

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 6377



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by: REP. SHANNON, 117th Dist. REP. HUGHES, 135th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING REFORM OF LAWS RELATED TO CANNABIS AND EQUITY.

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

1 That the general statutes be amended to (1) mandate the immediate 2 termination of cannabis-related investigations and charges not 3 involving violence or public safety risks, (2) ensure individuals with 4 past cannabis convictions have their records expunged and those 5 incarcerated for cannabis offenses have their sentences reviewed and 6 potentially vacated, with civil rights restored, (3) provide that there is 7 equity in the cannabis industry by ensuring that at least fifty per cent of 8 new cannabis licenses go to individuals with past cannabis convictions 9 or from communities impacted by enforcement of cannabis-related laws 10 and provide for a new equity fund that will offer financial assistance for 11 these applicants, and (4) require law enforcement officers to undergo 12 training on cannabis laws, biases and nonviolent enforcement 13 approaches, with ongoing education funded by cannabis tax revenues.

Statement of Purpose:

To end the enforcement of nonviolent cannabis offenses, facilitate the release of individuals affected by outdated laws, create equity opportunities for communities impacted by cannabis prohibition and provide comprehensive education and training for law enforcement on cannabis-related matters.