, if such regulations have not been submitted to
3296 the legislative regulation review committee for consideration under
3297 section 4-170. Any violation of such policies and procedures or any
3298 violation of such regulations related to any change in ownership or
3299 control may be referred by the council to the Department of Consumer
3300 Protection for administrative enforcement action, which may result in a
3301 fine of not more than ten million dollars or action against the cannabis
3302 establishment's license.

3303 Sec. 56. Subsection (a) of section 21a-420g of the 2026 supplement to
3304 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3305 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3306 (a) The Social Equity Council shall review the ownership information
3307 and any other information necessary to confirm that an applicant
3308 qualifies as a social equity applicant for all cannabis establishment
3309 license type applications submitted to the department and designated
3310 by the applicant as a social equity applicant. The Social Equity Council
3311 shall prescribe the documentation necessary for applicants to submit to
3312 establish that the ownership, residency and income requirements for
3313 social equity applicants are met. On or before September 1, 2021, the
3314 Social Equity Council shall post such necessary documentation
3315 requirements on its Internet web site to inform applicants of such
3316 requirements prior to the start of the application period. Except as
3317 provided in the regulations adopted by the council pursuant to section

3318 21a-420h, as amended by this act, no change shall be made in the
3319 ownership or control of a social equity applicant that has been approved
3320 by the council during the period of provisional licensure and for three
3321 years following issuance of a final license.

3322 Sec. 57. Subsection (g) of section 21a-420g of the 2026 supplement to
3323 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3324 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3325 (g) (1) No additional backers may be added to a cannabis
3326 establishment application between the time of lottery entry, or any
3327 initial application for a license, and when a final license is awarded to
3328 the cannabis establishment, except: [, if]

3329 (A) If a backer of an applicant or provisional licensee dies, the
3330 applicant or provisional licensee may apply to the commissioner, in a
3331 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, to replace the
3332 deceased backer, provided if such applicant or provisional licensee is a
3333 social equity applicant, the Social Equity Council shall review
3334 ownership to ensure such replacement would not [cause the applicant
3335 to no longer qualify] disqualify such applicant or provisional licensee as
3336 a social equity applicant; and

3337 (B) An applicant or provisional licensee that is a social equity
3338 applicant may apply to the commissioner, in a form and manner
3339 prescribed by the commissioner, for a one-time replacement of an
3340 original backer, provided the original backer to be replaced is not an
3341 individual who meets the criteria of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
3342 subdivision (54) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

3343 (2) A backer may be removed from a cannabis establishment
3344 application selected through the general lottery at any time upon notice
3345 to the department.

3346 Sec. 58. Section 21a-420h of the 2026 supplement to the general
3347 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3348 (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

3349 The Social Equity Council shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
3350 the provisions of chapter 54, to prevent the sale or change in ownership
3351 or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a social equity
3352 applicant to someone other than another qualifying social equity
3353 applicant during the period of provisional licensure, and for three years
3354 following the issuance of a final license, unless the backer of such
3355 licensee has died or has a condition, including, but not limited to, a
3356 physical illness or loss of skill or deterioration due to the aging process,
3357 emotional disorder or mental illness that would interfere with the
3358 backer's ability to operate. If the council approves any sale or change in
3359 ownership or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a
3360 social equity applicant during the three-year period following issuance
3361 of a final license, and such sale or change in ownership or control is
3362 made to anyone other than another qualifying social equity applicant,
3363 the cannabis establishment licensee shall be treated as a cannabis
3364 establishment licensee without social equity status beginning on the
3365 date of such approval and such cannabis licensee shall no longer be
3366 eligible to pay a reduced license renewal fee. Notwithstanding the
3367 requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to effectuate
3368 this section, prior to adopting such regulations and not later than
3369 October 1, 2021, the council shall issue policies and procedures to
3370 implement the provisions of this section that shall have the force and
3371 effect of law. The council shall post all policies and procedures on its
3372 Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures to the joint
3373 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
3374 matters relating to consumer protection and the Secretary of the State
3375 for posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
3376 effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure
3377 shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the
3378 policy or procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or [sixty-
3379 three months from July 1, 2021] July 1, 2028. Any violation of such
3380 policies and procedures or any violation of such regulations related to
3381 the sale or change in ownership may be referred by the Social Equity
3382 Council to the department for administrative enforcement action, which
3383 may result in a fine of not more than ten million dollars or action against

3384 the establishment's license.

3385 Sec. 59. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420j of the 2026 supplement to
3386 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3387 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3388 (d) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection or
3389 subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of section 21a-420d, as amended by this
3390 act, a cultivator licensed under section 21a-420o, including the backer of
3391 such cultivator, shall not increase its ownership in an equity joint
3392 venture in excess of fifty per cent during the seven-year period after a
3393 license is issued by the department under this section.

3394 (2) A cultivator licensed under section 21a-420o who satisfies the
3395 criteria established in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection
3396 (b) of section 21a-420o, including the backer of such cultivator, shall not,
3397 except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of section 21a-
3398 420d, as amended by this act, increase its ownership in an equity joint
3399 venture in excess of fifty per cent during the seven-year period
3400 beginning on the date on which a final license is issued by the
3401 department under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 21a-420o.

3402 Sec. 60. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420l of the general statutes is
3403 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3404 *1, 2026*):

3405 (b) To obtain approval from the commissioner to engage in expanded
3406 activity as described in subsection (a) of this section, a producer shall
3407 submit (1) a complete license expansion application on a form
3408 prescribed by the commissioner, (2) a medical cannabis preservation
3409 plan, to ensure against supply shortages of medical [marijuana]
3410 cannabis products, which shall be approved or denied at the
3411 commissioner's discretion, (3) payment of a conversion fee of three
3412 million dollars, provided, if the producer participates in at least two
3413 approved equity joint ventures as described in section 21a-420m, as
3414 amended by this act, such fee shall be one million five hundred

3415 thousand dollars, (4) a workforce development plan in accordance with
3416 requirements developed by the Social Equity Council, that has been
3417 reviewed and approved by the Social Equity Council in accordance with
3418 section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, and (5) (A) a contribution of
3419 five hundred thousand dollars to the Social Equity Council for the
3420 program established by the council in accordance with subsection (l) of
3421 section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, or (B) evidence of an
3422 agreement with a social equity partner pursuant to subsection (c) of this
3423 section.

3424 Sec. 61. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420m of the 2026 supplement to
3425 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3426 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3427 (b) The equity joint venture shall be in any cannabis establishment
3428 licensed business, other than a cultivator license, provided such equity
3429 joint venture is at least fifty per cent owned and controlled by an
3430 individual or individuals who meet, or the equity joint venture
3431 applicant is an individual who meets, the criteria established in
3432 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (54) of section 21a-420,
3433 as amended by this act.

3434 Sec. 62. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420m of the 2026 supplement to
3435 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3436 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3437 (e) [A] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of
3438 section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, a producer, including the
3439 backer of such producer, shall not increase its ownership in an equity
3440 joint venture in excess of fifty per cent during the seven-year period after
3441 a license is issued by the department under this section.

3442 Sec. 63. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420n of the 2026 supplement to
3443 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3444 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3445 (d) A cultivator may sell, transfer or transport its cannabis to a

3446 cannabis establishment, research program or cannabis testing
3447 laboratory utilizing its own employees or a transporter. A cultivator
3448 shall not sell, transfer or deliver to consumers, qualifying patients, [or]
3449 qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers or qualifying out-of-state
3450 caregivers, directly or through a delivery service.

3451 Sec. 64. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 21a-420p of the 2026
3452 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
3453 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3454 (f) (1) A micro-cultivator may sell cannabis seedlings cultivated at its
3455 micro-cultivator establishment directly to consumers, excluding
3456 qualifying patients, [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers
3457 and qualifying out-of-state caregivers, solely through delivery by either
3458 utilizing a delivery service or its own employees, subject to the
3459 requirements of subsection (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this
3460 act. No cannabis establishment other than a micro-cultivator shall sell
3461 cannabis seedlings to consumers, and no cannabis establishment other
3462 than a delivery service or a micro-cultivator utilizing its own employees
3463 shall deliver cannabis seedlings cultivated and sold by a micro-
3464 cultivator to consumers.

3465 (2) No micro-cultivator shall sell a cannabis seedling to a consumer
3466 unless:

3467 (A) The micro-cultivator cultivated the cannabis seedling in this state
3468 from seed or clone;

3469 (B) The cannabis seedling (i) has a standing height of not more than
3470 six inches measured from the base of the stem to the tallest point of the
3471 plant, (ii) does not contain any bud or flower, and (iii) has been tested
3472 for pesticides and heavy metals in accordance with the laboratory
3473 testing standards established in the policies and procedures issued, and
3474 final regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-
3475 421j, as amended by this act; and

3476 (C) A label or informational tag is affixed to the cannabis seedling

3477 disclosing the following in legible English, black lettering, Times New
3478 Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background and in
3479 uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a capital
3480 letter "K":

3481 (i) The name of the micro-cultivator;

3482 (ii) A product description for the cannabis seedling;

3483 (iii) One of the following chemotypes anticipated after flowering: (I)
3484 "High THC, Low CBD"; (II) "Low THC, High CBD"; or (III) "50/50 THC
3485 and CBD";

3486 (iv) The results of the testing required under subparagraph (B)(iii) of
3487 this subdivision;

3488 (v) Directions for optimal care of the cannabis seedling;

3489 (vi) Unobscured symbols, in a size of not less than one-half inch by
3490 one-half inch and in a format approved by the commissioner, which
3491 symbols shall indicate that the cannabis seedling contains THC and is
3492 not legal or safe for individuals younger than twenty-one years of age;
3493 and

3494 (vii) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
3495 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
3496 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
3497 the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act.

3498 (3) Notwithstanding section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, no
3499 cannabis seedling shall be required to be sold in child-resistant
3500 packaging.

3501 (4) No micro-cultivator shall knowingly sell more than three cannabis
3502 seedlings to a consumer in any six-month period.

3503 (5) No micro-cultivator shall accept any returned cannabis seedling.

3504 (g) (1) A micro-cultivator that has obtained a final license from the
3505 department pursuant to this section and maintains an exclusively
3506 indoor grow facility may submit an application to the department, in a
3507 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, for a retailer or
3508 hybrid retailer endorsement to such final license under this subsection.
3509 Such endorsement, if issued, shall authorize the micro-cultivator to
3510 operate a retailer or hybrid retailer pursuant to this subsection. An
3511 applicant micro-cultivator shall submit a complete application for an
3512 endorsement under this subsection, along with the endorsement
3513 application fee, to the department not later than one year after the date
3514 on which the applicant micro-cultivator obtained a final micro-
3515 cultivator license from the department pursuant to this section or June
3516 30, 2026, whichever is later. The department shall not accept an
3517 application submitted pursuant to this subsection after such time period
3518 has expired. The amount of the application fee for an endorsement
3519 under this subsection shall be the same as the fee imposed to receive a
3520 final retailer license or a final hybrid retailer license set forth in
3521 subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420e. All application fees for an
3522 initial endorsement under this subsection shall be deposited in the
3523 consumer protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.
3524 The annual renewal fee for an endorsement issued under this subsection
3525 shall be the same as the renewal fee for a final retailer license or a final
3526 hybrid retailer license set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-
3527 420e.

3528 (2) The department shall issue an endorsement to a micro-cultivator
3529 pursuant to this subsection if the micro-cultivator:

3530 (A) Submits a timely and complete endorsement application to the
3531 department, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner;

3532 (B) Attests that the retailer or hybrid retailer created pursuant to the
3533 endorsement shall be operated in compliance with all requirements
3534 established in this chapter for a licensed retailer or a licensed hybrid
3535 retailer; and

3536 (C) Acknowledges and attests that such micro-cultivator shall not
3537 engage in any outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

3538 (3) Each micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
3539 subsection shall have twenty-four months from the date such
3540 endorsement is issued to (A) satisfy the requirements established in
3541 section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, for a retailer or hybrid retailer
3542 that has been issued a final license, and (B) seek and obtain a written
3543 statement from the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
3544 commissioner, confirming that such micro-cultivator satisfies such
3545 requirements and is authorized to engage in the activities of a retailer or
3546 hybrid retailer.

3547 (4) An endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall expire
3548 and shall not be eligible for reapplication or renewal if the micro-
3549 cultivator (A) fails to satisfy the requirements established in subdivision
3550 (3) of this subsection, or (B) allows such endorsement to lapse.

3551 (5) The facility of a retailer or hybrid retailer established pursuant to
3552 an endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall be located (A)
3553 on the same premises as the micro-cultivator, [or] (B) on a tract of land
3554 or parcel that abuts [such] the premises of the micro-cultivator or is
3555 located within one hundred feet of such premises measured from the
3556 point on such tract of land or parcel that is closest to such premises, or
3557 (C) on a tract of land or parcel that abuts the premises of the micro-
3558 cultivator or is located within the same disproportionately impacted
3559 area as such premises.

3560 (6) Upon receipt of a written statement from the department as set
3561 forth in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the
3562 micro-cultivator shall:

3563 (A) (i) In the case of a retailer endorsement, be authorized to sell
3564 cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-cultivator to consumers, or (ii)
3565 in the case of a hybrid retailer endorsement, be authorized to sell (I)
3566 cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-cultivator to consumers, and

3567 (II) medical [marijuana] cannabis products to qualifying patients, [and]
3568 qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-state
3569 caregivers;

3570 (B) Acknowledge and agree that such micro-cultivator is not eligible
3571 to expand to a cultivator license, as provided in this section;

3572 (C) Maintain the retailer's or hybrid-retailer's activities and facility in
3573 accordance with the requirements established in this chapter, chapter
3574 420f and the regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued
3575 pursuant to said chapters, as applicable; and

3576 (D) Acknowledge and agree that in the event that an administrative
3577 agency or court of competent jurisdiction issues a suspension,
3578 revocation, cease and desist order or other order halting the micro-
3579 cultivator's operations, the micro-cultivator shall cease all public retailer
3580 or hybrid-retailer activities associated with the retailer or hybrid retailer
3581 endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection.

3582 (7) A micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
3583 subsection may (A) in the case of a retailer endorsement, sell cannabis
3584 cultivated by the micro-cultivator directly to consumers by utilizing a
3585 delivery service or its own employees, subject to the provisions of
3586 subsection (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act, provided such
3587 micro-cultivator shall exclusively sell cannabis cultivated by such
3588 micro-cultivator, and (B) in the case of a hybrid retailer endorsement, (i)
3589 sell medical [marijuana] cannabis products directly to qualifying
3590 patients and caregivers by utilizing a delivery service, subject to the
3591 provisions of subsection (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act,
3592 (ii) sell medical cannabis products directly to qualifying out-of-state
3593 patients and qualifying out-of-state caregivers, and (iii) sell cannabis
3594 cultivated by such micro-cultivator directly to consumers, by utilizing a
3595 delivery service or its own employees, subject to the provisions of
3596 subsection (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act.

3597 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a micro-cultivator

3598 with an active endorsement issued under this subsection shall not
3599 exceed twenty-five thousand square feet of grow space and shall not be
3600 eligible to convert to a cultivator unless the micro-cultivator
3601 permanently surrenders such endorsement and ceases all retailer and
3602 hybrid retailer activities at the cannabis establishment.

3603 (9) An endorsement issued under this subsection shall not impact any
3604 right a micro-cultivator may have to create an equity joint venture.

3605 Sec. 65. Section 21a-420q of the 2026 supplement to the general
3606 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3607 (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

3608 The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
3609 provisions of chapter 54, to establish the maximum grow space
3610 permitted by a cultivator and micro-cultivator. In adopting such
3611 regulations, the commissioner shall seek to ensure an adequate supply
3612 of cannabis for the market. Notwithstanding the requirements of
3613 sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to effectuate this section, prior
3614 to adopting such regulations, the commissioner shall issue policies and
3615 procedures to implement the provisions of this section that shall have
3616 the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all policies and
3617 procedures on the department's Internet web site and submit such
3618 policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of the General
3619 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection
3620 and the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at
3621 least fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure.
3622 Any such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the
3623 earlier of either the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final
3624 regulation under section 4-172 or [sixty-three months from July 1, 2021]
3625 July 1, 2028.

3626 Sec. 66. Section 21a-420r of the 2026 supplement to the general
3627 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3628 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3629 (a) ~~[On and after July 1, 2021, the]~~ The department may issue or renew
3630 a license for a person to be a retailer. No person may act as a retailer or
3631 represent that such person is a retailer unless such person has obtained
3632 a license from the department pursuant to this section.

3633 (b) A retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-cultivator,
3634 producer, product packager, food and beverage manufacturer, product
3635 manufacturer or transporter or an undeliverable return from a delivery
3636 service. A retailer may sell, transport or transfer cannabis or cannabis
3637 products to a cannabis establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or
3638 research program. A retailer may sell cannabis to a consumer or research
3639 program. A retailer may not conduct sales of medical ~~[marijuana]~~
3640 cannabis products, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section,
3641 nor offer discounts or other inducements to qualifying patients, ~~[or]~~
3642 qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers or qualifying out-of-state
3643 caregivers. A retailer shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost to a
3644 consumer as part of a commercial transaction.

3645 (c) Retailers shall maintain a secure location, in a manner approved
3646 by the commissioner, at the licensee's premises where cannabis that is
3647 unable to be delivered by an employee or delivery service may be
3648 returned to the retailer. Such secure cannabis return location shall meet
3649 specifications set forth by the commissioner and published on the
3650 department's Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by
3651 the department.

3652 (d) A retailer may deliver cannabis through a delivery service or by
3653 utilizing its own employees, subject to the provisions of subsection (c)
3654 of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act.

3655 (e) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter and chapter
3656 420f, and except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a
3657 retailer may sell the following palliative use cannabis products to
3658 consumers:

3659 (A) Cannabis concentrates;

- 3660 (B) Topical treatments, excluding transdermal patches;
- 3661 (C) Creams;
- 3662 (D) Tablets and capsules;
- 3663 (E) Rosins; and
- 3664 (F) Products intended for sublingual absorption.
- 3665 (2) Producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product packagers,
3666 product manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers shall
3667 reserve the palliative use cannabis products set forth in subdivision (1)
3668 of this subsection for sale exclusively to dispensary facilities and hybrid
3669 retailers for at least fourteen days after such palliative use cannabis
3670 products are released to the market.
- 3671 (3) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
3672 chapter 54, to allow sales of additional palliative use cannabis products
3673 to consumers in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of this
3674 subsection.
- 3675 [(e)] (f) Manufacturer hemp products, as defined in section 22-61l, as
3676 amended by this act, may be sold within a retailer facility, provided such
3677 manufacturer hemp products are:
- 3678 (1) Stored separately from cannabis and cannabis products;
- 3679 (2) Separated, by a physical separation, from cannabis and cannabis
3680 products in any display area;
- 3681 (3) Displayed with signage approved by the department;
- 3682 (4) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation
3683 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
3684 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
3685 may be located outside of this state;

3686 (5) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (A) a manufacturer
3687 hemp product, (B) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
3688 and (C) not cannabis or a cannabis product; and

3689 (6) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
3690 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters.

3691 (g) No retailer shall retain any personal data the retailer obtains from
3692 a consumer for the purposes of age verification for longer than twenty-
3693 four hours without the consumer's express written consent.

3694 Sec. 67. Subsections (c) to (g), inclusive, of section 21a-420s of the 2026
3695 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
3696 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3697 (c) In addition to conducting general retail sales, a hybrid retailer may
3698 sell cannabis and medical marijuana products to qualifying patients and
3699 caregivers. Any cannabis or medical marijuana products sold to
3700 qualifying patients and caregivers shall be [dispensed by a licensed
3701 pharmacist and shall be] recorded in the electronic prescription drug
3702 monitoring program, established pursuant to section 21a-254, in real-
3703 time or immediately upon completion of the transaction, unless not
3704 reasonably feasible for a specific transaction, but in no case longer than
3705 one hour after completion of the transaction. Only a licensed pharmacist
3706 or dispensary technician under the direction of a licensed pharmacist
3707 may upload [or access data in the prescription drug monitoring] data to
3708 such program, except such upload may be accomplished by way of an
3709 automated upload from the hybrid retailer's point-of-sale system. A
3710 licensed pharmacist shall conduct a daily audit of the data uploaded to
3711 such program pursuant to this subsection. All other authorized
3712 activities of the hybrid retailer, including, but not limited to, all such
3713 activities performed in connection with the sale, handling or
3714 management of cannabis or medical marijuana products, may be
3715 performed by a licensed pharmacist, dispensary technician or other
3716 registered employee of the hybrid retailer.

3717 (d) (1) A hybrid retailer shall ~~[maintain]~~ ensure that a licensed
3718 pharmacist ~~[on premises for at least eight consecutive hours per~~
3719 ~~calendar week]~~ is available, either in-person or remotely, when the
3720 hybrid ~~[retail]~~ retailer location is open to the public or to qualifying
3721 patients and caregivers. ~~[At all times while a hybrid retailer location is~~
3722 ~~open to the public and a licensed pharmacist is not physically present~~
3723 ~~on premises and available for qualifying patient and caregiver~~
3724 ~~consultations, the]~~ The hybrid retailer shall ensure that a licensed
3725 pharmacist is readily available to ~~[(A)]~~ provide telehealth consultations
3726 for qualifying patients and caregivers ~~[, and (B) conduct remote order~~
3727 ~~entry verification in accordance with regulations adopted by the~~
3728 ~~commissioner pursuant to section 20-576, which remote order entry~~
3729 ~~verification shall only be conducted by a licensed pharmacist in~~
3730 ~~compliance with all remote order entry verification requirements~~
3731 ~~established in regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to~~
3732 ~~section 20-576]~~ and, upon request by qualifying patients or caregivers,
3733 in-person consultations for qualifying patients or caregivers. Nothing in
3734 this subdivision shall be construed to require a hybrid retailer to
3735 maintain a licensed pharmacist at the hybrid retailer location for more
3736 than thirty-five hours per week either in-person or remotely.

3737 (2) A hybrid retailer that offers telehealth consultations with a
3738 licensed pharmacist shall (A) ~~[employ such pharmacist for at least~~
3739 ~~twenty hours per calendar week, (B)]~~ maintain technology that is
3740 capable of facilitating such telehealth consultations, and ~~[(C)]~~ (B) make
3741 such telehealth consultations readily available and accessible to
3742 qualifying patients and caregivers, including, but not limited to, by
3743 telephone from a remote location outside of the hybrid retailer location
3744 and from the private consultation space required under subsection (e)
3745 of this section.

3746 (3) Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously post and maintain a sign
3747 at the main entrance of the hybrid retailer location, which sign shall (A)
3748 be at least twelve inches in height and eighteen inches in width, (B)
3749 incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and (C)

3750 state the name of the licensed pharmacist who is available for qualifying
3751 patient and caregiver consultations either in-person or through
3752 telehealth.

3753 (4) Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously post and maintain a sign
3754 at each register or comparable point of sale within the hybrid retailer
3755 location, and on any Internet web site maintained by such hybrid
3756 retailer, which sign shall (A) be at least eight inches in height and ten
3757 inches in width, (B) incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear
3758 and legible, and (C) state "Pharmacist available for consultation" in a
3759 clear and legible manner.

3760 [(5) Each licensed pharmacist who consults with qualifying patients
3761 or caregivers shall annually complete not less than five contact hours of
3762 continuing professional education, as set forth in section 20-600, related
3763 to the cannabis industry, the pharmacy laws of this state or the
3764 treatment of debilitating medical conditions, as defined in section 21a-
3765 408. Such contact hours shall be included in, and not be in addition to,
3766 the fifteen contact hours required under section 20-600.]

3767 (5) No registered employee of a hybrid retailer shall sell any cannabis
3768 or medical marijuana product to a qualifying patient or caregiver, unless
3769 such registered employee has completed at least (A) one hour of
3770 education concerning the types, availability, dosage and methods of
3771 administration of cannabis products, (B) one hour of education
3772 concerning professional ethics, (C) one hour of education concerning
3773 state and federal laws and regulations concerning patient privacy, and
3774 (D) one hour of education concerning developments in the use of
3775 medical marijuana products.

3776 (e) The hybrid retailer location shall include a private consultation
3777 space for pharmacists to meet with qualifying patients and caregivers.
3778 Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously display, on the exterior of the
3779 hybrid retailer location, a symbol that denotes the sale of medical
3780 marijuana products, which symbol shall be in a form and manner
3781 prescribed by the commissioner and posted on the department's

3782 Internet web site. Additionally, the hybrid retailer premises shall
3783 accommodate an expedited method of entry that allows for priority
3784 entrance into the premises for qualifying patients and caregivers.

3785 (f) Hybrid retailers shall maintain a secure location, in a manner
3786 approved by the commissioner, at the licensee's premises where
3787 cannabis that is unable to be delivered may be returned to the hybrid
3788 retailer. Such secure cannabis return location shall meet specifications
3789 set forth by the commissioner and published on the department's
3790 Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by the department.

3791 (g) Cannabis [dispensed] sold to a qualifying patient or caregiver that
3792 is unable to be delivered and is returned by the delivery service to the
3793 hybrid retailer shall be returned to the licensee inventory system and
3794 removed from the prescription drug monitoring program not later than
3795 forty-eight hours after receipt of the cannabis from the delivery service.

3796 Sec. 68. Section 21a-420s of the 2026 supplement to the general
3797 statutes, as amended by section 67 of this act, is repealed and the
3798 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3799 (a) The department may issue or renew a license for a hybrid retailer.
3800 No person may act as a hybrid retailer or represent that such person is
3801 a hybrid retailer unless such person has obtained a license from the
3802 department pursuant to this section.

3803 (b) A hybrid retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-
3804 cultivator, producer, product packager, food and beverage
3805 manufacturer, product manufacturer or transporter. In addition to the
3806 activities authorized under section 21a-420t, as amended by this act, a
3807 hybrid retailer may sell, transport or transfer cannabis to a cannabis
3808 establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or research program. A
3809 hybrid retailer may sell cannabis products to a consumer or research
3810 program. A hybrid retailer shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost
3811 to a consumer, qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state patient,
3812 caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver as part of a commercial

3813 transaction.

3814 (c) In addition to conducting general retail sales, a hybrid retailer may
3815 sell cannabis and medical [marijuana] cannabis products to qualifying
3816 patients, [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and
3817 qualifying out-of-state caregivers. Any cannabis or medical [marijuana]
3818 cannabis products sold to qualifying patients, [and] qualifying out-of-
3819 state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-state caregivers shall be
3820 recorded in the electronic prescription drug monitoring program,
3821 established pursuant to section 21a-254, in real-time or immediately
3822 upon completion of the transaction, unless not reasonably feasible for a
3823 specific transaction, but in no case longer than one hour after completion
3824 of the transaction. Only a licensed pharmacist or dispensary technician
3825 under the direction of a licensed pharmacist may upload data to such
3826 program, except such upload may be accomplished by way of an
3827 automated upload from the hybrid retailer's point-of-sale system. A
3828 licensed pharmacist shall conduct a daily audit of the data uploaded to
3829 such program pursuant to this subsection. All other authorized
3830 activities of the hybrid retailer, including, but not limited to, all such
3831 activities performed in connection with the sale, handling or
3832 management of cannabis or medical [marijuana] cannabis products,
3833 may be performed by a licensed pharmacist, dispensary technician or
3834 other registered employee of the hybrid retailer.

3835 (d) (1) A hybrid retailer shall ensure that a licensed pharmacist is
3836 available, either in-person or remotely, when the hybrid retailer location
3837 is open to the public or to qualifying patients, [and] qualifying out-of-
3838 state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-state caregivers. The
3839 hybrid retailer shall ensure that a licensed pharmacist is readily
3840 available to provide telehealth consultations for qualifying patients,
3841 [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-
3842 state caregivers and upon request by qualifying patients, [or] qualifying
3843 out-of-state patients, caregivers or qualifying out-of-state caregivers, in-
3844 person consultations for qualifying patients, [or] qualifying out-of-state
3845 patients, caregivers or qualifying out-of-state caregivers. Nothing in this

3846 subdivision shall be construed to require a hybrid retailer to maintain a
3847 licensed pharmacist at the hybrid retailer location for more than thirty-
3848 five hours per week either in-person or remotely.

3849 (2) A hybrid retailer that offers telehealth consultations with a
3850 licensed pharmacist shall (A) maintain technology that is capable of
3851 facilitating such telehealth consultations, and (B) make such telehealth
3852 consultations readily available and accessible to qualifying patients,
3853 [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-
3854 state caregivers, including, but not limited to, by telephone from a
3855 remote location outside of the hybrid retailer location and from the
3856 private consultation space required under subsection (e) of this section.

3857 (3) Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously post and maintain a sign
3858 at the main entrance of the hybrid retailer location, which sign shall (A)
3859 be at least twelve inches in height and eighteen inches in width, (B)
3860 incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and (C)
3861 state the name of the licensed pharmacist who is available for qualifying
3862 patient, [and] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver and qualifying
3863 out-of-state caregiver consultations either in-person or through
3864 telehealth.

3865 (4) Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously post and maintain a sign
3866 at each register or comparable point of sale within the hybrid retailer
3867 location, and on any Internet web site maintained by such hybrid
3868 retailer, which sign shall (A) be at least eight inches in height and ten
3869 inches in width, (B) incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear
3870 and legible, and (C) state "Pharmacist available for consultation" in a
3871 clear and legible manner.

3872 (5) No registered employee of a hybrid retailer shall sell any cannabis
3873 or medical [marijuana] cannabis product to a qualifying patient, [or]
3874 qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state
3875 caregiver, unless such registered employee has completed at least (A)
3876 one hour of education concerning the types, availability, dosage and
3877 methods of administration of cannabis products, (B) one hour of

3878 education concerning professional ethics, (C) one hour of education
3879 concerning state and federal laws and regulations concerning patient
3880 privacy, and (D) one hour of education concerning developments in the
3881 use of medical [marijuana] cannabis products.

3882 (e) The hybrid retailer location shall include a private consultation
3883 space for pharmacists to meet with qualifying patients, [and] qualifying
3884 out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-state caregivers.
3885 Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously display, on the exterior of the
3886 hybrid retailer location, a symbol that denotes the sale of medical
3887 [marijuana] cannabis products, which symbol shall be in a form and
3888 manner prescribed by the commissioner and posted on the department's
3889 Internet web site. Additionally, the hybrid retailer premises shall
3890 accommodate an expedited method of entry that allows for priority
3891 entrance into the premises for qualifying patients, [and] qualifying out-
3892 of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-state caregivers.

3893 (f) Hybrid retailers shall maintain a secure location, in a manner
3894 approved by the commissioner, at the licensee's premises where
3895 cannabis that is unable to be delivered may be returned to the hybrid
3896 retailer. Such secure cannabis return location shall meet specifications
3897 set forth by the commissioner and published on the department's
3898 Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by the department.

3899 (g) Cannabis sold to a qualifying patient or caregiver that is unable to
3900 be delivered and is returned by the delivery service to the hybrid retailer
3901 shall be returned to the licensee inventory system and removed from the
3902 prescription drug monitoring program not later than forty-eight hours
3903 after receipt of the cannabis from the delivery service.

3904 (h) A hybrid retailer may not convert its license to a retailer license.
3905 To obtain a retailer license, a hybrid retailer shall apply through the
3906 lottery application process. A hybrid retailer may convert to a
3907 dispensary facility, provided the hybrid retailer complies with all
3908 applicable provisions of chapter 420f and has received written approval
3909 from the department.

3910 (i) A retailer may apply to the department to convert its license to a
3911 hybrid retailer license, without applying through the lottery application
3912 system. To convert a retailer license to a hybrid retailer license, a retailer
3913 shall submit a complete application to the department, in a form and
3914 manner prescribed by the commissioner. Prior to issuing a hybrid
3915 retailer license pursuant to this section, the department shall conduct an
3916 inspection of the converting retailer establishment. Upon a satisfactory
3917 inspection, the department shall deactivate the converting retailer
3918 license and issue a new hybrid retailer license to the applicant.

3919 (j) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter and chapter
3920 420f, and except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a
3921 hybrid retailer may sell the following palliative use cannabis products
3922 to consumers:

3923 (A) Cannabis concentrates;

3924 (B) Topical treatments, excluding transdermal patches;

3925 (C) Creams;

3926 (D) Tablets and capsules;

3927 (E) Rosins; and

3928 (F) Products intended for sublingual absorption.

3929 (2) Producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product packagers,
3930 product manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers shall
3931 reserve the palliative use cannabis products set forth in subdivision (1)
3932 of this subsection for sale exclusively to dispensary facilities and hybrid
3933 retailers for at least fourteen days after such palliative use cannabis
3934 products are released to the market, and a hybrid retailer shall reserve
3935 such palliative use cannabis products for sale exclusively to qualifying
3936 patients, qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-
3937 of-state caregivers for at least fourteen days after the hybrid retailer
3938 receives each shipment of such palliative use cannabis products.

3939 (3) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
3940 chapter 54, to allow sales of additional palliative use cannabis products
3941 to consumers in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of this
3942 subsection.

3943 [(j)] (k) Manufacturer hemp products, as defined in section 22-61l, as
3944 amended by this act, may be sold within a hybrid retailer facility,
3945 provided such manufacturer hemp products are:

3946 (1) Stored separately from cannabis and cannabis products;

3947 (2) Separated, by a physical separation, from cannabis and cannabis
3948 products in any display area;

3949 (3) Displayed with signage approved by the department;

3950 (4) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation
3951 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
3952 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
3953 may be located outside of this state;

3954 (5) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (A) a manufacturer
3955 hemp product, (B) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
3956 and (C) not cannabis or a cannabis product;

3957 (6) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
3958 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters; and

3959 (7) Derived from hemp grown by a United States Department of
3960 Agriculture hemp producer licensee under an approved state or tribal
3961 hemp production plan.

3962 (l) No hybrid retailer shall retain any personal data the hybrid retailer
3963 obtains from a consumer, qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state
3964 patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver for the purposes
3965 of age verification for longer than twenty-four hours without the
3966 consumer's, qualifying patient's, qualifying out-of-state patient's,
3967 caregiver's or qualifying out-of-state caregiver's express written

3968 consent.

3969 Sec. 69. Subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of section 21a-420t of the 2026
3970 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
3971 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3972 (a) A dispensary facility may apply to the department, on a form and
3973 in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, to convert its license to a
3974 hybrid retailer license [on or after September 1, 2021,] without applying
3975 through the lottery application system. The license conversion
3976 application shall require a dispensary facility to submit to, and obtain
3977 approval from the department for, a detailed medical preservation plan
3978 for how [it] the dispensary facility will prioritize sales and access to
3979 medical [marijuana] cannabis products for qualifying patients and
3980 qualifying out-of-state patients, including, but not limited to, managing
3981 customer traffic flow, preventing supply shortages, providing delivery
3982 services and ensuring appropriate staffing levels.

3983 (b) [After October 1, 2021, qualifying] Qualifying patients and
3984 qualifying out-of-state patients shall not be required to designate a
3985 dispensary facility or hybrid retailer as [its] their exclusive location to
3986 purchase cannabis or medical [marijuana] cannabis products, nor shall
3987 the department require any future change of designated dispensary
3988 facility applications. [If all dispensary facilities demonstrate to the
3989 department's satisfaction that they are adhering to the real-time upload
3990 requirements set forth in subsection (c) of this section prior to October
3991 1, 2021, the commissioner may eliminate the requirement for designated
3992 dispensary facilities prior to said date.]

3993 (c) [On and after September 1, 2021, dispensary] Dispensary facilities
3994 and hybrid retailers shall [be required to] perform real-time uploads to
3995 the prescription drug monitoring program. Any cannabis or medical
3996 [marijuana] cannabis products sold to qualifying patients, [or]
3997 qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers or qualifying out-of-state
3998 caregivers shall be dispensed by a licensed pharmacist and shall be
3999 recorded into the prescription drug monitoring program, established

4000 pursuant to section 21a-254, in real-time or immediately upon
4001 completion of the transaction, unless not reasonably feasible for a
4002 specific transaction, but in no case longer than one hour after completion
4003 of the transaction.

4004 (d) A dispensary facility or hybrid retailer may apply to the
4005 department, in a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner,
4006 to provide delivery services through a delivery service or utilizing its
4007 own employees, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 21a-
4008 420c, as amended by this act, to qualifying patients, caregivers, research
4009 program subjects, as defined in section 21a-408, as amended by this act,
4010 and hospice and other inpatient care facilities licensed by the
4011 Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that have a
4012 protocol for the handling and distribution of cannabis that has been
4013 approved by the Department of Consumer Protection. A dispensary
4014 facility or hybrid retailer may deliver cannabis or medical [marijuana]
4015 cannabis products only from its own inventory to qualifying patients
4016 and caregivers. If such application is approved by the commissioner, the
4017 dispensary facility or hybrid retailer may commence delivery services,
4018 [on and after January 1, 2022, provided the commissioner may authorize
4019 dispensary facilities or hybrid retailers to commence delivery services
4020 prior to January 1, 2022, upon forty-five days advance written notice,
4021 published on the department's Internet web site.]

4022 Sec. 70. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420u of the 2026 supplement to
4023 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4024 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4025 (b) Any equity joint venture created under this section shall be
4026 created for the development of a cannabis establishment, other than a
4027 cultivator, provided such equity joint venture is at least fifty per cent
4028 owned and controlled by an individual or individuals who meet, or the
4029 equity joint venture applicant is an individual who meets, the criteria
4030 established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (54) of
4031 section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

4032 Sec. 71. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420u of the 2026 supplement to
4033 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4034 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4035 (e) [A] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of
4036 section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, a dispensary facility, including
4037 the backers of such dispensary facility, shall not increase its ownership
4038 in an equity joint venture in excess of fifty per cent during the seven-
4039 year period after a license is issued by the department under this section.

4040 Sec. 72. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420z of the 2026
4041 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
4042 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4043 (c) A delivery service may (1) deliver cannabis from a micro-
4044 cultivator, retailer, or hybrid retailer directly to a consumer, and (2)
4045 deliver cannabis and medical [marijuana] cannabis products from a
4046 hybrid retailer or dispensary facility directly to a qualifying patient,
4047 caregiver, or hospice or other inpatient care facility licensed by the
4048 Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that has
4049 protocols for the handling and distribution of cannabis that have been
4050 approved by the Department of Consumer Protection. A delivery
4051 service may not store or maintain control of cannabis or medical
4052 [marijuana] cannabis products for more than twenty-four hours
4053 between the point when a consumer, qualifying patient, caregiver or
4054 facility places an order, until the time that the cannabis or medical
4055 [marijuana] cannabis product is delivered to such consumer, qualifying
4056 patient, caregiver or facility.

4057 (d) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a
4058 transporter may deliver cannabis between cannabis establishments,
4059 research programs and cannabis testing laboratories and shall not store
4060 or maintain control of cannabis for more than twenty-four hours from
4061 the time the transporter obtains the cannabis from a cannabis
4062 establishment, research program or cannabis testing laboratory until the
4063 time such cannabis is delivered to the destination.

4064 (2) (A) A transporter may expand the transporter's authorized
4065 activities to store, maintain and handle cannabis in accordance with the
4066 provisions of this subsection, provided such transporter:

4067 (i) Possesses each unit of cannabis for a period not to exceed [thirty]
4068 one hundred eighty days beginning on the date on which the
4069 transporter receives such cannabis;

4070 (ii) Complies with all security requirements established pursuant to
4071 section 21a-421l and the policies, procedures and regulations adopted
4072 pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act;

4073 (iii) Attests that such transporter shall not open or remove any
4074 cannabis from individual child-resistant packaging, provided nothing
4075 in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit a transporter from
4076 consolidating or separating bulk packaged cannabis for the purposes of
4077 commercial distribution;

4078 (iv) Attests that such transporter shall comply with all requirements
4079 set forth in section 21a-421n, as amended by this act, and all policies,
4080 procedures and regulations adopted pursuant to section 21a-421j, as
4081 amended by this act, for the electronic tracking system concerning the
4082 receipt, storage, repackaging and distribution of cannabis;

4083 (v) Pays to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
4084 commissioner, a one-time expansion authorization payment of five
4085 thousand dollars, to be deposited in the consumer protection
4086 enforcement account established in section 21a-8a;

4087 (vi) Notifies the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
4088 commissioner, at least thirty days before the date on which the
4089 transporter intends to commence the storage of cannabis for a period
4090 exceeding twenty-four hours; and

4091 (vii) Receives written confirmation from the department that the
4092 transporter meets the security requirements described in subparagraph
4093 (A)(ii) of this subdivision.

4094 (B) The department shall take all reasonable efforts to schedule an
4095 inspection of the cannabis establishment facility not later than sixty days
4096 after the department receives an application for transporter expansion
4097 pursuant to this subdivision. Upon completion of such inspection, the
4098 department shall promptly provide to the transporter (i) written
4099 confirmation of compliance with the security requirements set forth in
4100 subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision, or (ii) notice of noncompliance
4101 with the security requirements set forth in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this
4102 subdivision.

4103 (C) A transporter that expands the transporter's authorized activities
4104 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) comply with all
4105 provisions of this chapter, and all regulations, policies and procedures
4106 prescribed pursuant to this chapter, concerning product packagers, and
4107 (ii) not open or remove any cannabis from individual child-resistant
4108 packaging, provided nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to
4109 prohibit a transporter from consolidating or separating bulk packaged
4110 cannabis for the purposes of commercial distribution on a scale that is
4111 greater than commercial distribution on an individual and final
4112 packaging basis.

4113 (D) In the event of a conflict between any provision of this chapter, or
4114 any regulation, policy or procedure prescribed pursuant to this chapter,
4115 concerning transporters and any such provision, regulation, policy or
4116 procedure concerning product packagers, the provision, regulation,
4117 policy or procedure imposing the more stringent public health and
4118 safety standard shall prevail.

4119 Sec. 73. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420z of the 2026 supplement to
4120 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4121 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4122 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
4123 chapter 54, to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
4124 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
4125 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and

4126 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
4127 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section that
4128 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
4129 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site, and
4130 submit such policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of
4131 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
4132 consumer protection and the Secretary of the State for posting on the
4133 eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of
4134 any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer
4135 be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such policy or
4136 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or [sixty-three
4137 months from July 1, 2021] July 1, 2028. The commissioner shall issue
4138 policies and procedures, and thereafter adopt final regulations: [] (1)
4139 For the purpose of ensuring the public health, safety and welfare,
4140 establishing storage, recall and other requirements for a transporter that
4141 expands its authorized activities as set forth in subdivision (2) of
4142 subsection (d) of this section; and (2) requiring that [: (1) The] (A) the
4143 delivery service and transporter meet certain security requirements
4144 related to the storage, handling and transport of cannabis, the vehicles
4145 employed, the conduct of employees and agents, and the
4146 documentation that shall be maintained by the delivery service,
4147 transporter and its drivers, [; (2)] (B) a delivery service that delivers
4148 cannabis to consumers maintain an online interface that verifies the age
4149 of consumers ordering cannabis for delivery and meets certain
4150 specifications and data security standards, [;] and [(3)] (C) a delivery
4151 service that delivers cannabis to consumers, qualifying patients or
4152 caregivers, and all employees and agents of such licensee, to verify the
4153 identity of the qualifying patient, caregiver or consumer and the age of
4154 the consumer upon delivery of cannabis to the end consumer, qualifying
4155 patient or caregiver, in a manner acceptable to the commissioner. The
4156 individual placing the cannabis order shall be the individual accepting
4157 delivery of the cannabis except, in the case of a qualifying patient, the
4158 individual accepting the delivery may be the caregiver of such
4159 qualifying patient.

4160 Sec. 74. Subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of
4161 section 21a-420aa of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
4162 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4163 *1, 2026*):

4164 (A) Such change in ownership or control is allowed under (i) section
4165 21a-420g, as amended by this act, or 21a-420h, as amended by this act,
4166 and (ii) any regulation adopted, or policy or procedure issued, pursuant
4167 to section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, or 21a-420h, as amended by
4168 this act; and

4169 Sec. 75. Subsections (b) to (g), inclusive, of section 21a-420bb of the
4170 2026 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following
4171 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4172 (b) During the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending March 31,
4173 2027, the department shall issue a provisional micro-cultivator license
4174 to a social equity applicant pursuant to this section:

4175 (1) If the social equity applicant meets the eligibility criteria
4176 established in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section;

4177 (2) If during the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending December
4178 31, 2026, the social equity applicant submits to the department, in a form
4179 and manner prescribed by the commissioner:

4180 (A) A completed micro-cultivator license application and other
4181 documentation required to determine eligibility as set forth in
4182 subsections (e) to (l), inclusive, of section 21a-420g;

4183 (B) A written statement by the social equity applicant disclosing
4184 whether any change occurred in the ownership or control of the social
4185 equity applicant after the Social Equity Council verified that the
4186 applicant met the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant to
4187 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o; and

4188 (C) The application fee required under subdivision (1) of subsection

4189 (c) of this section; and

4190 (3) If any change described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of
4191 this subsection has occurred:

4192 (A) Such change in ownership or control is allowed under (i) section
4193 21a-420g, as amended by this act, or 21a-420h, as amended by this act,
4194 and (ii) any regulation adopted, or policy or procedure issued, pursuant
4195 to section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, or 21a-420h, as amended by
4196 this act; and

4197 (B) Pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, (i) the Social Equity
4198 Council has determined that the social equity applicant continues to
4199 meet the criteria for a social equity applicant, and (ii) the department
4200 has received a written notice from the Social Equity Council affirming
4201 that the Social Equity Council has determined that the social equity
4202 applicant continues to meet the criteria for a social equity applicant.

4203 (c) (1) A social equity applicant that has not obtained a provisional
4204 cultivator license under subsection (a) of section 21a-420o and submits
4205 a micro-cultivator license application pursuant to subsection (b) of this
4206 section shall submit to the department an application fee in the amount
4207 of five hundred thousand dollars. The three-million-dollar fee paid by
4208 the social equity applicant pursuant to section 21a-420o to receive a
4209 provisional cultivator license shall be considered the application fee to
4210 convert to a micro-cultivator license pursuant to this section. All
4211 application fees collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited
4212 in the consumer protection enforcement account established in section
4213 21a-8a.

4214 (2) The fee to renew a final micro-cultivator license issued pursuant
4215 to this section shall be the same as the fee to renew a final micro-
4216 cultivator license as set forth in section 21a-420e. All renewal fees
4217 collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be paid to the State
4218 Treasurer and credited to the General Fund.

4219 (d) If any change described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of

4220 subsection (b) of this section has occurred, the Social Equity Council
4221 shall (1) determine whether the social equity applicant continues to meet
4222 the criteria for a social equity applicant, and (2) submit to the
4223 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, a
4224 written notice disclosing such determination.

4225 (e) No social equity applicant that receives a micro-cultivator license
4226 under this section shall be eligible to apply for a provisional license and
4227 a final license to create more than one equity joint venture to be
4228 approved by the Social Equity Council under section 21a-420d, as
4229 amended by this act, and no such social equity applicant shall operate
4230 any such equity joint venture unless such social equity applicant has
4231 received a micro-cultivator license under this section, commenced
4232 cultivation activities under such micro-cultivator license and submitted
4233 to the department both the application fee required under subdivision
4234 (1) of subsection (c) of this section and a conversion fee in the amount of
4235 five hundred thousand dollars. The conversion fee collected pursuant to
4236 this subsection shall be deposited in the social equity and innovation
4237 account established in section 21a-420f. The three-million-dollar fee paid
4238 by the social equity applicant pursuant to section 21a-420o to receive a
4239 provisional cultivator license shall be considered the conversion fee to
4240 convert to a micro-cultivator license pursuant to this section. Cultivators
4241 that paid the three-million-dollar fee under section 21a-420o and
4242 received license conversion approval under section 21a-420aa, as
4243 amended by this act, may create not more than two equity joint
4244 ventures. No such cultivator shall apply for, or create, any additional
4245 equity joint venture if, on July 1, 2025, such cultivator has created at least
4246 two equity joint ventures that have each received a provisional license.

4247 (f) Each application submitted to the department pursuant to
4248 subsection (b) of this section, and all information included in, or
4249 submitted with, any application submitted pursuant to said subsection,
4250 shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of section 21a-420e.

4251 (g) [A] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of
4252 section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, a micro-cultivator licensed

4253 under this section, including the backer of such micro-cultivator, shall
4254 not increase its ownership in an equity joint venture in excess of fifty per
4255 cent during the seven-year period beginning on the date on which a final
4256 micro-cultivator license is issued by the department under this section.

4257 Sec. 76. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-420cc of the 2026
4258 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
4259 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4260 (a) During the period beginning January 1, 2026, and ending
4261 December 31, 2027, the department shall issue a cultivator license or
4262 micro-cultivator license to a social equity applicant, which permits such
4263 applicant to locate such applicant's cultivator or micro-cultivator facility
4264 outside of a disproportionately impacted area, provided:

4265 (1) On or before July 1, 2026, the social equity applicant submits to
4266 the department a complete application for a provisional cultivator or
4267 micro-cultivator license pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o;

4268 (2) On or before June 30, 2027, the Social Equity Council verifies,
4269 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o, that
4270 such applicant meets the criteria established for a social equity
4271 applicant;

4272 (3) On or before June 30, 2027, the department issues a provisional
4273 cultivator or micro-cultivator license to the social equity applicant
4274 pursuant to section 21a-420o; and

4275 (4) On or before July 1, 2027, the provisional licensee submits to the
4276 department a complete application for a final cultivator or micro-
4277 cultivator license, as prescribed in section 21a-420g, as amended by this
4278 act, which application shall include:

4279 (A) A copy of a fully executed lease agreement between the
4280 provisional licensee and a hemp producer, which hemp producer has
4281 been continually licensed under section 22-61l, as amended by this act,
4282 since January 1, 2024, and which agreement provides:

4283 (i) For the use of the hemp producer's lot, as defined in section 22-61l,
4284 as amended by this act, that is on record with the Department of
4285 Agriculture on January 1, 2024, and may be located outside of a
4286 disproportionately impacted area; and

4287 (ii) That the hemp producer does not currently hold a position of
4288 ownership, control or management of the provisional licensee, and if a
4289 final cultivator or micro-cultivator license is issued to the provisional
4290 licensee pursuant to this section, the hemp producer shall not, except as
4291 provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of section 21a-420d, as
4292 amended by this act, hold a position of ownership, control or
4293 management of the licensee for a period of seven years commencing on
4294 the date on which such final license is issued pursuant to this section;
4295 and

4296 (iii) An express acknowledgment by the parties that if the department
4297 issues a final cultivator or micro-cultivator license to the provisional
4298 licensee pursuant to this section, the hemp producer shall immediately
4299 be deemed to have automatically surrendered such hemp producer's
4300 license;

4301 (B) Evidence sufficient for the department to verify that the hemp
4302 producer that is a party to the lease has been continually licensed as a
4303 hemp producer since January 1, 2024;

4304 (C) An acknowledgment by the provisional licensee that, if the
4305 department issues a final cultivator or micro-cultivator license to such
4306 provisional licensee pursuant to this section, such licensee shall (i) in the
4307 case of a final cultivator license, be eligible to create not more than one
4308 equity joint venture after such licensee receives such license and
4309 commences cultivation activities under such license, or (ii) in the case of
4310 a final micro-cultivator license, be ineligible to create an equity joint
4311 venture after such licensee receives such license; and

4312 (D) An attestation by the provisional licensee that (i) the hemp
4313 producer from which such provisional licensee is leasing land shall have

4314 no ownership interest in, or managerial control over, such licensee,
4315 other than any ownership interest or control previously disclosed to the
4316 Social Equity Council for the purpose of determining that the social
4317 equity applicant meets the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant
4318 to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o, and (ii) all hemp
4319 has been harvested from the lot subject to the lease between the
4320 provisional licensee and the hemp producer.

4321 (b) [During] Except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (k)
4322 of section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, during the seven-year
4323 period commencing on the date on which a final cultivator license or
4324 final micro-cultivator license is issued pursuant to this section, the
4325 cultivator or micro-cultivator issued such final license shall:

4326 (1) Not enter into any business arrangement with the hemp producer,
4327 other than for the lease of the hemp producer's lot, or any affiliate,
4328 subsidiary or entity controlled by the hemp producer if such business
4329 arrangement may result in such hemp producer, affiliate, subsidiary or
4330 entity holding a position of ownership, control or management of the
4331 cultivator or micro-cultivator; and

4332 (2) Disclose any direct or indirect business interest or relationship
4333 between the cultivator or micro-cultivator and the hemp producer or
4334 any affiliate, subsidiary or entity controlled by the hemp producer or
4335 any key participant, as defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act.

4336 Sec. 77. Subsection (f) of section 21a-421d of the general statutes is
4337 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4338 *1, 2026*):

4339 (f) A producer, cultivator or micro-cultivator may sell, transport or
4340 transfer cannabis to a product packager, food or beverage manufacturer,
4341 product manufacturer, dispensary facility or hybrid retailer for the sale
4342 of products to [qualified] qualifying patients, [or] qualifying out-of-state
4343 patients, caregivers or qualifying out-of-state caregivers, as applicable,
4344 which products shall be labeled "For Medical Use Only".

4345 Sec. 78. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421j of the 2026 supplement to
4346 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4347 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4348 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
4349 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
4350 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
4351 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
4352 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
4353 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of RERACA that
4354 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
4355 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site and
4356 submit such policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of
4357 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
4358 consumer protection and the Secretary of the State for posting on the
4359 eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of
4360 any policy or procedure. The commissioner shall also provide such
4361 policies and procedures, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner,
4362 to each licensee. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer be
4363 effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or
4364 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or [sixty-three
4365 months from June 22, 2021] July 1, 2028. The commissioner shall issue
4366 policies and procedures and thereafter final regulations that include, but
4367 are not limited to, the following:

4368 (1) Setting appropriate dosage, potency, concentration and serving
4369 size limits and delineation requirements for cannabis, provided a
4370 standardized serving of edible cannabis product or beverage, other than
4371 a medical marijuana product, shall contain not more than five
4372 milligrams of THC.

4373 (2) Requiring that each single standardized serving of cannabis
4374 product in a multiple-serving edible product or beverage is physically
4375 demarked in a way that enables a reasonable person to determine how
4376 much of the product constitutes a single serving and a maximum
4377 amount of THC per multiple-serving edible cannabis product or

4378 beverage.

4379 (3) Requiring that, if it is impracticable to clearly demark every
4380 standardized serving of cannabis product or to make each standardized
4381 serving easily separable in an edible cannabis product or beverage, the
4382 product, other than cannabis concentrate or medical marijuana product,
4383 shall contain not more than five milligrams of THC per unit of sale.

4384 (4) Establishing, in consultation with the Department of Mental
4385 Health and Addiction Services, consumer health materials that shall be
4386 posted or distributed, as specified by the commissioner, by cannabis
4387 establishments to maximize dissemination to cannabis consumers.
4388 Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts,
4389 signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed
4390 health materials.

4391 (5) Imposing labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis sold
4392 by a cannabis establishment that include, but are not limited to, the
4393 following:

4394 (A) Inclusion of universal symbols to indicate that cannabis, or a
4395 cannabis product, contains THC and is not legal or safe for individuals
4396 younger than twenty-one years of age, and prescribe how such product
4397 and product packaging shall utilize and exhibit such symbols.

4398 (B) A disclosure concerning the length of time it typically takes for
4399 the cannabis to affect an individual, including that certain forms of
4400 cannabis take longer to have an effect.

4401 (C) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is
4402 considered the equivalent to.

4403 (D) A list of ingredients and additives for cannabis.

4404 (E) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
4405 21a-420p, as amended by this act, child-resistant, tamper-resistant and
4406 light-resistant packaging. For the purposes of this subparagraph,

4407 packaging shall be deemed to be (i) child-resistant if the packaging
4408 satisfies the standard for special packaging established in 16 CFR
4409 1700.1(b)(4), as amended from time to time, (ii) tamper-resistant if the
4410 packaging has at least one barrier to, or indicator of, entry that would
4411 preclude the contents of such packaging from being accessed or
4412 adulterated without indicating to a reasonable person that such
4413 packaging has been breached, and (iii) light-resistant if the packaging is
4414 entirely and uniformly opaque and protects the entirety of the contents
4415 of such packaging from the effects of light.

4416 (F) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
4417 21a-420p, as amended by this act, (i) packaging for cannabis intended
4418 for multiple servings to be resealable in such a manner so as to render
4419 such packaging continuously child-resistant, as described in
4420 subparagraph (E)(i) of this subdivision, and preserve the integrity of the
4421 contents of such packaging, and (ii) if packaging for cannabis intended
4422 for multiple servings contains any edible cannabis product, for each
4423 single standardized serving to be easily discernible and (I) individually
4424 wrapped, or (II) physically demarked and delineated as required under
4425 this subsection.

4426 (G) Impervious packaging that protects the contents of such
4427 packaging from contamination and exposure to any toxic or harmful
4428 substance, including, but not limited to, any glue or other adhesive or
4429 substance that is incorporated in such packaging.

4430 (H) Product tracking information sufficient to determine where and
4431 when the cannabis was grown and manufactured such that a product
4432 recall could be effectuated.

4433 (I) A net weight statement.

4434 (J) A recommended use by or expiration date.

4435 (K) Standard and uniform packaging and labeling, including, but not
4436 limited to, requirements (i) regarding branding or logos, (ii) that all
4437 packaging be opaque, and (iii) that amounts and concentrations of THC

4438 and cannabidiol, per serving and per package, be clearly marked on the
4439 packaging or label of any cannabis product sold.

4440 (L) For any cannabis concentrate cannabis product that contains a
4441 total THC percentage greater than thirty per cent, a warning that such
4442 cannabis product is a high-potency product and may increase the risk
4443 of psychosis.

4444 (M) Chemotypes, which shall be displayed as (i) "High THC, Low
4445 CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is greater than five to one and the
4446 total THC percentage is at least fifteen per cent, (ii) "Moderate THC,
4447 Moderate CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is at least one to five but
4448 not greater than five to one and the total THC percentage is greater than
4449 five per cent but less than fifteen per cent, (iii) "Low THC, High CBD"
4450 where the ratio of THC to CBD is less than one to five and the total THC
4451 percentage is not greater than five per cent, or (iv) the chemotype
4452 described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph that most closely
4453 fits the cannabis or cannabis product, as determined by mathematical
4454 analysis of the ratio of THC to CBD, where such cannabis or cannabis
4455 product does not fit a chemotype described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of
4456 this subparagraph.

4457 (N) A requirement that, prior to being sold and transferred to a
4458 consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver, cannabis packaging be
4459 clearly labeled, whether printed directly on such packaging or affixed
4460 by way of a separate label, other than an extended content label, with:

4461 (i) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
4462 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
4463 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
4464 the commissioner pursuant to this section; and

4465 (ii) The following information concerning the cannabis contained in
4466 such packaging, which shall be in legible English, black lettering, Times
4467 New Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background
4468 and in uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a

4469 capital letter "K", which information shall also be available on the
4470 Internet web site of the cannabis establishment that sells and transfers
4471 such cannabis:

4472 (I) The name of such cannabis, as registered with the department
4473 under the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted,
4474 by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

4475 (II) The expiration date, which shall not account for any refrigeration
4476 after such cannabis is sold and transferred to the consumer, qualifying
4477 patient or caregiver.

4478 (III) The net weight or volume, expressed in metric and imperial
4479 units.

4480 (IV) The standardized serving size, expressed in customary units, and
4481 the number of servings included in such packaging, if applicable.

4482 (V) Directions for use and storage.

4483 (VI) Each active ingredient comprising at least one per cent of such
4484 cannabis, including cannabinoids, isomers, esters, ethers and salts and
4485 salts of isomers, esters and ethers, and all quantities thereof expressed
4486 in metric units and as a percentage of volume.

4487 (VII) A list of all known allergens, as identified by the federal Food
4488 and Drug Administration, contained in such cannabis, or the denotation
4489 "no known FDA identified allergens" if such cannabis does not contain
4490 any allergen identified by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

4491 (VIII) The following warning statement within, and outlined by, a red
4492 box:

4493 "This product is not FDA-approved, may be intoxicating, cause long-
4494 term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side
4495 effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence
4496 of cannabis. Keep away from children."

4497 (IX) At least one of the following warning statements, rotated
4498 quarterly on an alternating basis:

4499 "Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to
4500 mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression,
4501 stunted brain development and impaired memory."

4502 "Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be
4503 harmful."

4504 "Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit-
4505 forming and addictive."

4506 "Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may
4507 result in adverse effects requiring medical attention."

4508 (X) All information necessary to comply with labeling requirements
4509 imposed under the laws of this state and federal law, including, but not
4510 limited to, sections 21a-91 to 21a-120, inclusive, and 21a-151 to 21a-159,
4511 inclusive, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq.,
4512 as amended from time to time, and the federal Fair Packaging and
4513 Labeling Act, 15 USC 1451 et seq., as amended from time to time, for
4514 similar products that do not contain cannabis.

4515 (XI) Such additional warning labels for certain cannabis products as
4516 the commissioner may require and post on the department's Internet
4517 web site.

4518 (6) Establishing laboratory testing standards, consumer disclosures
4519 concerning mold and yeast in cannabis and permitted remediation
4520 practices.

4521 (7) Restricting forms of cannabis products and cannabis product
4522 delivery systems to ensure consumer safety and deter public health
4523 concerns.

4524 (8) Prohibiting certain manufacturing methods, or inclusion of
4525 additives to cannabis products, including, but not limited to, (A) added

4526 flavoring, terpenes or other additives unless approved by the
4527 department, or (B) any form of nicotine or other additive containing
4528 nicotine.

4529 (9) Prohibiting cannabis product types that appeal to children,
4530 including, but not limited to, facsimiles of foods, beverages and other
4531 items that appeal to children.

4532 (10) Establishing physical and cyber security requirements related to
4533 build out, monitoring and protocols for cannabis establishments as a
4534 requirement for licensure.

4535 (11) Placing temporary limits on the sale of cannabis in the adult-use
4536 market, if deemed appropriate and necessary by the commissioner, in
4537 response to a shortage of cannabis for qualifying patients.

4538 (12) Requiring retailers and hybrid retailers to make best efforts to
4539 provide access to (A) low-dose THC products, including products that
4540 have one milligram and two and a half milligrams of THC per dose, and
4541 (B) high-dose CBD products.

4542 (13) Requiring producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product
4543 manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers to register brand
4544 names for cannabis, in accordance with the policies and procedures and
4545 subject to the fee set forth in, regulations adopted under chapter 420f.

4546 (14) Prohibiting a cannabis establishment from selling, other than the
4547 sale of medical marijuana products between cannabis establishments
4548 and the sale of cannabis to qualifying patients and caregivers, (A)
4549 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC
4550 concentration greater than thirty-five per cent on a dry-weight basis,
4551 and (B) any cannabis product other than cannabis flower and cannabis
4552 plant material with a total THC concentration greater than seventy per
4553 cent on a dry-weight basis, except that the provisions of subparagraph
4554 (B) of this subdivision shall not apply to the sale of prefilled cartridges
4555 for use in an electronic cannabis delivery system, as defined in section
4556 19a-342a, as amended by this act, and the department may adjust the

4557 percentages set forth in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision in
4558 regulations adopted pursuant to this section for purposes of public
4559 health or to address market access or shortage. As used in this
4560 subdivision, "cannabis plant material" means material from the cannabis
4561 plant, as defined in section 21a-279a, as amended by this act.

4562 (15) Requiring dispensary facilities, hybrid retailers and retailers to
4563 display the following types of cannabis in a form and manner prescribed
4564 by the department and in an area physically and visually separated from
4565 other cannabis for sale at such establishment: (A) Cannabis flower or
4566 other cannabis plant material with a total THC concentration greater
4567 than thirty per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B) any cannabis product
4568 other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant material with a total THC
4569 concentration greater than sixty per cent on a dry-weight basis,
4570 excluding prefilled cartridges for use in an electronic cannabis delivery
4571 system. As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant material" has the
4572 same meaning as provided in subsection (j) of section 21a-279a, as
4573 amended by this act.

4574 (16) Requiring any dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer that
4575 sells any form of cannabis that exceeds the THC concentrations set forth
4576 in subdivision (15) of this subsection to include the words "Warning -
4577 High THC" next to each such form of cannabis on such cannabis
4578 establishment's menus and advertisements.

4579 (17) Prescribing signage to be displayed at a dispensary facility,
4580 hybrid retailer or retailer informing consumers, qualifying patients and
4581 caregivers of health risks associated with cannabis in excess of the THC
4582 concentrations set forth in subdivision (15) of this subsection.

4583 (18) Permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

4584 (19) Prohibiting packaging that is (A) visually similar to any
4585 commercially similar product that does not contain cannabis, or (B) used
4586 for any good that is marketed to individuals reasonably expected to be
4587 younger than twenty-one years of age.

4588 (20) Allowing packaging to include a picture of the cannabis product
4589 and contain a logo of one cannabis establishment, which logo may be
4590 comprised of not more than three colors and provided neither black nor
4591 white shall be considered one of such three colors.

4592 (21) Requiring packaging to (A) be entirely and uniformly one color,
4593 and (B) not incorporate any information, print, embossing, debossing,
4594 graphic or hidden feature, other than any permitted or required label.

4595 (22) Requiring that packaging and labeling for an edible cannabis
4596 product, excluding the warning labels required under this subsection
4597 and a picture of the cannabis product described in subdivision (20) of
4598 this subsection but including, but not limited to, the logo of the cannabis
4599 establishment, shall only be comprised of black and white or a
4600 combination thereof.

4601 (23) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,
4602 requiring that delivery device cartridges be labeled, in a clearly legible
4603 manner and in as large a font as the size of the device reasonably allows,
4604 with only the following information (i) the name of the cannabis
4605 establishment where the cannabis is grown or manufactured, (ii) the
4606 cannabis brand, (iii) the total THC and total CBD content contained
4607 within the delivery device cartridge, (iv) the expiration date, and (v) the
4608 unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking system
4609 maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under the
4610 policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by the
4611 commissioner pursuant to this section.

4612 (B) A cannabis establishment may emboss, deboss or similarly print
4613 the name of the cannabis establishment's business entity, and one logo
4614 with not more than three colors, on a delivery device cartridge.

4615 (24) Prescribing signage to be prominently displayed at dispensary
4616 facilities, retailers and hybrid retailers disclosing (A) possible health
4617 risks related to mold, and (B) the use and possible health risks related to
4618 the use of mold remediation techniques.

4619 Sec. 79. Section 21a-421j of the 2026 supplement to the general
4620 statutes, as amended by section 78 of this act, is repealed and the
4621 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4622 (a) As used in this section: [~~], "total THC"~~]

4623 (1) "Other cannabis plant material" (A) means cannabis trim and all
4624 parts of any plant or species of the genus cannabis, or any infra specific
4625 taxon thereof, excluding a growing plant, and the seeds thereof, and (B)
4626 does not include (i) cannabis flower or hemp, as defined in section 22-
4627 61l, as amended by this act, or (ii) an uprooted clone or uprooted cutting
4628 of the cannabis plant; and

4629 (2) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240,
4630 as amended by this act.

4631 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
4632 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
4633 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
4634 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
4635 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
4636 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of RERACA that
4637 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
4638 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site and
4639 submit such policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of
4640 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
4641 consumer protection and the Secretary of the State for posting on the
4642 eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of
4643 any policy or procedure. The commissioner shall also provide such
4644 policies and procedures, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner,
4645 to each licensee. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer be
4646 effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or
4647 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or July 1, 2028. The
4648 commissioner shall issue policies and procedures and thereafter final
4649 regulations that include, but are not limited to, the following:

4650 (1) Setting appropriate dosage, potency, concentration and serving
4651 size limits and delineation requirements for cannabis, provided (A) a
4652 standardized serving of an edible cannabis product or beverage, other
4653 than a medical [marijuana] cannabis product, shall contain not more
4654 than five milligrams of THC, with an allowable variance for cannabis
4655 testing laboratory method uncertainty of up to plus or minus ten per
4656 cent of the reported value for THC, and (B) there shall be no dosage,
4657 potency or concentration limit for (i) cannabis concentrates, or (ii)
4658 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material.

4659 (2) Requiring that each single standardized serving of cannabis
4660 product in a multiple-serving edible product or beverage is physically
4661 demarked in a way that enables a reasonable person to determine how
4662 much of the product constitutes a single serving and a maximum
4663 amount of THC per multiple-serving edible cannabis product or
4664 beverage.

4665 (3) Requiring that, if it is impracticable to clearly demark every
4666 standardized serving of cannabis product or to make each standardized
4667 serving easily separable in an edible cannabis product or beverage, the
4668 product, other than cannabis concentrate, [or medical marijuana]
4669 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material or a medical cannabis
4670 product, shall contain not more than five milligrams of THC per unit of
4671 sale, with an allowable variance for cannabis testing laboratory method
4672 uncertainty of up to plus or minus ten per cent of the reported value for
4673 THC.

4674 (4) Establishing, in consultation with the Department of Mental
4675 Health and Addiction Services, consumer health materials that shall be
4676 posted or distributed, as specified by the commissioner, by cannabis
4677 establishments to maximize dissemination to cannabis consumers.
4678 Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts,
4679 signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed
4680 health materials.

4681 (5) Imposing labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis sold

4682 by a cannabis establishment that include, but are not limited to, the
4683 following:

4684 (A) Inclusion of universal symbols to indicate that cannabis, or a
4685 cannabis product, contains THC and is not legal or safe for individuals
4686 younger than twenty-one years of age, and prescribe how such product
4687 and product packaging shall utilize and exhibit such symbols.

4688 (B) A disclosure concerning the length of time it typically takes for
4689 the cannabis to affect an individual, including that certain forms of
4690 cannabis take longer to have an effect.

4691 (C) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is
4692 considered the equivalent to.

4693 (D) A list of ingredients and additives for cannabis.

4694 (E) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
4695 21a-420p, as amended by this act, child-resistant, tamper-resistant and
4696 light-resistant packaging. For the purposes of this subparagraph,
4697 packaging shall be deemed to be (i) child-resistant if the packaging
4698 satisfies the standard for special packaging established in 16 CFR
4699 1700.1(b)(4), as amended from time to time, (ii) tamper-resistant if the
4700 packaging has at least one barrier to, or indicator of, entry that would
4701 preclude the contents of such packaging from being accessed or
4702 adulterated without indicating to a reasonable person that such
4703 packaging has been breached, and (iii) light-resistant if the packaging is
4704 entirely and uniformly opaque and protects the entirety of the contents
4705 of such packaging from the effects of light.

4706 (F) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
4707 21a-420p, as amended by this act, (i) packaging for cannabis intended
4708 for multiple servings to be resealable in such a manner so as to render
4709 such packaging continuously child-resistant, as described in
4710 subparagraph (E)(i) of this subdivision, and preserve the integrity of the
4711 contents of such packaging, and (ii) if packaging for cannabis intended
4712 for multiple servings contains any edible cannabis product, for each

4713 single standardized serving to be easily discernible and (I) individually
4714 wrapped, or (II) physically demarked and delineated as required under
4715 this subsection.

4716 (G) Impervious packaging that protects the contents of such
4717 packaging from contamination and exposure to any toxic or harmful
4718 substance, including, but not limited to, any glue or other adhesive or
4719 substance that is incorporated in such packaging.

4720 (H) Product tracking information sufficient to determine where and
4721 when the cannabis was grown and manufactured such that a product
4722 recall could be effectuated.

4723 (I) A net weight statement.

4724 (J) A recommended use by or expiration date.

4725 (K) Standard and uniform packaging and labeling, including, but not
4726 limited to, requirements (i) regarding branding or logos, (ii) that all
4727 packaging be opaque, and (iii) that amounts and concentrations of THC
4728 and cannabidiol, per serving and per package, be clearly marked on the
4729 packaging or label of any cannabis product sold.

4730 (L) For any cannabis flower, other cannabis plant material or cannabis
4731 concentrate cannabis product that contains a total THC percentage
4732 greater than thirty per cent, a warning that such cannabis flower, other
4733 cannabis plant material or cannabis concentrate cannabis product is a
4734 high-potency product and may increase the risk of psychosis.

4735 (M) Chemotypes, which shall be displayed as (i) "High THC, Low
4736 CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is greater than five to one and the
4737 total THC percentage is at least fifteen per cent, (ii) "Moderate THC,
4738 Moderate CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is at least one to five but
4739 not greater than five to one and the total THC percentage is greater than
4740 five per cent but less than fifteen per cent, (iii) "Low THC, High CBD"
4741 where the ratio of THC to CBD is less than one to five and the total THC
4742 percentage is not greater than five per cent, or (iv) the chemotype

4743 described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph that most closely
4744 fits the cannabis or cannabis product, as determined by mathematical
4745 analysis of the ratio of THC to CBD, where such cannabis or cannabis
4746 product does not fit a chemotype described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of
4747 this subparagraph.

4748 (N) A requirement that, prior to being sold and transferred to a
4749 consumer, qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state patient,
4750 caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver, cannabis packaging be
4751 clearly labeled, whether printed directly on such packaging or affixed
4752 by way of a separate label, other than an extended content label, with:

4753 (i) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
4754 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
4755 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
4756 the commissioner pursuant to this section; and

4757 (ii) The following information concerning the cannabis contained in
4758 such packaging, which shall be in legible English, black lettering, Times
4759 New Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background
4760 and in uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a
4761 capital letter "K", which information shall also be available on the
4762 Internet web site of the cannabis establishment that sells and transfers
4763 such cannabis:

4764 (I) The name of such cannabis, as registered with the department
4765 under the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted,
4766 by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

4767 (II) The expiration date, which shall not account for any refrigeration
4768 after such cannabis is sold and transferred to the consumer, qualifying
4769 patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver or qualifying out-
4770 of-state caregiver.

4771 (III) The net weight or volume, expressed in metric and imperial
4772 units.

4773 (IV) The standardized serving size, expressed in customary units, and
4774 the number of servings included in such packaging, if applicable.

4775 (V) Directions for use and storage.

4776 (VI) Each active ingredient comprising at least one per cent of such
4777 cannabis, including cannabinoids, isomers, esters, ethers and salts and
4778 salts of isomers, esters and ethers, and all quantities thereof expressed
4779 in metric units and as a percentage of volume.

4780 (VII) A list of all known allergens, as identified by the federal Food
4781 and Drug Administration, contained in such cannabis, or the denotation
4782 "no known FDA identified allergens" if such cannabis does not contain
4783 any allergen identified by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

4784 (VIII) The following warning statement within, and outlined by, a red
4785 box:

4786 "This product is not FDA-approved, may be intoxicating, cause long-
4787 term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side
4788 effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence
4789 of cannabis. Keep away from children."

4790 (IX) At least one of the following warning statements, rotated
4791 quarterly on an alternating basis:

4792 "Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to
4793 mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression,
4794 stunted brain development and impaired memory."

4795 "Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be
4796 harmful."

4797 "Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit-
4798 forming and addictive."

4799 "Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may
4800 result in adverse effects requiring medical attention."

4801 (X) All information necessary to comply with labeling requirements
4802 imposed under the laws of this state and federal law, including, but not
4803 limited to, sections 21a-91 to 21a-120, inclusive, and 21a-151 to 21a-159,
4804 inclusive, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq.,
4805 as amended from time to time, and the federal Fair Packaging and
4806 Labeling Act, 15 USC 1451 et seq., as amended from time to time, for
4807 similar products that do not contain cannabis.

4808 (XI) Such additional warning labels for certain cannabis products as
4809 the commissioner may require and post on the department's Internet
4810 web site.

4811 (6) Establishing laboratory testing standards. [.]

4812 (7) Establishing consumer disclosures concerning mold and yeast in
4813 cannabis. [and]

4814 (8) Establishing permitted remediation practices, which practices
4815 shall include, but need not be limited to, remediation of cannabis flower
4816 or other cannabis plant material by way of one or more exposures to
4817 ionizing radiation for any cannabis flower or other cannabis plant
4818 material that fails any laboratory testing due to microbial
4819 contamination.

4820 [(7)] (9) Restricting forms of cannabis products and cannabis product
4821 delivery systems to ensure consumer safety and deter public health
4822 concerns.

4823 [(8)] (10) Prohibiting certain manufacturing methods, or inclusion of
4824 additives to cannabis products, including, but not limited to, (A) added
4825 flavoring, terpenes or other additives unless approved by the
4826 department, or (B) any form of nicotine or other additive containing
4827 nicotine.

4828 [(9)] (11) Prohibiting cannabis product types that appeal to children,
4829 including, but not limited to, facsimiles of foods, beverages and other
4830 items that appeal to children.

4831 [(10)] (12) Establishing physical and cyber security requirements
4832 related to build out, monitoring and protocols for cannabis
4833 establishments as a requirement for licensure.

4834 [(11)] (13) Placing temporary limits on the sale of cannabis in the
4835 adult-use market, if deemed appropriate and necessary by the
4836 commissioner, in response to a shortage of cannabis for qualifying
4837 patients.

4838 [(12)] (14) Requiring retailers and hybrid retailers to make best efforts
4839 to provide access to (A) low-dose THC products, including products
4840 that have one milligram and two and a half milligrams of THC per dose,
4841 and (B) high-dose CBD products.

4842 [(13)] (15) Requiring producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators,
4843 product manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers to
4844 register brand names for cannabis, in accordance with the policies and
4845 procedures and subject to the fee set forth in, regulations adopted under
4846 chapter 420f.

4847 [(14)] (16) Prohibiting a cannabis establishment from selling, other
4848 than the sale of medical [marijuana] cannabis products between
4849 cannabis establishments and the sale of cannabis to qualifying patients,
4850 [and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-
4851 state caregivers, [(A) cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material
4852 with a total THC concentration greater than thirty-five per cent on a dry-
4853 weight basis, and (B)] any cannabis product [other than cannabis flower
4854 and cannabis plant material] with a total THC concentration greater
4855 than seventy per cent on a dry-weight basis, except that the provisions
4856 of [subparagraph (B) of] this subdivision shall not apply to the sale of
4857 cannabis concentrates, cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material
4858 or prefilled cartridges for use in an electronic cannabis delivery system,
4859 as defined in section 19a-342a, as amended by this act. [and the
4860 department may adjust the percentages set forth in subparagraph (A) or
4861 (B) of this subdivision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section
4862 for purposes of public health or to address market access or shortage.

4863 As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant material" means material
4864 from the cannabis plant, as defined in section 21a-279a.]

4865 ~~[(15)]~~ (17) Requiring dispensary facilities, hybrid retailers and
4866 retailers to display the following types of cannabis in a form and manner
4867 prescribed by the department and in an area physically and visually
4868 separated from other cannabis for sale at such establishment: (A)
4869 Cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC
4870 concentration greater than thirty per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B)
4871 any cannabis product other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant
4872 material with a total THC concentration greater than sixty per cent on a
4873 dry-weight basis, excluding prefilled cartridges for use in an electronic
4874 cannabis delivery system. [As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant
4875 material" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (j) of section
4876 21a-279a.]

4877 ~~[(16)]~~ (18) Requiring any dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer
4878 that sells any form of cannabis that exceeds the THC concentrations set
4879 forth in subdivision ~~[(15)]~~ (17) of this subsection to include the words
4880 "Warning - High THC" next to each such form of cannabis on such
4881 cannabis establishment's menus and advertisements.

4882 ~~[(17)]~~ (19) Prescribing signage to be displayed at a dispensary facility,
4883 hybrid retailer or retailer informing consumers, qualifying patients,
4884 ~~[and] qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-~~
4885 ~~state caregivers~~ of health risks associated with cannabis in excess of the
4886 THC concentrations set forth in subdivision ~~[(15)]~~ (17) of this subsection.

4887 ~~[(18)]~~ (20) Permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

4888 ~~[(19)]~~ (21) Prohibiting packaging that is (A) visually similar to any
4889 commercially similar product that does not contain cannabis, or (B) used
4890 for any good that is marketed to individuals reasonably expected to be
4891 younger than twenty-one years of age.

4892 ~~[(20)]~~ (22) Allowing packaging to include a picture of the cannabis
4893 product and contain ~~[a] the branding and~~ logo of one cannabis

4894 establishment, [which logo may be comprised of not more than three
4895 colors and provided neither black nor white shall be considered one of
4896 such three colors.]

4897 [(21) Requiring packaging to (A) be entirely and uniformly one color,
4898 and (B) not incorporate any information, print, embossing, debossing,
4899 graphic or hidden feature, other than any permitted or required label.]

4900 [(22)] ~~(23)~~ Requiring that packaging and labeling, [for an edible
4901 cannabis product,] excluding the warning labels required under this
4902 subsection and [a] the picture, [of the cannabis product] branding and
4903 logo described in subdivision [(20)] ~~(22)~~ of this subsection, [but
4904 including, but not limited to, the logo of the cannabis establishment,]
4905 shall [only] be comprised of not more than three colors, provided
4906 neither black [and] nor white [or a combination thereof] shall be
4907 considered one of such three colors.

4908 [(23)] ~~(24)~~ (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
4909 subdivision, requiring that delivery device cartridges be labeled, in a
4910 clearly legible manner and in as large a font as the size of the device
4911 reasonably allows, with only the following information (i) the name of
4912 the cannabis establishment where the cannabis is grown or
4913 manufactured, (ii) the cannabis brand, (iii) the total THC and total CBD
4914 content contained within the delivery device cartridge, (iv) the
4915 expiration date, and (v) the unique identifier generated by a cannabis
4916 analytic tracking system maintained by the department and used to
4917 track cannabis under the policies and procedures issued, and final
4918 regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

4919 (B) A cannabis establishment may emboss, deboss or similarly print
4920 the name of the cannabis establishment's business entity [,] and one logo
4921 [with not more than three colors,] on a delivery device cartridge.

4922 [(24)] ~~(25)~~ Prescribing signage to be prominently displayed at
4923 dispensary facilities, retailers and hybrid retailers disclosing (A)
4924 possible health risks related to mold, and (B) the use and possible health

4925 risks related to the use of mold remediation techniques.

4926 Sec. 80. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421k of the 2026 supplement to
4927 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4928 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4929 (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
4930 inclusive, in order to effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect
4931 public health and safety, prior to adopting such regulations the
4932 commissioner shall implement policies and procedures to implement
4933 the provisions of RERACA that shall have the force and effect of law.
4934 The commissioner shall post all such policies and procedures on the
4935 department's Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures
4936 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
4937 cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection and the Secretary
4938 of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days
4939 prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policies
4940 and procedures shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either
4941 adoption of such policies and procedures as a final regulation under
4942 section 4-172 or [sixty-three months from June 22, 2021] July 1, 2028.

4943 Sec. 81. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-421n of the general
4944 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
4945 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4946 (a) Each cannabis establishment, licensed pursuant to chapter 420f or
4947 the provisions of RERACA shall maintain a record of all cannabis
4948 grown, manufactured, wasted and distributed between cannabis
4949 establishments and to consumers, qualifying patients, [and] qualifying
4950 out-of-state patients, caregivers and qualifying out-of-state caregivers in
4951 a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner
4952 shall require each cannabis establishment to use an electronic tracking
4953 system to monitor the production, harvesting, storage, manufacturing,
4954 packaging and labeling, processing, transport, transfer and sale of
4955 cannabis from the point of cannabis cultivation inception through the
4956 point when the final product is sold to a consumer, qualifying patient,

4957 qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver, qualifying out-of-state
4958 caregiver, research program or otherwise disposed of in accordance
4959 with chapter 420f or the provisions of RERACA, and the policies and
4960 procedures or regulations issued pursuant to RERACA. Cannabis
4961 establishments shall be required to utilize such electronic tracking
4962 system and enter the data points required by the commissioner to
4963 ensure cannabis is safe, secure and properly labeled for consumer, [or]
4964 qualifying patient or qualifying out-of-state patient use. The
4965 commissioner may contract with one or more vendors for the purpose
4966 of electronically collecting such cannabis information.

4967 (b) The electronic tracking system shall not collect information about
4968 any individual consumer, qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state
4969 patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver purchasing
4970 cannabis.

4971 Sec. 82. Subsection (e) of section 21a-421o of the general statutes is
4972 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4973 *1, 2026*):

4974 (e) Except as otherwise provided in RERACA, all records maintained
4975 or kept on file related to RERACA by the department or the Social
4976 Equity Council shall be public records for purposes of the Freedom of
4977 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200. In addition to the
4978 nondisclosure provisions contained in sections 1-210, 21a-408d, as
4979 amended by this act, 21a-408l, as amended by this act, 21a-408v, as
4980 amended by this act, 21a-420g, 21a-421n, as amended by this act, 21a-
4981 421p and 21a-422k, as amended by this act, any information related to
4982 (1) the physical security plans of a cannabis establishment or the
4983 criminal background of individual applicants that is obtained by the
4984 department through the licensing process, (2) the supply and
4985 distribution of cannabis by cannabis establishments, and (3) [qualified]
4986 qualifying patient, [and] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver and
4987 qualifying out-of-state caregiver information, shall be confidential and
4988 shall not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act,
4989 as defined in section 1-200.

4990 Sec. 83. Section 21a-421q of the general statutes is repealed and the
4991 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4992 (a) Qualifying patients and caregivers registered pursuant to chapter
4993 420f, and qualifying out-of-state patients and qualifying out-of-state
4994 caregivers, shall be permitted to purchase cannabis of higher potency,
4995 varied dosage form, and in a larger per transaction or per day amount
4996 than are generally available for retail purchase, as determined by the
4997 commissioner. Such determination, if any, shall be published on the
4998 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site or included in
4999 regulations adopted by the department.

5000 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the sale or
5001 delivery of drug paraphernalia to a qualifying patient, [or] qualifying
5002 out-of-state patient, caregiver or qualifying out-of-state caregiver or
5003 person licensed pursuant to the provisions of RERACA or chapter 420f,
5004 shall not be considered a violation of the provisions of RERACA.

5005 Sec. 84. Section 21a-421r of the general statutes is repealed and the
5006 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5007 A licensed pharmacist working as an employee at a dispensary
5008 facility or hybrid retailer shall transmit dispensing information, in a
5009 manner prescribed by the commissioner, on any cannabis sold to a
5010 qualifying patient, [or] qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver or
5011 qualifying out-of-state caregiver in real-time or immediately upon
5012 completion of the transaction, unless not reasonably feasible for a
5013 specific transaction, but in no case longer than one hour after completion
5014 of the transaction.

5015 Sec. 85. Section 21a-421s of the general statutes is repealed and the
5016 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5017 (a) For the purposes of this section, [(1) "Container" (A)] "container"
5018 (1) means an object that is offered, intended for sale or sold to a
5019 consumer and directly contains an infused beverage, [or legacy infused
5020 beverage,] and [(B)] (2) does not include an object or packaging that

5021 indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for transportation purposes, an
5022 infused beverage. [or legacy infused beverage; and

5023 (2) "Legacy infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in
5024 section 21a-425.]

5025 (b) A fee of one dollar shall be assessed by a dispensary facility,
5026 hybrid retailer or retailer on each infused beverage container [and
5027 legacy infused beverage container] sold by such cannabis establishment.
5028 Such fee shall not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income
5029 pursuant to any provision of the general statutes.

5030 (c) On [October 1, 2024, and every six months thereafter] the first days
5031 of October and April, annually, each dispensary facility, hybrid retailer
5032 or retailer shall remit payment to the department for each infused
5033 beverage container [and legacy infused beverage container] sold during
5034 the preceding six-month period. The funds received by the department
5035 from infused beverage sales [and legacy infused beverage sales] shall be
5036 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established
5037 in section 21a-8a for the purposes of (1) protecting public health and
5038 safety, (2) educating consumers and licensees, and (3) ensuring
5039 compliance with cannabis and liquor control laws.

5040 Sec. 86. Subsection (c) of section 21a-421aa of the general statutes is
5041 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
5042 *1, 2026*):

5043 (c) A retailer or hybrid retailer shall not knowingly sell to a consumer
5044 more than one ounce of cannabis or the equivalent amount of cannabis
5045 products or combination of cannabis and cannabis products, as set forth
5046 in subsection (i) of section 21a-279a, per day, except that a hybrid retailer
5047 or dispensary facility may sell up to five ounces of cannabis or the
5048 equivalent amount of cannabis products or combination of cannabis and
5049 cannabis products to a qualifying patient or caregiver, or a qualifying
5050 out-of-state patient or qualifying out-of-state caregiver, per day.
5051 Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive,

5052 to avoid cannabis supply shortages or address a public health and safety
5053 concern, the commissioner may set temporary lower per-transaction
5054 limits, which shall be published on the department's Internet web site.
5055 Such limits shall become ineffective upon the commissioner's
5056 determination that a supply shortage or public health and safety
5057 concern no longer exists.

5058 Sec. 87. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421bb of the 2026 supplement to
5059 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5060 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5061 (b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, cannabis
5062 establishments shall not:

5063 (1) Advertise, including, but not limited to, through a business name
5064 or logo, cannabis, cannabis paraphernalia or goods or services related to
5065 cannabis:

5066 (A) In ways that target or are designed to appeal to individuals under
5067 twenty-one years of age, including, but not limited to, spokespersons or
5068 celebrities who appeal to individuals under the legal age to purchase
5069 cannabis or cannabis products, depictions of a person under twenty-five
5070 years of age consuming cannabis, or, the inclusion of objects, such as
5071 toys, characters or cartoon characters, suggesting the presence of a
5072 person under twenty-one years of age, or any other depiction designed
5073 in any manner to be appealing to a person under twenty-one years of
5074 age; or

5075 (B) By using any image, or any other visual representation, of the
5076 cannabis plant or any part of the cannabis plant, including, but not
5077 limited to, the leaf of the cannabis plant;

5078 (2) Engage in any advertising by means of any form of billboard
5079 within one thousand five hundred feet of an elementary or secondary
5080 school ground or a house of worship, recreation center or facility, child
5081 care center, playground, public park or library, or engage in any
5082 advertising by means of a billboard between the hours of six o'clock a.m.

5083 and eleven o'clock p.m.;

5084 (3) Engage in advertising by means of any television, radio, Internet,
5085 mobile application, social media or other electronic communication,
5086 billboard or other outdoor signage, or print publication unless the
5087 cannabis establishment has reliable evidence that at least ninety per cent
5088 of the audience for the advertisement is reasonably expected to be
5089 twenty-one years of age or older;

5090 (4) Engage in advertising or marketing directed toward location-
5091 based devices, including, but not limited to, cellular phones, unless the
5092 marketing is a mobile device application installed on the device by the
5093 owner of the device who is twenty-one years of age or older and
5094 includes a permanent and easy opt-out feature and warnings that the
5095 use of cannabis is restricted to persons twenty-one years of age or older;

5096 (5) Advertise cannabis or cannabis products in a manner claiming or
5097 implying, or permit any employee of the cannabis establishment to
5098 claim or imply, that such products have curative or therapeutic effects,
5099 or that any other medical claim is true, or allow any employee to
5100 promote cannabis for a wellness purpose unless such claims are
5101 substantiated as set forth in regulations adopted under chapter 420f or
5102 verbally conveyed by a licensed pharmacist or other licensed medical
5103 practitioner in the course of business in, or while representing, a hybrid
5104 [retail] retailer or dispensary facility;

5105 (6) Sponsor charitable, sports, musical, artistic, cultural, social or
5106 other similar events or advertising at, or in connection with, such an
5107 event unless the cannabis establishment has reliable evidence that (A)
5108 not more than ten per cent of the in-person audience at the event is
5109 reasonably expected to be under the legal age to purchase cannabis or
5110 cannabis products, and (B) not more than ten per cent of the audience
5111 that will watch, listen or participate in the event is expected to be under
5112 the legal age to purchase cannabis products;

5113 (7) Advertise cannabis, cannabis products or cannabis paraphernalia

5114 in any physical form visible to the public within five hundred feet of an
5115 elementary or secondary school ground or a recreation center or facility,
5116 child care center, playground, public park or library;

5117 (8) Cultivate cannabis or manufacture cannabis products for
5118 distribution outside of this state in violation of federal law, advertise in
5119 any way that encourages the transportation of cannabis across state lines
5120 or otherwise encourages illegal activity;

5121 [(9) Except for dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers, exhibit
5122 within or upon the outside of the facility used in the operation of a
5123 cannabis establishment, or include in any advertisement, the word
5124 "dispensary" or any variation of such term or any other words, displays
5125 or symbols indicating that such store, shop or place of business is a
5126 dispensary;]

5127 [(10)] (9) Exhibit within or upon the outside of the premises subject to
5128 the cannabis establishment license, or include in any advertisement the
5129 words "drug store", "pharmacy", "apothecary", "drug", "drugs" or
5130 "medicine shop" or any combination of such terms or any other words,
5131 displays or symbols indicating that such store, shop or place of business
5132 is a pharmacy;

5133 [(11)] (10) Advertise on or in public or private vehicles or at bus stops,
5134 taxi stands, transportation waiting areas, train stations, airports or other
5135 similar transportation venues including, but not limited to, vinyl-
5136 wrapped vehicles or signs or logos on transportation vehicles not
5137 owned by a cannabis establishment;

5138 [(12)] (11) Display cannabis, cannabis products or any image, or any
5139 other visual representation, of the cannabis plant or any part of the
5140 cannabis plant, including, but not limited to, the leaf of the cannabis
5141 plant, so as to be clearly visible to a person from the exterior of the
5142 facility used in the operation of a cannabis establishment, or display
5143 signs or other printed material advertising any brand or any kind of
5144 cannabis or cannabis product, or including any image, or any other

5145 visual representation, of the cannabis plant or any part of the cannabis
5146 plant, including, but not limited to, the leaf of the cannabis plant, on the
5147 exterior of any facility used in the operation of a cannabis establishment;

5148 [(13)] (12) Utilize radio or loudspeaker, in a vehicle or in or outside of
5149 a facility used in the operation of a cannabis establishment, for the
5150 purposes of advertising the sale of cannabis or cannabis products;

5151 [(14)] (13) Operate any Internet web site advertising or depicting
5152 cannabis, cannabis products or cannabis paraphernalia unless such
5153 Internet web site verifies that the entrants or users are twenty-one years
5154 of age or older; or

5155 [(15)] (14) Engage in advertising or marketing that includes a
5156 discounted price or other promotional offering as an inducement to
5157 purchase any cannabis or cannabis product that is not a medical
5158 [marijuana] cannabis product, except a discounted price or promotional
5159 offering may be offered, as an inducement to purchase cannabis, (A)
5160 within a dispensary facility, retailer or hybrid retailer, (B) through a
5161 delivery service, or (C) on an Internet web site maintained by or for a
5162 dispensary facility, retailer or hybrid retailer where cannabis or
5163 cannabis products may be lawfully ordered.

5164 Sec. 88. Section 21a-421ddd of the general statutes is repealed and the
5165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5166 Any person twenty-three years of age or older who sells, delivers or
5167 gives cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by
5168 this act, to any person under twenty-one years of age, and who knew or
5169 should have known that such person was under twenty-one years of
5170 age, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

5171 Sec. 89. Subsection (a) of section 21a-422g of the general statutes is
5172 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
5173 *1, 2026*):

5174 (a) Upon the petition of not less than ten per cent of the electors of

5175 any municipality, lodged with the town clerk at least sixty days before
5176 the date of any regular election, as defined in section 9-1, the selectmen
5177 of the municipality shall warn the electors of such municipality that, at
5178 such regular election, a vote shall be taken to determine: (1) Whether or
5179 not the recreational sale of [marijuana] cannabis shall be permitted in
5180 such municipality, or (2) whether the sale of [marijuana] cannabis shall
5181 be permitted in such municipality in one or more of the classes of license
5182 of cannabis establishments. The ballot label designations in a vote upon
5183 the question of cannabis establishment license shall be "Shall the sale of
5184 recreational [marijuana] cannabis be allowed in (Name of
5185 municipality)?" or "Shall the sale of cannabis under (Specified license or
5186 Licenses) be allowed in (Name of municipality)?" or "Shall the sale of
5187 recreational [marijuana] cannabis be prohibited (No Licenses) in
5188 (Name of municipality)?" and shall be provided in accordance with the
5189 provisions of section 9-250. No elector shall vote for more than one
5190 designation. Such vote shall be taken in the manner prescribed in section
5191 9-369 and shall become effective on the first Monday of the month next
5192 succeeding such election and shall remain in force until a new vote is
5193 taken; provided such vote may be taken at a special election called for
5194 the purpose in conformity with the provisions of section 9-164 and
5195 provided at least one year shall have elapsed since the previous vote
5196 was taken. The provisions of chapter 145 concerning absentee voting at
5197 referenda shall apply to all votes taken upon the question of cannabis
5198 establishment license. Any class of cannabis establishments already
5199 allowed in a municipality shall not be affected by any vote.

5200 Sec. 90. Section 21a-422k of the general statutes is repealed and the
5201 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5202 (a) For purposes of this section:

5203 (1) "Material change" means: (A) The addition of a backer, (B) a
5204 change in the ownership interest of an existing backer, (C) the merger,
5205 consolidation or other affiliation of a cannabis establishment with
5206 another cannabis establishment, (D) the acquisition of all or part of a
5207 cannabis establishment by another cannabis establishment or backer,

5208 and (E) the transfer of assets or security interests from a cannabis
5209 establishment to another cannabis establishment or backer;

5210 (2) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in
5211 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5212 (3) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420, as
5213 amended by this act; and

5214 (4) "Transfer" means to sell, transfer, lease, exchange, option, convey,
5215 give or otherwise dispose of or transfer control over, including, but not
5216 limited to, transfer by way of merger or joint venture not in the ordinary
5217 course of business.

5218 (b) No person shall, directly or indirectly, enter into a transaction that
5219 results in a material change to a cannabis establishment, unless all
5220 parties involved in the transaction file a written notification with the
5221 Attorney General pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and the
5222 waiting period described in subsection (d) of this section has expired.

5223 (c) The written notice required under subsection (b) of this section
5224 shall be in such form and contain such documentary material and
5225 information relevant to the proposed transaction as the Attorney
5226 General deems necessary and appropriate to enable the Attorney
5227 General to determine whether such transaction, if consummated, would
5228 violate antitrust laws.

5229 (d) The waiting period required under subsection (b) of this section
5230 shall begin on the date of the receipt by the Attorney General's office of
5231 the completed notification required under subsection (c) of this section
5232 from all parties to the transaction and shall end on the thirtieth day after
5233 the date of such receipt, unless such time is extended pursuant to
5234 subsection (f) of this section.

5235 (e) The Attorney General may, in individual cases, terminate the
5236 waiting period specified in subsection (d) of this section and allow any
5237 person to proceed with any transaction.

5238 (f) The Attorney General may, prior to the expiration of the thirty-day
5239 waiting period, require the submission of additional information or
5240 documentary material relevant to the proposed transaction from a
5241 person required to file notification with respect to such transaction
5242 under subsection (b) of this section. Upon request for additional
5243 information under this subsection, the waiting period shall be extended
5244 until thirty days after the parties have substantially complied, as
5245 determined solely by the Attorney General, with such request for
5246 additional information.

5247 (g) Any information or documentary material filed with the Attorney
5248 General pursuant to this section shall not be subject to disclosure under
5249 the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and no such
5250 information or documentary material may be made public, except as
5251 may be relevant to any administrative or judicial action or proceeding.
5252 Such information or documentary material shall be returned to the
5253 person furnishing such information or documentary material upon the
5254 termination of the Attorney General's review or final determination of
5255 any action or proceeding commenced thereunder.

5256 (h) (1) Any person, or any officer, director or partner thereof, who
5257 fails to comply with any provision of this section shall be liable to the
5258 state for a civil penalty of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars
5259 for each day during which such person is in violation of this section.
5260 Such penalty may be recovered in a civil action brought by the Attorney
5261 General.

5262 (2) If any person, or any officer, director, partner, agent or employee
5263 thereof, fails substantially to comply with the notification requirement
5264 under subsection (b) of this section or any request for the submission of
5265 additional information or documentary material under subsection (f) of
5266 this section within the waiting period specified in subsection (d) of this
5267 section and as may be extended under subsection (f) of this section, the
5268 court:

5269 (A) May order compliance;

5270 (B) Shall extend the waiting period specified in subsection (d) of this
5271 section and as may have been extended under subsection (f) of this
5272 section until there has been substantial compliance, except that, in the
5273 case of a tender offer, the court may not extend such waiting period on
5274 the basis of a failure, by the person whose stock is sought to be acquired,
5275 to comply substantially with such notification requirement or any such
5276 request; and

5277 (C) May grant such other equitable relief as the court in its discretion
5278 determines necessary or appropriate, upon application of the Attorney
5279 General.

5280 (i) (1) Not later than thirty days after the effective date of any
5281 transaction described in subsection (b) of this section that involves a
5282 cannabis establishment license awarded to a social equity applicant, all
5283 parties involved in such transaction shall submit to the Social Equity
5284 Council, in a form and manner prescribed by the council, a written
5285 notice disclosing (A) the effective date of such transaction, (B) the
5286 identity of each party to such transaction, (C) the nature of each cannabis
5287 establishment involved in such transaction, broken down by license
5288 type, and (D) the nature, and a detailed description of, each material
5289 change made to a cannabis establishment involved in such transaction.

5290 (2) The Social Equity Council shall post a copy of each written notice
5291 the council receives under subdivision (1) of this subsection on the
5292 council's Internet web site.

5293 Sec. 91. Subsection (a) of section 21a-422l of the general statutes is
5294 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
5295 *1, 2026*):

5296 (a) As used in this section, "cannabis" has the same meaning as
5297 provided in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, and
5298 "electronic cannabis delivery system" and "vapor product" have the
5299 same meanings as provided in section 19a-342a, as amended by this act.
5300 No hotel, motel or similar lodging shall prohibit the legal possession or

5301 consumption of cannabis in any nonpublic area of such hotel, motel or
5302 similar lodging.

5303 Sec. 92. Section 21a-422m of the general statutes is repealed and the
5304 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5305 As used in this section, "hospital" has the same meaning as provided
5306 in section 19a-490 and "cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in
5307 section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act. No hospital shall be
5308 required to allow a patient to use cannabis while at such hospital. A
5309 hospital may have a policy that sets forth restrictions patients shall
5310 follow regarding cannabis use.

5311 Sec. 93. Section 21a-425 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
5312 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
5313 *October 1, 2026*):

5314 For the purposes of this section, sections 21a-425a, as amended by this
5315 act, 21a-425b, as amended by this act, 21a-425e, as amended by this act,
5316 and 21a-425f, as amended by this act:

5317 (1) "Alcoholic beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
5318 30-1, as amended by this act;

5319 (2) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
5320 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

5321 (3) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in
5322 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5323 (4) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section
5324 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5325 (5) "Cannabis testing laboratory" has the same meaning as provided
5326 in section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

5327 (6) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
5328 Protection;

5329 (7) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,
5330 as amended by this act;

5331 (8) "Container" (A) means an object that is offered, intended for sale
5332 or sold to a consumer and directly contains an infused beverage or high-
5333 THC beverage, and (B) does not include an object or packaging that
5334 indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for transportation purposes, an
5335 infused beverage or high-THC beverage;

5336 (9) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,
5337 as amended by this act;

5338 (10) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

5339 (11) "Dispensary facility" has the same meaning as provided in
5340 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5341 (12) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
5342 provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5343 (13) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-61l, as
5344 amended by this act;

5345 (14) "Hemp producer" means producer, as defined in section 22-61l,
5346 as amended by this act;

5347 (15) "Hemp products" has the same meaning as provided in section
5348 22-61l, as amended by this act;

5349 (16) "High-THC beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an
5350 alcoholic beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, (C)
5351 contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, total
5352 THC per container that is greater than [three milligrams] the maximum
5353 total THC per container allowable for an infused beverage, and (D)
5354 contains THC solely derived from hemp (i) grown by a United States
5355 Department of Agriculture hemp producer licensee under an approved
5356 state or tribal hemp production plan, and (ii) with a total THC
5357 concentration of not more than three-tenths per cent on a dry-weight

5358 basis or by volume, as applicable;

5359 (17) "Hybrid retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section
5360 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5361 (18) "Infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an alcoholic
5362 beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, and (C) contains, or
5363 is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, total THC that is
5364 not greater than [three] (i) five milligrams per container, with an
5365 allowable variance for cannabis testing laboratory method uncertainty
5366 of up to plus or minus ten per cent of the reported value for THC, if the
5367 beverage is sold or offered for sale (I) on premises operating under a
5368 package store permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as
5369 amended by this act, or (II) on the premises of an infused beverage
5370 manufacturer under subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of section 21a-
5371 425a, as amended by this act, or (ii) ten milligrams per container, with
5372 an allowable variance for cannabis testing laboratory method
5373 uncertainty of up to plus or minus ten per cent of the reported value for
5374 THC, if the beverage is sold or offered for sale at a dispensary facility,
5375 hybrid retailer or retailer;

5376 (19) "Infused beverage manufacturer" means a person licensed by the
5377 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-425a, as
5378 amended by this act;

5379 (20) "Infused beverage wholesaler" (A) means a person that has been
5380 issued an infused beverage wholesaler license under section 21a-425e, as
5381 amended by this act, and (B) does not include the holder of a
5382 wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section
5383 30-17;

5384 [(21) "Legacy infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an
5385 alcoholic beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, (C)
5386 contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, THC,
5387 and (D) as of June 30, 2024, is in compliance with (i) the provisions of
5388 RERACA, and (ii) the policies and procedures issued by the

5389 Commissioner of Consumer Protection to implement, and any
5390 regulations adopted pursuant to, RERACA;]

5391 [(22)] (21) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in
5392 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5393 [(23)] (22) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as
5394 provided in section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

5395 [(24)] (23) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
5396 420, as amended by this act;

5397 [(25)] (24) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section
5398 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5399 [(26)] (25) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided
5400 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5401 [(27)] (26) "RERACA" has the same meaning as provided in section
5402 21a-420, as amended by this act;

5403 [(28)] (27) "Retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
5404 420, as amended by this act;

5405 [(29)] (28) "THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
5406 240, as amended by this act; and

5407 [(30)] (29) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section
5408 21a-240, as amended by this act.

5409 Sec. 94. Section 21a-425a of the 2026 supplement to the general
5410 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
5411 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5412 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 22-61m, as amended
5413 by this act, and 22-61n, as amended by this act, and except as provided
5414 in subsection (c) of this section, no person shall [, on or after October 1,
5415 2024,] manufacture any infused beverage that is intended to be sold or

5416 offered for sale in this state unless such person has received an infused
5417 beverage manufacturer license issued by the Commissioner of
5418 Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.

5419 (b) A person seeking an infused beverage manufacturer license under
5420 this section shall submit to the Department of Consumer Protection, in
5421 a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
5422 Protection, an application accompanied by an application fee in the
5423 amount of five thousand dollars. Each license issued pursuant to this
5424 section shall be valid for a period of one year, and shall be renewable for
5425 additional one-year periods upon submission of a renewal application
5426 in the manner, and payment of a renewal fee in the amount, set forth for
5427 an initial application under this subsection. All fees collected under this
5428 subsection shall be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement
5429 account established in section 21a-8a.

5430 (c) (1) A cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer
5431 or product manufacturer, or a producer that has received expanded
5432 authorization to engage in the adult use cannabis market under the
5433 producer's license issued pursuant to section 21a-408i, as amended by
5434 this act, may [, beginning on October 1, 2024,] manufacture infused
5435 beverages in this state that are intended to be sold or offered for sale in
5436 this state if such cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage
5437 manufacturer, product manufacturer or producer submits to the
5438 Department of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed
5439 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, a written request to
5440 manufacture such infused beverages, and the commissioner approves
5441 such written request.

5442 (2) A cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer,
5443 product manufacturer or producer that receives approval from the
5444 Commissioner of Consumer Protection under subdivision (1) of this
5445 subsection shall be subject to all provisions of this section, and all
5446 regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued pursuant to
5447 subsection [(k)] (l) of this section, applicable to infused beverage
5448 manufacturers, except no such cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and

5449 beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer or producer shall be
5450 subject to the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

5451 (d) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] An infused beverage
5452 manufacturer shall only obtain [any] hemp, [product] a hemp product
5453 or an intermediate hemp derivative for the purpose of manufacturing
5454 any infused beverage that is intended to be sold or offered for sale in
5455 this state unless such hemp product is in the form of hemp oil or an
5456 intermediate hemp derivative, and no such infused beverage
5457 manufacturer shall use any hemp product other than hemp oil or an
5458 intermediate hemp derivative to manufacture any such infused
5459 beverage.

5460 (2) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the
5461 interstate transportation of any product in violation of federal law,
5462 including, but not limited to, the United States Agricultural Marketing
5463 Act of 1946, 7 USC 1639o et seq., as amended from time to time, and no
5464 intermediate hemp derivative shall be further distributed for resale.

5465 [(2) Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] (3) No infused beverage
5466 manufacturer shall obtain any hemp [oil] for the purpose of
5467 manufacturing any infused beverage that is intended to be sold or
5468 offered for sale in this state unless such hemp; [oil]:

5469 (A) Is derived from hemp;

5470 (B)] (A) (i) Was extracted from hemp grown by (I) a hemp producer,
5471 as evidenced by a certificate of authenticity issued by the hemp
5472 producer, or (II) a licensed hemp grower regulated by a state, territory
5473 or federally recognized Indian tribe, and in accordance with a state or
5474 tribal plan approved by the United States Department of Agriculture, as
5475 evidenced by a certificate of authenticity issued by such licensed hemp
5476 grower, or (ii) was extracted (I) by a person who is actively credentialed
5477 by a state or federally recognized Indian tribe to extract hemp, and (II)
5478 in a facility that is credentialed by a state or federally recognized Indian
5479 tribe; and

5480 [(C)] (B) Was extracted from hemp by using (i) a Class 3 residual
5481 solvent within the meaning of the most recent United States
5482 Pharmacopeia, Chapter 467, as amended from time to time, (ii) a solvent
5483 generally recognized as safe pursuant to the Federal Food, Drug and
5484 Cosmetic Act, or (iii) a solvent approved by the Department of
5485 Consumer Protection and posted on the department's Internet web site.

5486 [(3) Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] (4) Each infused beverage
5487 manufacturer that manufactures any infused beverage that is intended
5488 to be sold or offered for sale in this state shall:

5489 (A) Not manufacture any such infused beverage with total THC that
5490 exceeds [three] (i) five milligrams per container, with an allowable
5491 variance for cannabis testing laboratory method uncertainty of up to
5492 plus or minus ten per cent of the reported value for THC, if the beverage
5493 is to be sold or offered for sale (I) on premises operating under a package
5494 store permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended
5495 by this act, or (II) on the premises of such infused beverage
5496 manufacturer under subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of this section, or
5497 (ii) ten milligrams per container, with an allowable variance for cannabis
5498 testing laboratory method uncertainty of up to plus or minus ten per
5499 cent of the reported value for THC, if the beverage is to be sold or offered
5500 for sale at a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer;

5501 (B) Manufacture such infused beverage by using equipment that is
5502 exclusively used to manufacture an infused beverage or prepared in
5503 accordance with good manufacturing practices as set forth in 21 CFR
5504 Parts 110 and 111, as amended from time to time, as applicable; and

5505 (C) Ensure that all hemp oil and intermediate hemp derivative such
5506 infused beverage manufacturer possesses to manufacture such infused
5507 beverage is (i) stored in a secure, locked location separate from any
5508 cannabis, (ii) clearly and conspicuously labeled as hemp oil or
5509 intermediate hemp derivative solely for use in manufacturing an
5510 infused beverage, and (iii) solely used for the purpose of manufacturing
5511 an infused beverage.

5512 (e) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage that is
5513 sold or offered for sale in this state shall include (A) any additive that (i)
5514 is psychotropic, or (ii) could increase the potency, toxicity or addictive
5515 properties of the infused beverage, including, but not limited to, caffeine
5516 other than caffeine naturally occurring in chocolate, coffee or tea, or (B)
5517 total THC that exceeds [three] (i) five milligrams per container, with an
5518 allowable variance for cannabis testing laboratory method uncertainty
5519 of up to plus or minus ten per cent of the reported value for THC, if the
5520 beverage is sold or offered for sale (I) on premises operating under a
5521 package store permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as
5522 amended by this act, or (II) on the premises of such infused beverage
5523 manufacturer under subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of this section, or
5524 (ii) ten milligrams per container, with an allowable variance for cannabis
5525 testing laboratory method uncertainty of up to plus or minus ten per
5526 cent of the reported value for THC, if the beverage is sold or offered for
5527 sale at a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer.

5528 (2) (A) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] Each lot of an infused
5529 beverage in final form shall be tested by a cannabis testing laboratory or
5530 a similarly qualified laboratory that is located in, and licensed by,
5531 another state. A statistically significant number of samples shall be
5532 collected from such lot and submitted to the cannabis testing laboratory
5533 or out-of-state laboratory for final product testing in a manner approved
5534 by the Department of Consumer Protection. Such sampling and final
5535 product testing shall be conducted by using a representative sample of
5536 such lot and by collecting a minimum number of sample increments
5537 relative to the size of such lot.

5538 (B) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage shall be
5539 sold or offered for sale in this state unless the infused beverage meets (i)
5540 the laboratory testing standards for cannabis established in, and any
5541 regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued pursuant to,
5542 section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, or (ii) such other testing
5543 standards as may be approved by the Department of Consumer
5544 Protection and posted on the department's Internet web site.

5545 (3) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage sold or
5546 offered for sale in this state shall be packaged, labeled or advertised in
5547 any manner that is likely to mislead an individual by incorporating any
5548 statement, brand, design, representation, picture, illustration or other
5549 depiction that:

5550 (A) Bears a reasonable resemblance to trademarked or characteristic
5551 packaging of (i) cannabis offered for sale (I) in this state by a cannabis
5552 establishment licensed in this state, or (II) on tribal land by a tribal-
5553 credentialed cannabis entity, or (ii) a commercially available product
5554 other than a cannabis product; or

5555 (B) Appeals to individuals who are younger than twenty-one years of
5556 age by, among other things, (i) making use of any spokesperson or
5557 celebrity who appeals to such individuals, (ii) depicting any individual
5558 who is younger than twenty-five years of age consuming cannabis or an
5559 infused beverage, (iii) including any object, such as a toy, character or
5560 cartoon character, which suggests the presence of any individual who is
5561 younger than twenty-one years of age, or (iv) making use of any other
5562 method that is designed to appeal to any individual who is younger
5563 than twenty-one years of age.

5564 (4) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] Each infused beverage
5565 container sold or offered for sale in this state shall prominently display
5566 (A) a symbol, in a size of not less than one-half inch by one-half inch and
5567 in a format approved by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,
5568 that indicates that such infused beverage is not legal or safe for
5569 individuals younger than twenty-one years of age, and (B) a symbol that
5570 satisfies ASTM International standard D8441.

5571 (f) (1) No infused beverage manufacturer shall sell an infused
5572 beverage to any person in this state other than (A) a dispensary facility,
5573 (B) a hybrid retailer, (C) a retailer, (D) the holder of a wholesaler permit
5574 or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17, [or] (E) an
5575 infused beverage wholesaler, or (F) a consumer for off-premises
5576 consumption under subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of this section.

5577 (2) A dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer, before selling an
5578 infused beverage to a consumer in this state, a wholesaler permittee
5579 under section 30-17, before selling an infused beverage to a package
5580 store permittee under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
5581 act, or an infused beverage wholesaler, before selling an infused
5582 beverage to a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer or a package
5583 store permittee under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
5584 act, shall, based on a representative sample of the infused beverage
5585 containers included in the shipment that includes such infused
5586 beverage, (A) verify that the infused beverages included in such
5587 shipment satisfy the requirements established in subdivision (3) of
5588 subsection (e) of this section and any regulations adopted, and policies
5589 and procedures issued, pursuant to subsection [(k)] (l) of this section,
5590 and (B) for the purpose of preserving public health and safety, verify
5591 that the infused beverages included in such shipment were
5592 manufactured in accordance with requirements that are substantially
5593 similar to the requirements established in subsections (d) and (e) of this
5594 section and any regulations adopted, and policies and procedures
5595 issued, pursuant to subsection [(k)] (l) of this section if such infused
5596 beverages were manufactured (i) in a facility located in, and regulated
5597 by, another state, and (ii) by a person who is regulated as a food or
5598 nonalcoholic beverage manufacturer.

5599 (g) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No cannabis establishment or
5600 infused beverage manufacturer, or agent or employee of a cannabis
5601 establishment or infused beverage manufacturer, shall gift or transfer
5602 any infused beverage to a consumer, at no cost to the consumer, as part
5603 of a commercial transaction.

5604 (h) (1) An infused beverage manufacturer may engage in the retail
5605 sale of beverages to be consumed on the premises operating under the
5606 license issued to the infused beverage manufacturer pursuant to this
5607 section, provided (A) such beverages are manufactured on such
5608 premises in accordance with applicable law, (B) such sales are made,
5609 and beverages are consumed, (i) in a room or area that is physically

5610 separated from the room or area in which the infused beverage
5611 manufacturer manufactures infused beverages, and (ii) in accordance
5612 with applicable law, and (C) no such beverage is an infused beverage,
5613 an alcoholic beverage or contains THC.

5614 (2) (A) An infused beverage manufacturer may engage in the retail
5615 sale of infused beverages to be consumed off the premises operating
5616 under the license issued to the infused beverage manufacturer pursuant
5617 to this section, provided (i) such infused beverages are (I) manufactured
5618 on such premises in accordance with the provisions of this section, and
5619 (II) sold in accordance with the provisions of this section and section
5620 21a-425b, as amended by this act, (ii) such sales are made in a room or
5621 area that is physically separated from the room or area in which the
5622 infused beverage manufacturer manufactures infused beverages, and
5623 (iii) such infused beverage manufacturer does not sell more than twelve
5624 containers per day to a consumer.

5625 (B) Each infused beverage manufacturer that engages in retail sales
5626 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall assess a fee of one
5627 dollar on each infused beverage container sold at retail. Such fee shall
5628 not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income pursuant to any
5629 provision of the general statutes. Beginning on April 1, 2027, and every
5630 six months thereafter, each infused beverage manufacturer shall remit
5631 payment to the Department of Consumer Protection for each infused
5632 beverage container sold during the preceding six-month period. The
5633 funds received by the department from infused beverage sales shall be
5634 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established
5635 in section 21a-8a for the purposes of (i) protecting public health and
5636 safety, (ii) educating consumers and licensees, and (iii) ensuring
5637 compliance with cannabis and liquor control laws.

5638 [(h) Beginning on October 1, 2024, the] (i) The Commissioner of
5639 Consumer Protection may request that an infused beverage
5640 manufacturer submit to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a
5641 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, documentation
5642 sufficient to demonstrate that the infused beverage manufacturer is in

5643 compliance with the provisions of this section. The infused beverage
5644 manufacturer shall promptly provide such documentation to the
5645 department.

5646 [(i) Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] (j) Each infused beverage
5647 manufacturer shall be subject to the investigation and enforcement
5648 provisions set forth in section 21a-421p.

5649 [(j) Beginning on October 1, 2024, if] (k) If the Commissioner of
5650 Consumer Protection determines, after consulting with the Attorney
5651 General, that the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, P.L. 115-334, as
5652 amended from time to time, has been amended in a manner that
5653 conflicts with any provision of this section, the commissioner shall
5654 prepare and submit a report, in coordination with the Attorney General
5655 and in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint
5656 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
5657 matters relating to consumer protection. Such report shall, at a
5658 minimum, set forth the scope of such conflict and recommendations to
5659 resolve such conflict. The commissioner shall submit such report: (1)
5660 Not later than thirty days after the United States Department of
5661 Agriculture announces such amendment, if the General Assembly is in
5662 session; or (2) not later than sixty days after the United States
5663 Department of Agriculture announces such amendment, if the General
5664 Assembly is not in session.

5665 [(k)] (l) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
5666 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
5667 implement the provisions of this section. Notwithstanding the
5668 requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, the commissioner
5669 shall, prior to adopting such regulations and in order to effectuate the
5670 provisions of this section, issue policies and procedures to implement
5671 the provisions of this section that shall have the force and effect of law.
5672 The commissioner shall post all policies and procedures on the
5673 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site, and submit
5674 such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for posting on
5675 the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date

5676 of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer
5677 be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or
5678 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or forty-eight
5679 months from July 1, 2024, if such regulations have not been submitted
5680 to the legislative regulation review committee for consideration under
5681 section 4-170.

5682 [(l) Beginning on October 1, 2024, and following] (m) Following a
5683 hearing conducted in accordance with chapter 54, the Commissioner of
5684 Consumer Protection may impose an administrative civil penalty, not
5685 to exceed five thousand dollars per violation, and suspend, revoke or
5686 place conditions upon any infused beverage manufacturer that violates
5687 any provision of this section or any regulation adopted pursuant to
5688 subsection [(k)] (l) of this section. All administrative civil penalties
5689 collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the consumer
5690 protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.

5691 [(m) Beginning on October 1, 2024, the] (n) The Commissioner of
5692 Consumer Protection may, pursuant to section 4-182, summarily
5693 suspend any credential the commissioner or Department of Consumer
5694 Protection has issued to any person who violates any provision of this
5695 section.

5696 [(n)] (o) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be
5697 deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of
5698 section 42-110b.

5699 Sec. 95. Section 21a-425b of the general statutes is repealed and the
5700 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5701 (a) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage shall
5702 be sold, offered for sale or distributed in this state unless:

5703 (A) The infused beverage is sold or offered for sale (i) on premises
5704 operating under a package store permit issued pursuant to subsection
5705 (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this act, [or] (ii) at a dispensary
5706 facility, hybrid retailer or retailer, or (iii) on the premises of an infused

5707 beverage manufacturer under subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of
5708 section 21a-425a, as amended by this act;

5709 (B) If the infused beverage is sold at a dispensary facility, hybrid
5710 retailer or retailer, the infused beverage is stored and displayed
5711 separately from any cannabis, in the same manner provided for
5712 manufacturer hemp products, in accordance with section 21a-409, as
5713 amended by this act, 21a-420s or 21a-420r, as amended by this act,
5714 respectively; and

5715 (C) The infused beverage meets the standards set forth for
5716 manufacturer hemp products in subsections (v) and (x) of section 22-
5717 61m.

5718 (2) [Beginning on July 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage shall be sold,
5719 or offered for sale, at retail to any individual in this state by way of any
5720 indirect means, including, but not limited to, by way of mail or any
5721 telephonic or other electronic means.

5722 (b) No infused beverage shall be sold to any individual who is
5723 younger than twenty-one years of age. No owner, agent or employee of
5724 a package store permitted under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as
5725 amended by this act, [or] of a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or
5726 retailer [,] or of an infused beverage manufacturer shall sell any infused
5727 beverage to an individual without first verifying the individual's age
5728 with a valid government-issued driver's license or identity card to
5729 establish that such individual is twenty-one years of age or older.

5730 (c) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No person shall sell, or offer
5731 for sale, any infused beverage in any container containing less than
5732 twelve fluid ounces, or any packaging comprised of more than [four]
5733 twelve containers.

5734 [(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c),
5735 inclusive, of this section, a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, retailer or
5736 package store that has received a waiver from the Commissioner of
5737 Consumer Protection under section 21a-425d may, during the period

5738 beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, sell legacy
5739 infused beverages in accordance with such waiver and the requirements
5740 set forth in section 21a-425d.]

5741 [(e)] (d) Any violation of the provisions of subsections (a) to (c),
5742 inclusive, of this section shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade
5743 practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b.

5744 Sec. 96. Subsection (f) of section 21a-425e of the 2026 supplement to
5745 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5746 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5747 (f) Each infused beverage wholesaler shall assess a fee of one dollar
5748 on each infused beverage container sold to the holder of a package store
5749 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
5750 act, or to a retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility. Such fee shall
5751 not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income pursuant to any
5752 provision of the general statutes. [Beginning on October 1, 2025, and
5753 every six months thereafter] On the first days of October and April,
5754 annually, each infused beverage wholesaler shall remit payment to the
5755 Department of Consumer Protection for each infused beverage
5756 container sold during the preceding six-month period. The funds
5757 received by the department from infused beverage sales shall be
5758 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established
5759 in section 21a-8a for the purposes of (1) protecting public health and
5760 safety, (2) educating consumers and licensees, and (3) ensuring
5761 compliance with cannabis and liquor control laws.

5762 Sec. 97. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-425f of the 2026
5763 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
5764 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5765 (a) [On and after January 1, 2026, no] No person shall manufacture a
5766 high-THC beverage in this state unless such person is an infused
5767 beverage manufacturer that has received a high-THC beverage
5768 endorsement issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection

5769 pursuant to this section. A high-THC beverage endorsement shall
5770 authorize the infused beverage manufacturer to manufacture high-THC
5771 beverages for sale exclusively outside of this state. No infused beverage
5772 manufacturer shall advertise, offer or sell any high-THC beverage in this
5773 state or offer or sell any high-THC beverage directly to any individual.
5774 An infused beverage manufacturer shall verify that purchasers of high-
5775 THC beverages intend to engage in the commercial resale of such
5776 beverages exclusively outside of this state.

5777 (b) [Beginning on January 1, 2026, an] An infused beverage
5778 manufacturer seeking a high-THC beverage endorsement under this
5779 section shall submit an application to the Department of Consumer
5780 Protection in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of
5781 Consumer Protection.

5782 Sec. 98. Subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 21a-426 of the 2026
5783 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
5784 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5785 (7) "Moderate-THC hemp product" (A) means a manufacturer hemp
5786 product that has a total THC, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended
5787 by this act, concentration of not less than one-half of one milligram, and
5788 not more than five milligrams, on a per-container basis, and (B) does not
5789 include [(i)] an infused beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as
5790 amended by this act; [, or (ii) a legacy infused beverage, as defined in
5791 section 21a-425;] and

5792 Sec. 99. Section 22-61l of the general statutes is repealed and the
5793 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5794 (a) For the purpose of this section and section 22-61m, as amended by
5795 this act, the following terms have the same meaning as provided in 7
5796 CFR 990.1, as amended from time to time: "Acceptable hemp THC level",
5797 "Agricultural marketing service", "Audit", "Cannabis", "Conviction",
5798 "Corrective action plan", "Culpable mental state greater than
5799 negligence", "Decarboxylated", "Decarboxylation", "Disposal", "Dry

5800 weight basis", "Gas chromatography", "Geospatial location", "Handle",
5801 "Liquid chromatography", "Immature plants", "Information sharing
5802 system", "Measurement of uncertainty", "Negligence",
5803 "Phytocannabinoid", "Postdecarboxylation", "Remediation", "Reverse
5804 distributor" and "Total THC". In addition, for the purpose of this section,
5805 [and] section 22-61m, as amended by this act, and sections 100 and 101
5806 of this act:

5807 (1) "Cannabidiol" or "CBD" means the nonpsychotropic compound by
5808 the same name;

5809 (2) "Cannabis" (A) means all parts of any plant or species of the genus
5810 cannabis, or any infra specific taxon thereof, whether growing or not;
5811 (B) includes (i) every resin extracted from any part of such plant,
5812 including, but not limited to, every resin extracted from (I) the mature
5813 stalks of such plant, (II) the fiber produced from the mature stalks of
5814 such plant, or (III) the oil or cake made from the seeds of such plant, (ii)
5815 every other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or
5816 preparation of such plant or its resin, and (iii) every (I) high-THC hemp
5817 product, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this act, (II)
5818 manufactured cannabinoid, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended
5819 by this act, or (III) cannabinol or cannabidiol and chemical compounds
5820 which are similar to cannabinol or cannabidiol in chemical structure or
5821 which are similar thereto in physiological effect, which are controlled
5822 substances under this chapter, except cannabidiol derived from hemp,
5823 that is not a high-THC hemp product; and (C) does not include (i) the
5824 mature stalks of such plant, (ii) the fiber produced from the mature
5825 stalks of such plant, (iii) the oil or cake made from the seeds of such
5826 plant, (iv) any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture
5827 or preparation of the mature stalks of such plant, (v) the seeds of such
5828 plant, (vi) hemp (I) with a total THC, as defined in section 21a-240, as
5829 amended by this act, concentration of not more than three-tenths per
5830 cent on a dry-weight basis, and (II) that is not a high-THC hemp
5831 product, (vii) cannabinol, cannabigerol, cannabichromene or any other
5832 minor cannabinoid derived from hemp, (viii) any substance approved

5833 by the federal Food and Drug Administration or successor agency as a
5834 drug and reclassified in any schedule of controlled substances or
5835 unscheduled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or
5836 successor agency that is included in the same schedule designated by
5837 the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency, or
5838 (ix) any infused beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as amended by
5839 this act;

5840 [(2)] (3) "Certificate of analysis" means a certificate from a laboratory
5841 describing the results of the laboratory's testing of a sample;

5842 [(3)] (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture, or
5843 the commissioner's designated agent;

5844 [(4)] (5) "Cultivate" means to plant, grow, harvest, handle and store a
5845 plant or crop;

5846 [(5)] (6) "Federal act" means the United States Agricultural Marketing
5847 Act of 1946, 7 USC 1639o et seq., as amended from time to time;

5848 [(6)] (7) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture;

5849 [(7)] (8) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in the federal act;

5850 [(8)] (9) "Hemp products" means all manufacturer hemp products
5851 and producer hemp products;

5852 [(9)] (10) "Independent testing laboratory" means a facility:

5853 (A) For which no person who has any direct or indirect financial or
5854 managerial interest in the laboratory and also has any direct or indirect
5855 interest in a facility that:

5856 (i) Produces, distributes, manufactures or sells hemp or hemp
5857 products, or [marijuana] cannabis in any state or territory of the United
5858 States; or

5859 (ii) Cultivates, processes, distributes, dispenses or sells [marijuana]

5860 cannabis; and

5861 (B) That is accredited as a laboratory in compliance with section 21a-
5862 408-59 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies;

5863 (11) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
5864 21a-425, as amended by this act;

5865 (12) "Infused beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
5866 provided in section 21a-425, as amended by this act;

5867 (13) "Intermediate hemp derivative" means an oil or concentrate that
5868 (A) is extracted directly and exclusively from raw hemp plant material,
5869 (B) contains a total THC, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended by
5870 this act, concentration of more than 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis,
5871 and (C) is extracted by (i) adding heat, (ii) decarboxylation, (iii) adding
5872 (I) a Class 3 organic solvent within the meaning of the most recent
5873 United States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 467, as amended from time to
5874 time, or (II) another solvent approved by the Commissioner of
5875 Consumer Protection, (iv) ethanol extraction, (v) carbon dioxide
5876 extraction, (vi) a solventless extraction method, including, but not
5877 limited to, the use of ice water, rosin pressing, dry sifting or steam
5878 distillation, or (vii) an extraction process not set forth in subparagraphs
5879 (C)(i) to (C)(vi), inclusive, of this subdivision, provided such extraction
5880 process has been approved by the Commissioner of Consumer
5881 Protection;

5882 ~~[(10)]~~ (14) "Laboratory" means a laboratory that meets the
5883 requirements of 7 CFR 990.3 and that is accredited as a testing laboratory
5884 to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 17025 by a third-
5885 party accrediting body such as the American Association for Laboratory
5886 Accreditation or the Assured Calibration and Laboratory Accreditation
5887 Select Services;

5888 ~~[(11)]~~ (15) "Law enforcement agency" means the Connecticut State
5889 Police, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the
5890 Department of Agriculture, the Department of Consumer Protection

5891 Drug Control Division or any other federal, state or local law
5892 enforcement agency or drug suppression unit;

5893 [(12)] (16) "Licensee" means an individual or entity that possesses a
5894 license to produce or manufacture hemp or hemp products in this state;

5895 [(13)] (17) "Manufacture" means the conversion of the hemp plant into
5896 a by-product or an extract by means of (A) adding heat, [solvents or] (B)
5897 decarboxylation, (C) adding (i) a Class 3 organic solvent within the
5898 meaning of the most recent United States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 467,
5899 as amended from time to time, or (ii) another solvent approved by the
5900 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, (D) ethanol extraction, (E)
5901 carbon dioxide extraction, (F) a solventless extraction method,
5902 including, but not limited to, the use of ice water, rosin pressing, dry
5903 sifting or steam distillation, or (G) any method of extraction that
5904 modifies the original composition of the plant for the purpose of
5905 creating a manufacturer hemp product for commercial or research
5906 purposes;

5907 [(14)] (18) "Manufacturer" means a person in the state licensed by the
5908 Commissioner of Consumer Protection to manufacture, handle, store
5909 and market manufacturer hemp products pursuant to the provisions of
5910 section 22-61m, as amended by this act, and any regulation adopted
5911 pursuant to section 22-61m, as amended by this act;

5912 [(15)] "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
5913 240;]

5914 [(16)] (19) "Market" or "marketing" means promoting, distributing or
5915 selling a hemp product within the state, in another state or outside of
5916 the United States and includes efforts to advertise and gather
5917 information about the needs or preferences of potential consumers or
5918 suppliers;

5919 [(17)] (20) "On-site manager" means the individual designated by the
5920 producer license applicant or producer responsible for on-site
5921 management and operations of a licensed producer;

5922 [(18)] (21) "Pesticide" has the same meaning as "pesticide chemical" as
5923 provided in section 21a-92;

5924 [(19)] (22) "Lot" means a contiguous area in a field, greenhouse or
5925 indoor growing structure containing the same variety or strain of hemp
5926 throughout the area;

5927 [(20)] (23) "Post-harvest sample" means a representative sample of the
5928 form of hemp taken from the harvested hemp from a particular lot's
5929 harvest that is collected in accordance with the procedures established
5930 by the commissioner;

5931 [(21)] (24) "Pre-harvest sample" means a composite, representative
5932 portion from plants in a hemp lot, that is collected in accordance with
5933 the procedures established by the commissioner;

5934 [(22)] (25) "Produce" means to cultivate hemp or create any producer
5935 hemp product;

5936 [(23)] (26) "State plan" means a state plan, as described in the federal
5937 act and as authorized pursuant to this section;

5938 [(24)] (27) "THC" means delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol;

5939 [(25)] (28) "Controlled Substances Act" or "CSA" means the
5940 Controlled Substances Act as codified in 21 USC 801 et seq.;

5941 [(26)] (29) "Criminal history report" means the fingerprint-based state
5942 and national criminal history record information obtained in accordance
5943 with section 29-17a;

5944 [(27)] (30) "Drug Enforcement Administration" or "DEA" means the
5945 United States Drug Enforcement Administration;

5946 [(28)] (31) "Farm service agency" or "FSA" means an agency of the
5947 United States Department of Agriculture;

5948 [(29)] (32) "Key participant" means a sole proprietor, a partner in

5949 partnership or a person with executive managerial control in an entity,
5950 including persons such as a chief executive officer, chief operating
5951 officer and chief financial officer;

5952 [(30)] (33) "Manufacturer hemp product" (A) means a commodity
5953 manufactured from the hemp plant, for commercial or research
5954 purposes, that (i) is intended for human ingestion, inhalation,
5955 absorption or other internal consumption, [that] and (ii) contains a THC
5956 concentration of not more than 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis or per
5957 volume or weight of such manufacturer hemp product, and (B) does not
5958 include an infused beverage; [, as defined in section 21a-425;]

5959 [(31)] (34) "Producer" means an individual or entity licensed by the
5960 commissioner to produce and market producer hemp products
5961 pursuant to the federal act, the state plan, the provisions of this section
5962 and the regulations adopted pursuant to this section;

5963 [(32)] (35) "Producer hemp product" means any of the following
5964 produced in this state: Raw hemp product, fiber-based hemp product or
5965 animal hemp food product, and each of which contains a THC
5966 concentration of not more than 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis or per
5967 volume or weight of such producer hemp product;

5968 [(33)] (36) "USDA" means the United States Department of
5969 Agriculture;

5970 [(34)] (37) "Entity" means a corporation, joint stock company,
5971 association, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited
5972 liability company, irrevocable trust, estate, charitable organization or
5973 other similar organization, including any such organization
5974 participating in the hemp production as a partner in a general
5975 partnership, a participant in a joint venture or a participant in a similar
5976 organization; and

5977 [(35)] (38) "Homogenize" means to blend hemp into a mixture that
5978 has a uniform quality and content throughout such mixture.

5979 (b) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and operate an
5980 agricultural pilot program, as defined in 7 USC 5940, as amended from
5981 time to time, for hemp research to enable the department, and its
5982 licensees, to study methods of producing and marketing hemp. All
5983 producer licensees licensed pursuant to this section shall be participants
5984 in the state agricultural pilot program for hemp research. Until such
5985 time as said commissioner adopts regulations, in accordance with the
5986 provisions of chapter 54, the Department of Agriculture shall utilize
5987 procedures and guidance policies that the commissioner deems to be
5988 consistent with the provisions of 7 USC 5940, as amended from time to
5989 time, provided such procedures and guidance policies shall, at a
5990 minimum, require: (1) The commissioner to certify and register any site
5991 used to grow hemp, (2) any person who produces hemp to produce
5992 plants that meet the definition of hemp and verify such, (3) the
5993 maintenance of records by any person who grows hemp and the
5994 availability of inspection of such records by the commissioner, and (4)
5995 verification of compliance with the definition of hemp by a laboratory,
5996 at the expense of any licensee. The provisions of this section shall take
5997 precedence over any such procedure or guidance policy. Participants in
5998 the state agricultural pilot program for hemp research shall be licensed
5999 in accordance with the provisions of this section. Such pilot program
6000 shall operate until the earlier of the date of a fully approved state plan
6001 under the federal act, as described in this section, or the date of repeal
6002 of the federal law permitting the state's agricultural pilot program for
6003 hemp research.

6004 (c) (1) The commissioner shall prepare a state plan in accordance with
6005 the federal act and 7 CFR 990.3, for approval by the Governor, in
6006 consultation with the office of the Chief State's Attorney and the
6007 Attorney General. The state plan, once approved by the Governor and
6008 the Attorney General, shall be submitted by the commissioner to the
6009 United States Secretary of Agriculture for such secretary's approval. The
6010 commissioner shall have the authority to amend the state plan, in
6011 consultation with the Governor, the Attorney General and the office of
6012 the Chief State's Attorney, as necessary to comply with the federal act.

6013 (2) The commissioner shall operate the state plan, which shall
6014 include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

6015 (A) The sampling of hemp shall comply, at a minimum, with 7 CFR
6016 990.3 and be performed by an authorized sampling agent;

6017 (B) The testing of hemp shall comply, at a minimum, with 7 CFR
6018 990.3;

6019 (C) The control, remediation and disposal of noncompliant cannabis
6020 plants shall comply with 7 CFR 990.27 and 7 CFR 990.3;

6021 (D) The department shall comply with all recordkeeping and
6022 reporting requirements in the federal act, and 7 CFR 990.1 to 7 CFR
6023 990.71, inclusive;

6024 (E) The department shall comply with enforcement procedures in 7
6025 CFR 990.6;

6026 (F) The department shall conduct annual inspections of, at a
6027 minimum, a random sample of producers to verify that hemp is not
6028 produced in violation of the federal act, the state plan and the provisions
6029 of this section, and shall enforce any violation as provided for in the
6030 federal act and as defined in 7 CFR 990.6;

6031 (G) Producers shall report their required license, lot and hemp crop
6032 acreage information to FSA, in accordance with the requirements in 7
6033 CFR 990.7; and

6034 (H) Producers shall report to the commissioner the total acreage of
6035 hemp planted, harvested and, if applicable, disposed of or remediated,
6036 and such other information as the commissioner may require.

6037 (3) All sampling and testing of hemp shall be done using protocols
6038 that are at least as statistically valid as the USDA's published protocols
6039 for sampling and testing of hemp, which protocols shall be posted on
6040 the department's Internet web site. During a scheduled sample
6041 collection, the producer, or an authorized representative of the

6042 producer, shall be present at the lot. A producer shall not harvest the
6043 cannabis crop prior to the taking of samples. Samples of hemp plant
6044 material from one lot shall not be commingled with hemp plant material
6045 from other lots. Lots tested and not certified by a laboratory at or below
6046 the acceptable hemp THC level shall be handled, remediated and
6047 disposed of in accordance with the federal act, the provisions of this
6048 section and the state plan, as applicable.

6049 (4) The commissioner shall collect, maintain and provide to the
6050 USDA, on a timely basis, and not less than once per month, license status
6051 of each hemp producer, contact information for each hemp producer
6052 licensed in the state, including lot legal descriptions and locations, and
6053 any changes to such information. The commissioner shall also report to
6054 the USDA, on a timely basis, and not less than once per month, all
6055 required hemp test results and disposal information for all
6056 nonconforming hemp plants and plant material. Such information shall
6057 not include state and federal fingerprint-based records pursuant to
6058 section 29-17a.

6059 (d) The commissioner shall have the authority to enforce the federal
6060 act, as amended from time to time, the state plan, this section and any
6061 regulations adopted in accordance with the federal act and chapter 54
6062 for hemp production in the state. The commissioner shall have the
6063 authority to enforce the applicable standards for producer hemp
6064 products. The commissioner may consult, collaborate and enter into
6065 cooperative agreements with any federal or state agency, municipality
6066 or political subdivision of the state concerning application of the
6067 provisions of the federal act and the regulations adopted pursuant to the
6068 federal act, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this
6069 section.

6070 (e) Any person who produces hemp shall: (1) Be licensed by the
6071 commissioner; (2) comply with the federal act, the state plan, the
6072 provisions of this section and any regulation adopted pursuant to this
6073 section; and (3) transport hemp and hemp samples in a manner and with
6074 such documentation as required by the commissioner.

6075 (f) Any person who sells hemp products shall not be required to be
6076 licensed provided such person only engages in: (1) The retail or
6077 wholesale sale of hemp or hemp products in which no further
6078 producing or manufacturing of the hemp products occurs and the hemp
6079 products are acquired from a person authorized under the laws of this
6080 state or another state, territory or possession of the United States or
6081 another sovereign entity to possess and sell such hemp products; (2) the
6082 acquisition of hemp or hemp products for the sole purpose of product
6083 distribution for resale; or (3) the retail sale of hemp products that are
6084 otherwise authorized under federal or state law.

6085 (g) Any applicant for a license pursuant to this section shall meet each
6086 of the following requirements, as applicable:

6087 (1) Each applicant, whether an individual or an entity, shall submit
6088 an application for a license that consists, at a minimum, of the following:
6089 (A) The name, telephone number, electronic mail address, business
6090 address and address of any individual who is the applicant, the full
6091 name of any entity that is the applicant, including any applicable
6092 principal business location and the full name, title and electronic mail
6093 address of each key participant; (B) the name and address of each lot for
6094 the hemp cultivation or producing location; (C) the geospatial location
6095 of each lot by means of global positioning system coordinates and legal
6096 description of each lot used for the hemp cultivation; (D) the acreage
6097 size of each lot where the hemp will be cultivated; (E) written consent
6098 allowing the commissioner to conduct both scheduled and random
6099 inspections of and around the premises on which the hemp is to be
6100 cultivated, harvested, stored and produced; (F) the applicant's employer
6101 identification number or the applicant's Social Security number if an
6102 employer identification number is not available; and (G) any other
6103 information as may be required by the commissioner;

6104 (2) Each individual who is an applicant and each key participant of
6105 any entity applying for a producer license, or renewal thereof, shall
6106 submit to state and national fingerprint-based criminal history records
6107 checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, at such individual's

6108 own expense;

6109 (3) No individual, including any key participant of any entity, who
6110 has been convicted of any state or federal felony, related to a controlled
6111 substance, shall be eligible to obtain or hold a producer license for ten
6112 years from the date of the conviction, provided such restriction shall not
6113 apply to any individual who lawfully grew hemp with a license,
6114 registration or authorization under any state pilot program authorized
6115 by section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 before December 20, 2018.
6116 Any individual or entity that materially falsifies any information in an
6117 application pursuant to this section shall be ineligible to obtain a
6118 producer license; and

6119 (4) Each individual or entity who is required by this section to obtain
6120 a producer license shall pay for all costs of sampling, testing, retesting
6121 and resampling any samples at a laboratory for the purpose of
6122 determining the THC concentration level of any cannabis under their
6123 control, or in their possession. Each individual or entity who is required
6124 by this section to obtain a producer license shall pay for all costs of
6125 disposal of all noncompliant cannabis plants under their control, or in
6126 their possession.

6127 (h) Any producer license issued by the commissioner shall expire on
6128 the third following December thirty-first and may be renewed during
6129 the preceding month of October. Such licenses shall not be transferable.

6130 (i) The following fees shall apply for each producer license and
6131 inspection:

6132 (1) A nonrefundable license application fee of fifty dollars, provided
6133 any constituent unit of higher education, state agency or department
6134 shall be exempt from such application fee if such production is for
6135 research purposes;

6136 (2) A nonrefundable triennial producer license fee of four hundred
6137 fifty dollars for up to one acre of planned hemp plantings and thirty
6138 dollars per each additional acre of planned hemp plantings rounded to

6139 the nearest acre, except no license fee charged shall exceed three
6140 thousand dollars, provided any constituent unit of higher education,
6141 state agency or department shall be exempt from such license fee if such
6142 production is for research purposes; and

6143 (3) In the event that resampling by the commissioner is required due
6144 to a test result that shows a violation of any provision of this section or
6145 any regulation adopted pursuant to this section, the licensee shall pay
6146 an inspection fee of fifty dollars. Such fee shall be paid prior to the
6147 inspection and collection of the sample to be used for resampling.

6148 (j) After receipt and review of an application for producer licensure,
6149 the commissioner may grant a triennial license upon a finding that the
6150 applicant meets the applicable requirements. Each producer licensee
6151 shall notify the commissioner of any changes to their application
6152 information, not later than fifteen days after such change. While the
6153 pilot program is in effect, the commissioner may grant a conditional
6154 approval of a producer license, pending receipt of the criminal history
6155 records check required by this section. The commissioner shall assign
6156 each producer with a license or authorization identifier in a format
6157 consistent with 7 CFR 990.3.

6158 (k) Whenever an inspection or investigation conducted by the
6159 commissioner pursuant to this title reveals any violation of the state
6160 plan, this section or any regulation adopted thereunder, the producer
6161 license applicant or respondent, as applicable, shall be notified, in
6162 writing, of such violation and any corrective action to be taken and the
6163 time period within which such corrective action shall be taken. Any such
6164 producer license applicant or respondent may request a hearing,
6165 conducted in accordance with chapter 54, on any such notification. Any
6166 notification issued pursuant to this section shall be made by certified
6167 mail, return receipt requested to the producer license applicant or
6168 respondent's last known address, by in-hand service by the
6169 commissioner or designated agent of the commissioner, electronic mail
6170 service with the consent of the recipient, or by service in accordance
6171 with chapter 896. The commissioner shall report all producer violations

6172 made with a culpable mental state greater than negligence to the United
6173 States Attorney General and the State's Attorney for the judicial district
6174 in which the producer violation occurred.

6175 (l) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the
6176 commissioner's authority to issue a cease and desist order pursuant to
6177 section 22-4d, or an emergency order, in order to respond to a condition
6178 that may present a public health hazard, or issue orders necessary to
6179 effectuate the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to,
6180 orders for the embargo, partial destruction, destruction and release of
6181 hemp or hemp products. Any cease and desist order or an emergency
6182 order shall become effective upon service of such order by the
6183 commissioner. Following service of any such order, subsequent
6184 proceedings shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of section
6185 22-4d and the rules of practice for such agency. Any embargo, partial
6186 destruction, destruction or release order issued pursuant to this section
6187 shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested to the
6188 respondent's last known address, by in-hand service by the
6189 commissioner or designated agent of the commissioner, or by service in
6190 accordance with chapter 896.

6191 (m) Following a hearing conducted in accordance with chapter 54,
6192 the commissioner may impose an administrative civil penalty, not to
6193 exceed two thousand five hundred dollars per violation, and suspend,
6194 revoke or place conditions upon any producer licensee who violates the
6195 provisions of this section or any regulation adopted pursuant to this
6196 section.

6197 (n) (1) Any individual who produces hemp in this state without
6198 obtaining a license pursuant to this section, or who produces hemp in
6199 this state after having a license suspended or revoked shall have
6200 committed an infraction.

6201 (2) Any entity that produces hemp in this state without obtaining a
6202 license pursuant to this section, produces hemp in violation of this
6203 section or produces hemp in this state after having a license suspended

6204 or revoked may be fined not more than two thousand five hundred
6205 dollars per violation, after a hearing conducted in accordance with
6206 chapter 54.

6207 (o) (1) Any negligent violation, as described in the federal act, of this
6208 section or the state plan shall be subject to enforcement in accordance
6209 with the federal act, and the state plan for negligent violations.

6210 (2) For any negligent violation, a producer shall be required to correct
6211 such negligent violation, by means of a corrective action plan approved
6212 by the commissioner. Each corrective action plan shall include, at a
6213 minimum, a reasonable completion deadline for correction of the
6214 negligent violation, periodic reporting to the commissioner for at least
6215 two years and compliance with the state plan.

6216 (3) Any producer that negligently violates the state plan shall not, as
6217 a result of such negligent violation, be referred by the commissioner for
6218 any criminal enforcement action by the federal, state or local
6219 government.

6220 (4) Any producer that negligently violates the state plan three times
6221 during any five-year period shall be ineligible to produce hemp for a
6222 period of five years beginning on the date of the third violation.

6223 (5) The commissioner shall conduct an inspection to determine if the
6224 corrective action plan for a producer who commits any such negligent
6225 violation was properly implemented.

6226 (p) Any person aggrieved by an order issued pursuant to this section
6227 may appeal to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of
6228 chapter 54. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the commissioner
6229 and received not later than fifteen days after the date of the order. If no
6230 appeal is made pursuant to this subsection the order shall be final.

6231 (q) (1) All documents submitted under this section shall be subject to
6232 disclosure in accordance with chapter 14, except: (A) Information
6233 depicting or describing (i) the test results of any producer, (ii) the

6234 location of any hemp growing, harvesting, processing or storage
6235 location, or (iii) hemp producer location security schematics; and (B) the
6236 results of any criminal history records check.

6237 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
6238 subsection, all documents and records submitted or maintained
6239 pursuant to this section shall be disclosed to any law enforcement
6240 agency upon request of such law enforcement agency.

6241 (r) The commissioner may inspect and shall have access to the
6242 buildings, equipment, supplies, vehicles, records, real property and
6243 other information that the commissioner deems necessary to carry out
6244 the commissioner's duties pursuant to this section from any person
6245 participating in producing, handling, storing, marketing or researching
6246 hemp.

6247 (s) All licensees pursuant to this section shall maintain records
6248 required by the federal act, the state plan, this section and any regulation
6249 adopted pursuant to this section. Each licensee shall make such records
6250 available to the department immediately upon request of the
6251 commissioner and in electronic format, if available.

6252 (t) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
6253 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section
6254 including, but not limited to, the labeling of producer hemp products.

6255 (u) Whenever the commissioner believes or has reasonable cause to
6256 believe that the actions of a licensee or any employee of a producer
6257 licensee are in violation of the federal act, the state plan, or any state law
6258 concerning the growing, cultivation, handling, transporting or
6259 possession of [marijuana] cannabis, the commissioner shall notify the
6260 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the
6261 Division of State Police.

6262 Sec. 100. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

6263 (1) "Approved manufactured cannabinoid" means a manufactured
6264 cannabinoid, as defined in section 21a-240 of the general statutes, as
6265 amended by this act, that has been approved by the Department of
6266 Consumer Protection and posted on the department's Internet web site;

6267 (2) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section
6268 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

6269 (3) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420
6270 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

6271 (4) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
6272 provided in section 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this
6273 act;

6274 (5) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section
6275 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act; and

6276 (6) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in
6277 section 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

6278 (b) On and after December 1, 2026, a manufacturer may manufacture:

6279 (1) Cannabigerol, cannabiniol or an approved manufactured
6280 cannabinoid, provided the manufacturer offers and sells such
6281 cannabigerol, cannabiniol or approved manufactured cannabinoid
6282 exclusively to a producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product
6283 manufacturer or food and beverage manufacturer; and

6284 (2) Intermediate hemp derivative to be incorporated into a
6285 manufacturer hemp product, provided the manufacturer offers and
6286 sells such intermediate hemp derivative exclusively to a producer,
6287 cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer, food and beverage
6288 manufacturer or infused beverage manufacturer.

6289 (c) (1) On and after December 1, 2026, a producer, cultivator, micro-
6290 cultivator, product manufacturer or food and beverage manufacturer
6291 may purchase cannabigerol, cannabiniol, an approved manufactured

6292 cannabinoid or intermediate hemp derivative from a manufacturer,
6293 provided such cannabigerol, cannabiol, approved manufactured
6294 cannabinoid or intermediate hemp derivative:

6295 (A) Was manufactured in accordance with the provisions of
6296 subsection (b) of this section; and

6297 (B) Is tracked as a separate batch throughout the manufacturing
6298 process in order to document the disposition of such cannabigerol,
6299 cannabiol, approved manufactured cannabinoid or intermediate hemp
6300 derivative.

6301 (2) Once cannabigerol, cannabiol, an approved manufactured
6302 cannabinoid or intermediate hemp derivative is received by a producer,
6303 cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer or food and
6304 beverage manufacturer, such cannabigerol, cannabiol, approved
6305 manufactured cannabinoid or intermediate hemp derivative shall be
6306 deemed cannabis and comply with the requirements for cannabis
6307 contained in the applicable provisions of the general statutes and any
6308 regulations adopted pursuant to such provisions.

6309 (3) A producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer or
6310 food and beverage manufacturer shall retain:

6311 (A) A copy of the certificate of analysis for the cannabigerol,
6312 cannabiol, approved manufactured cannabinoid or intermediate hemp
6313 derivative the producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product
6314 manufacturer or food and beverage manufacturer purchased from a
6315 manufacturer; and

6316 (B) Invoices and transport documents that evidence the quantity of
6317 cannabigerol, cannabiol, approved manufactured cannabinoid or
6318 intermediate hemp derivative purchased from the manufacturer and the
6319 date the producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer or
6320 food and beverage manufacturer received such cannabigerol,
6321 cannabiol, approved manufactured cannabinoid or intermediate hemp
6322 derivative.

6323 (d) (1) On and after December 1, 2026, an infused beverage
6324 manufacturer may purchase intermediate hemp derivative from a
6325 manufacturer, provided such intermediate hemp derivative was
6326 manufactured in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this
6327 section.

6328 (2) An infused beverage manufacturer shall:

6329 (A) Obtain from an independent testing laboratory, and retain, a
6330 certificate of analysis for the intermediate hemp derivative the infused
6331 beverage manufacturer purchased from a manufacturer in accordance
6332 with the laboratory testing standards established in the regulations
6333 adopted pursuant to section 21a-421j of the general statutes, as amended
6334 by this act; and

6335 (B) Invoices and transport documents that evidence the quantity of
6336 intermediate hemp derivative purchased from the manufacturer and the
6337 date the infused beverage manufacturer received such intermediate
6338 hemp derivative.

6339 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
6340 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
6341 general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.
6342 Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive,
6343 of the general statutes, the commissioner shall, prior to adopting such
6344 regulations and in order to effectuate the provisions of this section, issue
6345 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section that
6346 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
6347 policies and procedures on the Department of Consumer Protection's
6348 Internet web site, and submit such policies and procedures to the
6349 Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least
6350 fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any
6351 such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of
6352 either the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final regulation under
6353 section 4-172 of the general statutes or July 1, 2028, if such regulations
6354 have not been submitted to the legislative regulation review committee

6355 for consideration under section 4-170 of the general statutes. Such
6356 policies, procedures and regulations shall include, but need not be
6357 limited to, provisions concerning product tracking information, security
6358 and transportation.

6359 Sec. 101. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) No provision of chapter 424 of
6360 the general statutes shall be construed to authorize the interstate
6361 transportation of any product in violation of federal law, including, but
6362 not limited to, the United States Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, 7
6363 USC 1639o et seq., as amended from time to time.

6364 Sec. 102. Subsection (r) of section 22-61m of the 2026 supplement to
6365 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6366 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

6367 (r) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
6368 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
6369 implement the provisions of this section including, but not limited to,
6370 establishing sampling and testing procedures to ensure compliance
6371 with this section, prescribing storage and disposal procedures for hemp,
6372 [marijuana] cannabis and manufacturer hemp products that fail to pass
6373 Department of Consumer Protection prescribed independent testing
6374 laboratory testing standards and establishing advertising and labeling
6375 requirements for manufacturer hemp products.

6376 Sec. 103. Section 22-61n of the general statutes is repealed and the
6377 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

6378 (a) As used in this section:

6379 (1) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section
6380 21a-420, as amended by this act;

6381 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
6382 420, as amended by this act;

6383 (3) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as

6384 provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

6385 [(2)] (4) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-61l,
6386 as amended by this act;

6387 [(3)] (5) "Hemp products" has the same meaning as provided in
6388 section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

6389 (6) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
6390 21a-425, as amended by this act;

6391 (7) "Manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-
6392 61l, as amended by this act;

6393 [(4)] (8) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in
6394 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

6395 [(5)] (9) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
6396 420, as amended by this act; and

6397 [(6)] (10) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided
6398 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

6399 (b) [Any] A producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, [and] food and
6400 beverage manufacturer or product manufacturer may manufacture,
6401 market, cultivate or store hemp and hemp products in accordance with
6402 the provisions of this chapter and any regulations adopted pursuant to
6403 [said] this chapter. A producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, [and] food
6404 and beverage manufacturer or product manufacturer that obtains hemp
6405 and hemp products shall only obtain such hemp and hemp products
6406 from a person authorized under the laws of this state or another state,
6407 territory or possession of the United States or another sovereign entity
6408 to possess and sell such hemp and hemp products.

6409 (c) Hemp or hemp products purchased by a producer, cultivator,
6410 micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer or product
6411 manufacturer [or food and beverage manufacturer] from a third party
6412 shall be tracked as a separate batch throughout the manufacturing

6413 process in order to document the disposition of such hemp or hemp
6414 products. Once hemp or hemp products are received by a producer,
6415 cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer or
6416 product manufacturer [or food and beverage manufacturer] to
6417 manufacture a cannabis product, such hemp or hemp products shall be
6418 deemed cannabis and shall comply with the requirements for cannabis
6419 contained in the applicable provisions of the general statutes and any
6420 regulations adopted pursuant to such provisions. A producer,
6421 cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer or
6422 product manufacturer [and food and beverage manufacturer] shall
6423 retain a copy of the certificate of analysis for purchased hemp or hemp
6424 products and invoice and transport documents that evidence the
6425 quantity purchased and date received.

6426 Sec. 104. Section 30-1 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
6427 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
6428 *October 1, 2026*):

6429 For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context indicates a
6430 different meaning:

6431 (1) "Airline" means any (A) United States airline carrier holding a
6432 certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Civil
6433 Aeronautics Board under Section 401 of the Federal Aviation Act of
6434 1958, as amended from time to time, or (B) foreign flag carrier holding a
6435 permit under Section 402 of said act.

6436 (2) "Alcohol" (A) means the product of distillation of any fermented
6437 liquid that is rectified at least once and regardless of such liquid's origin,
6438 and (B) includes synthetic ethyl alcohol which is considered nonpotable.

6439 (3) "Alcoholic beverage" and "alcoholic liquor" include the four
6440 varieties of liquor defined in subdivisions (2), (5), [(21)] (22) and [(22)]
6441 (23) of this section (alcohol, beer, spirits and wine) and every liquid or
6442 solid, patented or unpatented, containing alcohol, beer, spirits or wine
6443 and at least one-half of one per cent alcohol by volume, and capable of

6444 being consumed by a human being as a beverage. Any liquid or solid
6445 containing more than one of the four varieties so defined belongs to the
6446 variety which has the highest percentage of alcohol according to the
6447 following order: Alcohol, spirits, wine and beer, except as provided in
6448 subdivision [(22)] (23) of this section.

6449 (4) "Backer" means, except in cases where the permittee is the
6450 proprietor, the proprietor of any business or club, incorporated or
6451 unincorporated, that is engaged in manufacturing or selling alcoholic
6452 liquor and in which business a permittee is associated, whether as an
6453 agent, employee or part owner.

6454 (5) "Beer" means any beverage obtained by the alcoholic fermentation
6455 of a decoction or infusion of barley, hops and malt in drinking water.

6456 (6) "Boat" means any vessel that is (A) operating on any waterway of
6457 this state, and (B) engaged in transporting passengers for hire to or from
6458 any port of this state.

6459 (7) "Business entity" means any incorporated or unincorporated
6460 association, corporation, firm, joint stock company, limited liability
6461 company, limited liability partnership, partnership, trust or other legal
6462 entity.

6463 (8) "Case price" means the price of a container made of cardboard,
6464 wood or any other material and containing units of the same class and
6465 size of alcoholic liquor. A case of alcoholic liquor, other than beer,
6466 cocktails, cordials, prepared mixed drinks and wines, shall be in the
6467 quantity and number, or fewer, with the permission of the
6468 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, of bottles or units as follows:
6469 (A) Six three thousand seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (B) six three
6470 thousand milliliter bottles, (C) six two thousand milliliter bottles, (D) six
6471 one thousand eight hundred milliliter bottles, (E) six one thousand
6472 seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (F) six one thousand five hundred
6473 milliliter bottles, (G) six nine hundred forty-five milliliter bottles, (H)
6474 twelve one liter bottles, (I) twelve nine hundred milliliter bottles, (J)

6475 twelve seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (K) twelve seven hundred
6476 twenty milliliter bottles, (L) twelve seven hundred ten milliliter bottles,
6477 (M) twelve seven hundred milliliter bottles, (N) twelve five hundred
6478 seventy milliliter bottles, (O) twelve five hundred milliliter bottles, (P)
6479 twelve four hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, (Q) twenty-four
6480 three hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, (R) twenty-four three
6481 hundred fifty-five milliliter bottles, (S) twenty-four three hundred fifty
6482 milliliter bottles, (T) twenty-four three hundred thirty-one milliliter
6483 bottles, (U) forty-eight two hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (V) forty-
6484 eight two hundred milliliter bottles, (W) forty-eight one hundred eighty-
6485 seven milliliter bottles, (X) sixty one hundred milliliter bottles, or (Y) one
6486 hundred twenty fifty milliliter bottles, except a case of fifty milliliter
6487 bottles may be in a quantity and number as originally configured,
6488 packaged and sold by the manufacturer or out-of-state shipper prior to
6489 shipment if the number of such bottles in such case is not greater than
6490 two hundred. The commissioner shall not authorize fewer quantities or
6491 numbers of bottles or units as specified in this subdivision for any one
6492 person or entity more than eight times in any calendar year. For the
6493 purposes of this subdivision, "class" has the same meaning as provided
6494 in 27 CFR 4.21 for wine, 27 CFR 5.22 for spirits and 27 CFR 7.24 for beer.

6495 (9) "Club" has the same meaning as provided in section 30-22aa.

6496 (10) "Coliseum" has the same meaning as provided in section 30-33a.

6497 (11) "Commission" means the Liquor Control Commission
6498 established under this chapter.

6499 (12) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection.

6500 (13) "Dining room" means any room or rooms (A) located in premises
6501 operating under (i) a hotel permit issued under section 30-21, (ii) a
6502 restaurant permit issued under subsection (a) of section 30-22, (iii) a
6503 restaurant permit for wine and beer issued under subsection (b) of
6504 section 30-22, (iv) a cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, or (v) a cafe
6505 permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g, and (B)

6506 where meals are customarily served to any member of the public who
6507 has means of payment and a proper demeanor.

6508 (14) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
6509 21a-425, as amended by this act.

6510 ~~[(14)]~~ (15) "Mead" means fermented honey (A) with or without
6511 additions or adjunct ingredients, and (B) regardless of (i) alcohol
6512 content, (ii) process, and (iii) whether such honey is carbonated,
6513 sparkling or still.

6514 ~~[(15)]~~ (16) "Minor" means any person who is younger than twenty-
6515 one years of age.

6516 ~~[(16)]~~ (17) "Noncommercial entity" means an academic institution,
6517 charitable organization, government organization, nonprofit
6518 organization or similar entity that is not primarily dedicated to
6519 obtaining a commercial advantage or monetary compensation.

6520 ~~[(17)]~~ (18) "Nonprofit club" has the same meaning as provided in
6521 section 30-22aa.

6522 ~~[(18)]~~ (19) (A) "Person" means an individual, including, but not
6523 limited to, a partner.

6524 (B) "Person" does not include any business entity.

6525 ~~[(19)]~~ (20) (A) "Proprietor" includes all owners of a business or club,
6526 incorporated or unincorporated, that is engaged in manufacturing or
6527 selling alcoholic liquor, whether such owners are persons, fiduciaries,
6528 business entities, stockholders of corporations or otherwise.

6529 (B) "Proprietor" does not include any person who, or business entity
6530 that, is merely a creditor, whether as a bond holder, franchisor, landlord
6531 or note holder, of a business or club, incorporated or unincorporated,
6532 that is engaged in manufacturing or selling alcoholic liquor.

6533 ~~[(20)]~~ (21) "Restaurant" has the same meaning as provided in section

6534 30-22.

6535 [(21)] (22) "Spirits" means any beverage that contains alcohol
6536 obtained by distillation mixed with drinkable water and other
6537 substances in solution, including brandy, rum, whiskey and gin.

6538 [(22)] (23) "Wine" means any alcoholic beverage obtained by
6539 fermenting the natural sugar content of fruits, such as apples, grapes or
6540 other agricultural products, containing such sugar, including fortified
6541 wines such as port, sherry and champagne.

6542 Sec. 105. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 30-17d of the
6543 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6544 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6545 (a) For the purposes of this section, [(1) "Container"] "container" has
6546 the same meaning as provided in section 21a-425, as amended by this
6547 act. [; and

6548 (2) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
6549 21a-425.]

6550 (b) A fee of one dollar shall be assessed by the holder of a wholesaler
6551 permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17 on
6552 each infused beverage container sold to the holder of a package store
6553 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
6554 act. Such fee shall not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income
6555 pursuant to any provision of the general statutes.

6556 (c) On the second days of January [2, 2025, and every six months
6557 thereafter] and July, annually, each holder of a wholesaler permit or a
6558 wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17 shall remit
6559 payment to the department for each infused beverage container sold
6560 during the preceding six-month period. The funds received by the
6561 department from infused beverage sales shall be deposited in the
6562 consumer protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a
6563 for the purposes of (1) protecting public health and safety, (2) educating

6564 consumers and licensees, and (3) ensuring compliance with cannabis
6565 and liquor control laws.

6566 Sec. 106. Subsection (b) of section 30-20 of the 2026 supplement to the
6567 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6568 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6569 (b) (1) A package store permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic
6570 liquor in sealed bottles or containers not to be consumed on the permit
6571 premises. The holder of a package store permit may, in accordance with
6572 regulations adopted by the Department of Consumer Protection
6573 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, (A) offer free samples of
6574 alcoholic liquor for tasting on the permit premises, (B) conduct fee-
6575 based wine or spirits education and tasting classes and demonstrations,
6576 and (C) conduct tastings or demonstrations provided by a permittee or
6577 backer of the package store for a nominal charge to charitable nonprofit
6578 organizations. Any offering, tasting, wine or spirits education and
6579 tasting class or demonstration held on permit premises shall be
6580 conducted only during the hours the package store may sell alcoholic
6581 liquor under section 30-91. No tasting of wine on the permit premises
6582 shall be offered from more than ten uncorked bottles at any one time.
6583 No holder, backer or permittee shall offer or provide to any customer (i)
6584 more than one-half ounce of any single spirit for sampling or tasting per
6585 day, or (ii) a total of more than two ounces of spirits for sampling or
6586 tasting per day. No tasting shall be provided below cost.

6587 (2) No store operating under a package store permit shall sell any
6588 commodity other than alcoholic liquor except, notwithstanding any
6589 other provision of law, such store may sell (A) cigarettes and cigars, (B)
6590 publications, (C) bar utensils, including, but not limited to, corkscrews,
6591 beverage strainers, stirrers or other similar items used to consume, or
6592 related to the consumption of, alcoholic liquor, (D) gift packages of
6593 alcoholic liquor shipped into the state by a manufacturer or out-of-state
6594 shipper, which gift packages may include nonalcoholic items, other than
6595 food or tobacco products, if the dollar value of the nonalcoholic items in
6596 such gift package does not exceed the dollar value of the alcoholic items

6597 in such gift package, (E) complementary fresh fruits used in the
6598 preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (F) cheese, crackers or both,
6599 (G) olives, (H) nonalcoholic beverages, (I) concentrates used in the
6600 preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (J) beer and wine-making kits
6601 and products related to such kits, (K) ice in any form, (L) articles of
6602 clothing imprinted with advertising related to the alcoholic liquor
6603 industry, (M) gift baskets or other containers of alcoholic liquor, (N)
6604 multiple packages of alcoholic liquors, provided in all such cases the
6605 minimum retail selling price for such alcoholic liquor shall apply, (O)
6606 lottery tickets authorized by the Department of Consumer Protection, if
6607 licensed as an agent to sell such tickets by the department, (P) devices
6608 and related accessories designed primarily for accessing and extracting
6609 a beverage containing alcohol from prepackaged containers, including,
6610 but not limited to, pods, pouches or similar containers, but excluding
6611 devices, including, but not limited to, household blenders, that are not
6612 designed primarily for such purposes, (Q) alcohol-infused confections
6613 containing not more than one-half of one per cent of alcohol by weight
6614 and which the commissioner has approved for sale under section 21a-
6615 101, (R) gift baskets containing only containers of alcoholic liquor and
6616 commodities authorized for sale under subparagraphs (A) to (Q),
6617 inclusive, of this subdivision, and (S) infused beverages, [as defined in
6618 section 21a-425,] provided (i) the package store permittee (I) paid to the
6619 department the annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement
6620 pursuant to this subdivision, and (II) purchased such infused beverages
6621 from the holder of a wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer
6622 issued under section 30-17 or an infused beverage wholesaler licensed
6623 under section 21a-425e, as amended by this act, and (ii) such sales are
6624 made in accordance with the provisions of section 21a-425b, as amended
6625 by this act.], and (T) legacy infused beverages, as defined in section 21a-
6626 425d, provided all such sales shall be made (i) during the period
6627 beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2024, and (ii) in
6628 accordance with (I) a waiver issued pursuant to section 21a-425d, and
6629 (II) the requirements set forth in section 21a-425d.] A package store
6630 permit shall also allow the taking and transmitting of orders for delivery
6631 of such merchandise in other states. Notwithstanding any other

6632 provision of law, a package store permit shall allow the participation in
6633 any lottery ticket promotion or giveaway sponsored by the department.
6634 The annual fee for a package store permit shall be five hundred thirty-
6635 five dollars. The annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement to a
6636 package store permit shall be five hundred dollars, and shall be
6637 deposited by the department in the consumer protection enforcement
6638 account established in section 21a-8a.

6639 Sec. 107. Subsection (a) of section 30-47 of the 2026 supplement to the
6640 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6641 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6642 (a) The Department of Consumer Protection may, in the department's
6643 discretion, suspend, revoke or refuse to grant or renew a permit for the
6644 sale of alcoholic liquor, or impose a fine of not greater than one thousand
6645 dollars per violation, if the department has reasonable cause to believe:
6646 (1) That the applicant or permittee appears to be financially
6647 irresponsible or neglects to provide for the applicant's or permittee's
6648 family, or neglects or is unable to pay the applicant's or permittee's just
6649 debts; (2) that the applicant or permittee has been provided with funds
6650 by any wholesaler or manufacturer or has any forbidden connection
6651 with any other class of permittee as provided in this chapter; (3) that the
6652 applicant or permittee is in the habit of using alcoholic beverages to
6653 excess; (4) that the applicant or permittee has wilfully made any false
6654 statement to the department in a material matter; (5) that the applicant
6655 or permittee has been convicted of violating any of the liquor laws of
6656 this or any other state or the liquor laws of the United States or has been
6657 convicted of a felony as such term is defined in section 53a-25, provided
6658 any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its
6659 relationship to the applicant or permittee's ability to safely or
6660 competently perform the duties associated with such permit, (B)
6661 information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the applicant or
6662 permittee, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, or
6663 has such a criminal record that the department reasonably believes the
6664 applicant or permittee is not a suitable person to hold a permit, provided

6665 no refusal shall be rendered under this subdivision except in accordance
6666 with the provisions of sections 46a-80 and 46a-81; (6) that the applicant
6667 or permittee has not been delegated full authority and control of the
6668 permit premises and of the conduct of all business on such premises; or
6669 (7) that the applicant, applicant's backer, backer or permittee has
6670 violated (A) any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted
6671 under this chapter, or (B) any provision of sections 21a-425 to [21a-425d]
6672 21a-425f, inclusive, as amended by this act, or any regulation adopted
6673 under subsection [(k)] (l) of section 21a-425a, as amended by this act.
6674 Any applicant, applicant's backer or backer shall be subject to the same
6675 disqualifications as provided in this chapter, or any regulation adopted
6676 under this chapter, for permittees.

6677 Sec. 108. Subsection (e) of section 30-63 of the general statutes is
6678 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
6679 *1, 2026*):

6680 (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale or
6681 distribution of infused beverages, [or legacy infused beverages,] as
6682 [such terms are] defined in section 21a-425, as amended by this act.

6683 Sec. 109. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 31-40q of the
6684 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6685 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6686 (6) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
6687 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

6688 Sec. 110. Section 38a-1052 of the general statutes is repealed and the
6689 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6690 (a) For the purposes of this section:

6691 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240,
6692 as amended by this act;

6693 [(1)] (2) "Caregiver" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-

6694 408, as amended by this act;

6695 [(2) "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
6696 240;]

6697 (3) "Palliative use" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
6698 408, as amended by this act; and

6699 (4) "Qualifying patient" has the same meaning as provided in section
6700 21a-408, as amended by this act.

6701 (b) There is established, within available appropriations, an Office of
6702 the Cannabis Ombudsman, which shall be within the Office of the
6703 Healthcare Advocate for administrative purposes only. The Office of the
6704 Cannabis Ombudsman shall be under the direction of a Cannabis
6705 Ombudsman. The Healthcare Advocate shall appoint an individual
6706 who is familiar with the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis and the
6707 medical cannabis system to serve as the Cannabis Ombudsman.

6708 (c) The Office of the Cannabis Ombudsman shall:

6709 (1) Represent the interests of qualifying patients and caregivers;

6710 (2) Identify, investigate and resolve complaints made by, or on behalf
6711 of, qualifying patients and caregivers;

6712 (3) Monitor the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis as authorized
6713 under chapter 420f;

6714 (4) Report action, inaction or decisions that may adversely affect the
6715 health, safety, welfare or rights of qualifying patients;

6716 (5) Analyze, comment on and monitor the development and
6717 implementation of federal, state and local laws, regulations and other
6718 government policies and actions concerning the health, safety, welfare
6719 and rights of qualifying patients and caregivers;

6720 (6) Recommend any changes to the laws, regulations, policies and

6721 actions described in subdivision (5) of this subsection that the office
6722 deems appropriate to, among other things, improve the palliative
6723 [marijuana] cannabis market in this state; and

6724 (7) Facilitate public comment on the laws, regulations, policies and
6725 actions described in subdivision (5) of this subsection.

6726 Sec. 111. Section 53-247a of the general statutes is repealed and the
6727 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6728 Any person who provides cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420]
6729 21a-240, as amended by this act, to a domesticated animal, shall be guilty
6730 of a class C misdemeanor.

6731 Sec. 112. Subsection (a) of section 53a-213a of the 2026 supplement to
6732 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6733 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6734 (a) A person is guilty of smoking, otherwise inhaling or ingesting
6735 cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act,
6736 while operating a motor vehicle when he or she smokes, otherwise
6737 inhales or ingests cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as
6738 amended by this act, while operating a motor vehicle upon a public
6739 highway of this state or upon any road of any specially chartered
6740 municipal association or of any district organized under the provisions
6741 of chapter 105, a purpose of which is the construction and maintenance
6742 of roads and sidewalks, or in any parking area for ten cars or more, or
6743 upon any private road on which a speed limit has been established in
6744 accordance with the provisions of section 14-218a or upon any school
6745 property. No person shall be convicted of smoking or otherwise
6746 inhaling or ingesting cannabis while operating a motor vehicle and
6747 possessing or having under such person's control a controlled substance
6748 upon the same transaction. A person may be charged and prosecuted
6749 for either or each such offense, a violation of operating a motor vehicle
6750 while under the influence of any drug and any other applicable offense
6751 upon the same information.

6752 Sec. 113. Subsection (a) of section 53a-213b of the 2026 supplement to
6753 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
6754 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

6755 (a) A person is guilty of smoking or otherwise inhaling or ingesting
6756 cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act,
6757 in a motor vehicle when he or she smokes or otherwise inhales or ingests
6758 cannabis in a motor vehicle that is being operated by another person
6759 upon a public highway of this state or upon any road of any specially
6760 chartered municipal association or of any district organized under the
6761 provisions of chapter 105, a purpose of which is the construction and
6762 maintenance of roads and sidewalks, or in any parking area for ten cars
6763 or more, or upon any private road on which a speed limit has been
6764 established in accordance with the provisions of section 14-218a or upon
6765 any school property. No person shall be convicted of smoking or
6766 otherwise inhaling or ingesting cannabis as a passenger in a motor
6767 vehicle and possessing or having under such person's control a
6768 controlled substance upon the same transaction, but such person may
6769 be charged and prosecuted for both offenses upon the same information.

6770 Sec. 114. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2027, the
6771 Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall submit a report, in
6772 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
6773 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
6774 cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection recommending
6775 legislation to establish a micro-retailer license in the state's adult use
6776 cannabis market.

6777 Sec. 115. Sections 21a-425c and 21a-425d of the general statutes are
6778 repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2026*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	1-1(q)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2026	7-148(c)(7)(H)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2026	12-330ll(a)(1)

Sec. 4	October 1, 2026	12-412(120)(B)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2026	12-650
Sec. 6	October 1, 2026	12-704d(a)(13)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2026	14-36(d)(1)
Sec. 8	October 1, 2026	14-227a(e)(2)
Sec. 9	October 1, 2026	15-140r(d)(2)
Sec. 10	October 1, 2026	19a-342(a)(3)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2026	19a-342a(a)(6)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2026	21a-3b(a)(1)
Sec. 13	October 1, 2026	21a-8c
Sec. 14	October 1, 2026	21a-12g
Sec. 15	October 1, 2026	21a-106(d)
Sec. 16	October 1, 2026	21a-240(20) to (29)
Sec. 17	October 1, 2026	21a-243(e)
Sec. 18	October 1, 2026	21a-246(a)
Sec. 19	October 1, 2026	21a-253
Sec. 20	October 1, 2026	21a-277(b)(3)
Sec. 21	October 1, 2026	21a-279(a)(1)
Sec. 22	October 1, 2026	21a-279a(j)(1)
Sec. 23	October 1, 2026	21a-408
Sec. 24	October 1, 2026	21a-408a
Sec. 25	October 1, 2026	21a-408b
Sec. 26	October 1, 2026	21a-408c(a) and (b)
Sec. 27	October 1, 2026	21a-408d(a) to (c)
Sec. 28	October 1, 2026	21a-408e
Sec. 29	October 1, 2026	21a-408f
Sec. 30	October 1, 2026	21a-408g
Sec. 31	<i>from passage</i>	21a-408h
Sec. 32	October 1, 2026	21a-408h
Sec. 33	October 1, 2026	21a-408i(b)
Sec. 34	October 1, 2026	21a-408j
Sec. 35	October 1, 2026	21a-408k
Sec. 36	October 1, 2026	21a-408l
Sec. 37	October 1, 2026	21a-408m
Sec. 38	October 1, 2026	21a-408o
Sec. 39	October 1, 2026	21a-408p
Sec. 40	October 1, 2026	21a-408r(d)
Sec. 41	October 1, 2026	21a-408s(a) to (c)
Sec. 42	October 1, 2026	21a-408u
Sec. 43	October 1, 2026	21a-408v(b) and (c)

Sec. 44	October 1, 2026	21a-408w
Sec. 45	October 1, 2026	21a-409(b) and (c)
Sec. 46	October 1, 2026	21a-410(a) and (b)
Sec. 47	October 1, 2026	21a-420
Sec. 48	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 49	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 50	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 51	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 52	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 53	October 1, 2026	21a-420c(a) to (e)
Sec. 54	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420d
Sec. 55	October 1, 2026	21a-420d(e) to (s)
Sec. 56	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420g(a)
Sec. 57	October 1, 2026	21a-420g(g)
Sec. 58	July 1, 2026	21a-420h
Sec. 59	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420j(d)
Sec. 60	October 1, 2026	21a-420l(b)
Sec. 61	October 1, 2026	21a-420m(b)
Sec. 62	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420m(e)
Sec. 63	October 1, 2026	21a-420n(d)
Sec. 64	October 1, 2026	21a-420p(f) and (g)
Sec. 65	July 1, 2026	21a-420q
Sec. 66	October 1, 2026	21a-420r
Sec. 67	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420s(c) to (g)
Sec. 68	October 1, 2026	21a-420s
Sec. 69	October 1, 2026	21a-420t(a) to (d)
Sec. 70	October 1, 2026	21a-420u(b)
Sec. 71	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420u(e)
Sec. 72	October 1, 2026	21a-420z(c) and (d)
Sec. 73	July 1, 2026	21a-420z(e)
Sec. 74	October 1, 2026	21a-420aa(b)(3)(A)
Sec. 75	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420bb(b) to (g)
Sec. 76	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420cc(a) and (b)
Sec. 77	October 1, 2026	21a-421d(f)
Sec. 78	July 1, 2026	21a-421j(b)
Sec. 79	October 1, 2026	21a-421j
Sec. 80	July 1, 2026	21a-421k(b)
Sec. 81	October 1, 2026	21a-421n(a) and (b)
Sec. 82	October 1, 2026	21a-421o(e)
Sec. 83	October 1, 2026	21a-421q

Sec. 84	October 1, 2026	21a-421r
Sec. 85	October 1, 2026	21a-421s
Sec. 86	October 1, 2026	21a-421aa(c)
Sec. 87	October 1, 2026	21a-421bb(b)
Sec. 88	October 1, 2026	21a-421ddd
Sec. 89	October 1, 2026	21a-422g(a)
Sec. 90	October 1, 2026	21a-422k
Sec. 91	October 1, 2026	21a-422l(a)
Sec. 92	October 1, 2026	21a-422m
Sec. 93	October 1, 2026	21a-425
Sec. 94	October 1, 2026	21a-425a
Sec. 95	October 1, 2026	21a-425b
Sec. 96	October 1, 2026	21a-425e(f)
Sec. 97	October 1, 2026	21a-425f(a) and (b)
Sec. 98	October 1, 2026	21a-426(a)(7)
Sec. 99	<i>from passage</i>	22-61l
Sec. 100	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 101	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 102	<i>from passage</i>	22-61m(r)
Sec. 103	<i>from passage</i>	22-61n
Sec. 104	October 1, 2026	30-1
Sec. 105	October 1, 2026	30-17d(a) to (c)
Sec. 106	October 1, 2026	30-20(b)
Sec. 107	October 1, 2026	30-47(a)
Sec. 108	October 1, 2026	30-63(e)
Sec. 109	October 1, 2026	31-40q(a)(6)
Sec. 110	October 1, 2026	38a-1052
Sec. 111	October 1, 2026	53-247a
Sec. 112	October 1, 2026	53a-213a(a)
Sec. 113	October 1, 2026	53a-213b(a)
Sec. 114	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 115	October 1, 2026	Repealer section