



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10422



Offered by:

REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.
REP. LEMAR, 96th Dist.
SEN. MARONEY, 14th Dist.
REP. FELIPE, 130th Dist.

REP. CANDELARIA J., 95th Dist.
REP. WILSON, 46th Dist.
REP. GONZALEZ, 3rd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7181

File No. 835

Cal. No. 397

**"AN ACT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT OF THE STATE'S
CANNABIS, HEMP AND TOBACCO LAWS."**

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

3 "Section 1. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 12-287 of the
4 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

6 (a) Each person engaging in, or intending to engage in, the business
7 of selling cigarettes in this state as a dealer, and each person engaging
8 in or intending to engage in, the business of selling taxed tobacco
9 products at retail, shall secure a dealer's license from the Commissioner
10 of Revenue Services before engaging in such business or continuing to
11 engage therein. The department shall not issue an initial license to an
12 applicant until such applicant has complied with the provisions of

13 subsection (b) of this section. Subject to the provisions of section 12-286,
14 such license shall be renewable annually, provided that prior to renewal
15 the commissioner shall consider and respond to any comments received
16 pursuant to section 12-287a, as amended by this act.

17 (b) (1) Upon filing an application, an applicant shall, in a form and
18 manner prescribed by the department, give notice of such application to
19 the clerk of the municipality where the business is to be located. Such
20 notice shall contain the name and residential address of the applicant
21 and the location of the place of business for which such license is to be
22 issued. Upon receipt of such notice, the clerk shall post and maintain
23 such notice on the Internet web site of the municipality for at least two
24 weeks.

25 (2) Not later than the day following the date an applicant provides
26 notice pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the applicant shall
27 affix a copy of such notice, which shall be maintained in a legible
28 condition, upon the outer door of the building wherein such place of
29 business is to be located. If an application is filed for a license for a
30 building that has not yet been constructed, the applicant shall, not later
31 than the day following the date an applicant provides notice pursuant
32 to subdivision (1) of this subsection, erect and maintain in a legible
33 condition on the site where the business is to be located, a sign that (A)
34 is not less than six feet by four feet, (B) contains the license applied for
35 and the name of the proposed licensee, and (C) is clearly visible from
36 the public highway.

37 (3) An applicant shall make a return to the department, under oath,
38 of compliance with the requirements of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
39 subsection, in such form as the department may require. The
40 department may require additional proof of compliance. Upon receipt
41 of sufficient evidence of such compliance, the department may hold a
42 hearing as to the suitability of the proposed location.

43 (c) (1) Any ten persons who are at least eighteen years of age and who
44 are residents of the town in which the place of business is intended to

45 be operated under the license or renewal applied for, may file with the
46 department, not later than three weeks after the last date of the posting
47 of notice pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section for
48 an initial license, and, in the case of renewal of an existing license, at
49 least twenty-one days before the renewal date of such license, a
50 remonstrance containing any objection to the suitability of such
51 applicant or proposed place of business. [provided any such issue is
52 not controlled by local zoning.] Upon the filing of such remonstrance,
53 the department, upon written application, shall hold a hearing and
54 provide such notice as it deems reasonable of the time and place at least
55 five days before such hearing. The remonstrants shall designate one or
56 more agents for service, who shall serve as the recipient or recipients of
57 all notices issued by the department. At any time prior to the issuance
58 of a decision by the department, a remonstrance may be withdrawn by
59 the remonstrants or by such agent or agents acting on behalf of such
60 remonstrants and the department may cancel the hearing or withdraw
61 the case. The decision of the department on such application shall be
62 final with respect to the remonstrance.

63 (2) Any ten persons who have filed a remonstrance pursuant to the
64 provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection and who are aggrieved
65 by the granting of a license by the department may appeal therefrom in
66 accordance with section 4-183.

67 Sec. 2. Section 12-287a of the general statutes is repealed and the
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

69 A municipality may adopt an ordinance requiring that each person
70 who files an application to renew a license pursuant to section 12-287,
71 as amended by this act, shall simultaneously give written notice of such
72 renewal application to the chief law enforcement official, or such chief
73 law enforcement official's designee, of the town in which any place of
74 business to be operated under such license is located. Such chief law
75 enforcement official, or such chief law enforcement official's designee,
76 [may] shall respond in writing, not later than fifteen days after receipt
77 of such notice, to the Commissioner of Revenue Services, with

78 comments regarding the renewal application that is the subject of such
79 notice. [The] Prior to approving or denying such application, the
80 commissioner shall (1) consider any written comments offered by such
81 chief law enforcement official, or such chief law enforcement official's
82 designee, [prior to approving such application] and (2) send a written
83 response to such chief law enforcement official, or such chief law
84 enforcement official's designee, providing a detailed response to such
85 written comments.

86 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

87 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420
88 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

89 (2) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section
90 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

91 (3) "Comprehensive compliance initiative" means a coordinated
92 effort by multiple government agencies to conduct unannounced
93 compliance checks on not fewer than two business entities per day to
94 ensure compliance with the provisions of chapters 420f, 420h, 420i, 420j
95 and 424 of the general statutes;

96 (4) "Division" means the Cannabis Control Division established in
97 subsection (b) of this section;

98 (5) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
99 21a-425 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

100 (6) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as provided
101 in section 22-61l of the general statutes; and

102 (7) "Moderate-THC hemp product" has the same meaning as
103 provided in section 21a-426 of the general statutes.

104 (b) There shall be within the Department of Consumer Protection a
105 Cannabis Control Division to oversee cannabis and manufacturer hemp
106 product licensing and enforcement activities on a state-wide basis for

107 the purpose of ensuring the effective and cooperative enforcement of
108 the laws of this state concerning the cultivation, manufacturing,
109 distribution, transportation, display, purchase, sale, dispensing,
110 possession and use of cannabis, cannabis products, manufacturer hemp
111 products, infused beverages and moderate-THC hemp products. The
112 Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, within available
113 appropriations, appoint a director and such other personnel as the
114 commissioner deems necessary to perform the duties of the division, in
115 addition to utilizing existing department staff assigned to cannabis and
116 manufacturer hemp product licensing and enforcement activities.

117 (c) The division shall be authorized to conduct any investigation
118 authorized by this section at any place within this state as may be
119 deemed necessary. The division may request and receive from any
120 federal, state or local agency cooperation and assistance in the
121 performance of the division's duties. The division may enter into mutual
122 assistance and cooperation agreements with other states pertaining to
123 cannabis, cannabis product, manufacturer hemp product, infused
124 beverage and moderate-THC hemp product law enforcement matters
125 extending across state boundaries, and may consult and exchange
126 information and personnel with agencies of other states concerning
127 cannabis, cannabis product, manufacturer hemp product, infused
128 beverage and moderate-THC hemp product law enforcement problems
129 of mutual concern.

130 (d) (1) The division shall organize and conduct comprehensive
131 compliance initiatives concerning the cultivation, manufacturing,
132 distribution, transportation, display, purchase, sale, dispensing,
133 possession and use of cannabis, cannabis products, manufacturer hemp
134 products, infused beverages and moderate-THC hemp products in this
135 state. To effectuate such comprehensive compliance initiatives, the
136 commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall coordinate with the
137 Attorney General, the Chief State's Attorney, the Commissioner of
138 Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Commissioner of Public
139 Health, the Commissioner of Revenue Services and municipal officials.

140 (2) Not later than April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the
141 Department of Consumer Protection shall submit a report, in
142 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
143 to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General
144 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and
145 bonding and consumer protection. Such report shall contain the
146 following information for the preceding calendar year: (A) The number
147 of comprehensive compliance initiatives that the division conducted
148 during such calendar year; (B) the number of businesses that were
149 involved in such initiatives during such calendar year; (C) the types of
150 alleged violations that were discovered in the course of such initiatives
151 during such calendar year; and (D) the agencies and departments that
152 were involved in such initiatives during such calendar year.

153 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) There shall be a State-Wide
154 Cannabis and Hemp Enforcement Policy Board consisting of the
155 Attorney General, the Chief State's Attorney, the Commissioner of
156 Consumer Protection, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and
157 Public Protection, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
158 Services, the Commissioner of Public Health, the Commissioner of
159 Revenue Services and the executive director of the Social Equity
160 Council, or their designees.

161 (b) The policy board shall convene quarterly to (1) identify areas of
162 need and enforcement opportunities concerning illegal cannabis sales
163 and intoxicating hemp product sales, (2) examine scientific
164 developments and public health studies concerning cannabis and hemp,
165 (3) examine developments in national trends and best practices
166 concerning cannabis and hemp regulation and enforcement, and (4)
167 examine developments in the cannabis and hemp industries.

168 Sec. 5. Section 21a-415 of the general statutes is repealed and the
169 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

170 (a) As used in this chapter and section [53-344] 6 of this act:

171 (1) "Authorized owner" means the owner or authorized designee of a
172 business entity that is applying for a registration or is registered with
173 the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to this chapter;

174 (2) "Business entity" means any corporation, limited liability
175 company, association, partnership, sole proprietorship, government,
176 governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust or any
177 other legal entity;

178 (3) "Cigarette" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (b) of
179 section 12-285;

180 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) "Dealer registration" means an electronic nicotine delivery
181 system certificate of dealer registration issued by the Commissioner of
182 Consumer Protection pursuant to this section;

183 (5) "Deliver" or "delivering" means transferring, or offering or
184 attempting to transfer, physical possession or control of an electronic
185 nicotine delivery system or vapor product by any person, whether done
186 as principal, proprietor, agent, servant or employee;

187 [(4) "Manufacturer registration" means an electronic nicotine delivery
188 system certificate of manufacturer registration issued by the
189 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-415a to
190 any person who mixes, compounds, repackages or resizes any nicotine-
191 containing electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product;]

192 (6) "Drug paraphernalia" has the same meaning as provided in
193 section 21a-240;

194 ~~[(5)]~~ (7) "Electronic cigarette liquid" means a liquid that, when used
195 in an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product, produces a
196 vapor that may or may not include nicotine and is inhaled by the user
197 of such electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product;

198 ~~[(6)]~~ (8) "Electronic nicotine delivery system" means an electronic
199 device used in the delivery of nicotine or other substances to [a person]

200 an individual inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited
201 to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic
202 pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or
203 other component of such device, including, but not limited to, electronic
204 cigarette liquid;

205 (9) "Manufacturer registration" means an electronic nicotine delivery
206 system certificate of manufacturer registration issued by the
207 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-415a to
208 any person who mixes, compounds, repackages or resizes any nicotine-
209 containing electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product;

210 (10) "Sale" or "sell" means transferring, or offering or attempting to
211 transfer, for consideration, including bartering or exchanging, or
212 offering to barter or exchange by any person, whether done as principal,
213 proprietor, agent, servant or employee;

214 (11) "Tobacco products" has the same meaning as provided in section
215 12-330a; and

216 ~~[(7)]~~ (12) "Vapor product" means any product that employs a heating
217 element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical or
218 mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that
219 may include nicotine and is inhaled by the user of such product. "Vapor
220 product" does not include a medicinal or therapeutic product that is (A)
221 used by a licensed health care provider to treat a patient in a health care
222 setting, (B) used by a patient, as prescribed or directed by a licensed
223 health care provider in any setting, or (C) any drug or device, as defined
224 in the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 321, as amended
225 from time to time, any combination product, as described in said act, 21
226 USC 353(g), as amended from time to time, or any biological product, as
227 described in 42 USC 262, as amended from time to time, and 21 CFR
228 600.3, as amended from time to time, authorized for sale by the United
229 States Food and Drug Administration. [;]

230 [(8) "Sale" or "sell" means an act done intentionally by any person,

231 whether done as principal, proprietor, agent, servant or employee, of
232 transferring, or offering or attempting to transfer, for consideration,
233 including bartering or exchanging, or offering to barter or exchange; and

234 (9) "Deliver" or "delivering" means an act done intentionally by any
235 person, whether as principal, proprietor, agent, servant or employee, of
236 transferring, or offering or attempting to transfer, physical possession
237 or control of an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product.]

238 (b) (1) No person in this state may sell [, offer for sale] or possess with
239 intent to sell an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product
240 unless such person is employed by, an agent of or directly affiliated with
241 a business entity that maintains a dealer registration issued by the
242 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section. A
243 separate dealer registration shall be required for each place of business
244 where such system or product is sold, offered for sale or possessed with
245 the intent to sell. A dealer registration shall allow the sale of electronic
246 nicotine delivery systems or vapor products at such place of business. A
247 holder of a dealer registration shall post such registration in a prominent
248 location adjacent to electronic nicotine delivery system products or
249 vapor products offered for sale.

250 (2) The holder of a dealer registration shall maintain a sign, in a form
251 and manner prescribed by the commissioner and posted on the
252 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site, on all external
253 entry doors of the location operated under such dealer registration,
254 which shall clearly disclose that cannabis may not be sold at such
255 location.

256 (3) Each holder of a dealer registration that derives at least fifty per
257 cent of its annual gross revenue from sales of cigarettes, drug
258 paraphernalia, electronic nicotine delivery systems, nicotine products,
259 synthetic nicotine, tobacco products and vapor products shall verify,
260 with a valid government-issued driver's license or identity card, the age
261 of each individual entering the location operated under such dealer
262 registration, and shall prohibit any individual younger than twenty-one

263 years of age from entering such location.

264 (4) Each holder of a dealer registration shall maintain a complete set
265 of records required pursuant to this section, and all financial records
266 necessary to verify whether such holder derives at least fifty per cent of
267 its annual gross revenue from sales of cigarettes, drug paraphernalia,
268 electronic nicotine delivery systems, nicotine products, synthetic
269 nicotine, tobacco products and vapor products, for the then current tax
270 year and the three immediately preceding tax years. Such holder shall
271 make such records immediately available to the department, upon a
272 request made by the department, for inspection and copying by the
273 department. Such holder shall produce such records to the department
274 not later than three days after the department requests such records.
275 Such holder shall produce such records to the department in an
276 electronic format, unless it is commercially impractical to produce such
277 records to the department in an electronic format. No person shall use
278 any foreign language, code or symbol in maintaining the records
279 required under this section.

280 (c) (1) Any applicant for a dealer registration or a renewal of a dealer
281 registration shall apply to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a
282 form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
283 Protection, which application shall include, at a minimum; [, the]

284 (A) The name, address and electronic mail address of the applicant;
285 [, the]

286 (B) The location [of the business entity] that is to be operated under
287 such dealer registration; [, the]

288 (C) The name of, [an authorized owner and such authorized owner's
289 contact information, the] and contact information for, each individual
290 who has a direct or indirect financial interest in such applicant, unless
291 (i) such applicant is a publicly traded company listed on a national stock
292 exchange, or (ii) the financial interest held by such individual owner and
293 such individual's spouse, parents and children, in the aggregate, does

294 not exceed ten per cent of the total ownership or interest rights in such
295 applicant;

296 (D) A third-party local and national criminal background check for
297 each owner listed on such application, which background check shall (i)
298 be conducted by a third-party consumer reporting agency or
299 background screening company that is in compliance with the federal
300 Fair Credit Reporting Act and accredited by the Professional
301 Background Screening Association, (ii) include a multistate and
302 multijurisdiction criminal record locator or other similar commercial
303 nation-wide database with validation and such other background
304 screening as the commissioner may require, and (iii) be requested by
305 such applicant not more than sixty days prior to submission of such
306 application;

307 (E) The name of the individual who shall serve as the fiduciary agent
308 and guarantor for such applicant, which individual shall be personally
309 liable in the event of any noncompliance that results in a debt owed to
310 the department;

311 (F) A disclosure of any enforcement action against, and any
312 negotiated settlement entered into by, such applicant or any owner
313 disclosed pursuant to this subsection, which action or settlement is
314 related to the sale of cigarettes, electronic nicotine delivery systems,
315 tobacco products or vapor products;

316 (G) The name of a manager or supervisor who is or will be physically
317 present at [the] such applicant's location or proposed location; [,] and [a]

318 (H) A certification that an authorized owner or named designee of
319 [the] such applicant has successfully completed the online prevention
320 education program administered by the Department of Mental Health
321 and Addiction Services pursuant to section 17a-719.

322 (2) The Department of Consumer Protection: (A) May require that an
323 applicant submit documents sufficient to establish that state and local
324 building, fire and zoning requirements will be met at the location of any

325 sale; (B) may, in the department's discretion, conduct an investigation to
326 determine whether a dealer registration shall be issued to an applicant;
327 and (C) shall not issue a dealer registration or a renewal of a dealer
328 registration to an applicant unless the applicant certifies that an
329 authorized owner or named designee of the applicant has successfully
330 completed the online prevention education program administered by
331 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services pursuant to
332 section 17a-719.

333 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) The commissioner shall issue a dealer registration to any such
334 applicant not later than thirty days after the date of application unless
335 the commissioner finds: (A) The applicant has [wilfully] made a
336 materially false or misleading statement in such application or in any
337 other application made to the commissioner; (B) the applicant has
338 neglected to pay any taxes due to this state; ~~[or]~~ (C) the authorized
339 owner or named designee of the applicant has not successfully
340 completed the online prevention education program administered by
341 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services pursuant to
342 section 17a-719; (D) the applicant has a criminal history that is a
343 sufficient basis for denial under section 46a-80; or (E) the applicant has
344 violated any other provision of this section.

345 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) A dealer registration issued under this section shall be
346 renewed annually and may be suspended or revoked at the discretion
347 of the Department of Consumer Protection. [Any applicant or business
348 entity aggrieved by a denial of an application, refusal to renew a dealer
349 registration or suspension or revocation of a dealer registration may
350 appeal in the manner prescribed for permits under section 30-55.] A
351 dealer registration shall not constitute property, nor shall it be subject to
352 attachment and execution, nor shall it be alienable. Each holder of a
353 dealer registration shall annually attest in each renewal application as
354 to whether such holder derived at least fifty per cent of its annual gross
355 revenue from sales of cigarettes, drug paraphernalia, electronic nicotine
356 delivery systems, nicotine products, synthetic nicotine, tobacco
357 products and vapor products.

358 [(4)] (5) The applicant shall pay to the department a nonrefundable
359 application fee of [seventy-five] one thousand dollars, which fee shall be
360 in addition to the annual fee prescribed in subsection (d) of this section.
361 An application fee shall not be charged for an application to renew a
362 dealer registration.

363 (d) The annual fee for a dealer registration shall be eight hundred
364 dollars. [, except that the annual fee shall be four hundred dollars for
365 any person holding a dealer registration who also holds any additional
366 dealer registrations issued by the department under this chapter.]

367 (e) The [department] Department of Consumer Protection may renew
368 a dealer registration issued under this section that has expired if the
369 applicant pays to the department any late fee imposed by the
370 [commissioner] Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to
371 subsection [(c)] (d) of section 21a-4, which late fee shall be in addition to
372 the fees prescribed in this section for the dealer registration applied for.
373 [The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any dealer
374 registration which is the subject of administrative or court proceedings.]

375 (f) (1) Any business entity in the state that sells, offers for sale or
376 possesses with intent to sell an electronic nicotine delivery system or
377 vapor product without a dealer registration as required under this
378 section shall, after a hearing conducted pursuant to chapter 54, be fined
379 not more than [fifty] five thousand dollars [for each day of such] per
380 violation. [, except that the commissioner may waive all or any part of
381 such fine if it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure
382 to obtain or renew such dealer registration was due to reasonable cause.]

383 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
384 subsection, any business entity with a dealer registration that has
385 expired for a period of ninety calendar days or less and that, during such
386 ninety-day period, sells, offers for sale or possesses with intent to sell an
387 electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product shall [have
388 committed an infraction and shall] be fined [ninety] not more than five
389 hundred dollars for each day such business entity is in violation of the

390 provisions of this subdivision.

391 [(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
392 subsection, no penalty shall be imposed under this subsection unless the
393 commissioner sends written notice of any violation to the authorized
394 owner of the business entity is subject to a penalty under subdivision (1)
395 or (2) of this subsection and allows such business entity sixty days from
396 the date such notice was sent to cease such violation and comply with
397 the requirements of this section.]

398 (3) A person holding a dealer registration shall update, through the
399 Department of Consumer Protection's online licensing system, any
400 application information such person has provided to the department
401 pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, any contact
402 information, ownership information or criminal histories of the
403 individual owners of the business entity, not later than thirty days after
404 any change in such information.

405 (g) (1) For sufficient cause found as set forth in subdivision (2) of this
406 subsection, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection may suspend or
407 revoke a dealer registration, issue fines of not more than ten thousand
408 dollars per violation, accept an offer in compromise or refuse to grant or
409 renew a dealer registration, or place the registrant on probation, place
410 conditions on such registrant or take other actions authorized by law.
411 No information derived from an inspection or investigation conducted
412 by the Department of Consumer Protection related to an administrative
413 complaint or case shall be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of
414 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, unless the department has
415 entered into a settlement agreement, or otherwise concluded its
416 investigation or inspection as evidenced by case closure. Nothing in this
417 subdivision shall be construed to prevent the department from sharing
418 any information with another state or federal agency or law
419 enforcement insofar as such information relates to an investigation of
420 any suspected violation of applicable law.

421 (2) Any of the following shall constitute sufficient cause for the

422 purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection:

423 (A) Furnishing any false or fraudulent information in an application
424 or any failure to comply with the representations made in an
425 application;

426 (B) A civil judgment against, or conviction of, an owner or applicant,
427 after review and application of the denial criteria set forth in section 46a-
428 80;

429 (C) Any failure to maintain effective controls against diversion, theft
430 or loss of electronic nicotine delivery systems and vapor products;

431 (D) Any denial, suspension or revocation of a license or registration
432 related to the sale of cigarettes, electronic nicotine delivery systems,
433 tobacco products or vapor products, or any denial of a renewal of a
434 license or registration related to the sale of cigarettes, electronic nicotine
435 delivery systems, tobacco products or vapor products, by any federal,
436 state or local government or a foreign jurisdiction;

437 (E) Any false, misleading or deceptive representation made to the
438 public or to the department;

439 (F) Any involvement in a fraudulent or deceitful practice or
440 transaction;

441 (G) The possession, offer or sale of any illegal or controlled substance,
442 unless otherwise permitted by applicable law;

443 (H) Any failure to register a trade name of the business entity with
444 the town in which the registrant engages in business;

445 (I) Any failure to notify the department of any change in the
446 information concerning the business entity, owners, ownership
447 information or designated manager or supervisor;

448 (J) Any adverse administrative decision or delinquency assessment
449 against the registrant by the Department of Revenue Services;

450 (K) Any failure to cooperate, provide unfettered access to the location
451 or provide information to the department, local law enforcement
452 authorities or any other enforcement agency concerning any matter
453 arising out of conduct in connection with a licensee or registrant;

454 (L) Advertising an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor
455 product in any manner that (i) is designed to appeal to individuals who
456 are younger than twenty-one years of age by, among other things, (I)
457 making use of any spokesperson or celebrity who appeals to individuals
458 who are under the legal age to purchase electronic nicotine delivery
459 systems or vapor products, (II) depicting any individual who is younger
460 than twenty-five years of age using an electronic nicotine delivery
461 system or vapor product, (III) including any object, such as a toy,
462 character or cartoon character, that suggests the presence of an
463 individual who is younger than twenty-one years of age, or (IV) making
464 use of any other depiction or method that is designed in any manner to
465 be appealing to an individual who is younger than twenty-one years of
466 age, or (ii) claims or implies that (I) any electronic nicotine delivery
467 system or vapor product has any curative or therapeutic effect, or (II)
468 any medical claim is true;

469 (M) Allowing an employee to promote any electronic nicotine
470 delivery system or vapor product for a wellness purpose; or

471 (N) Any failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or any
472 regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter.

473 (h) Upon refusal to issue or renew a dealer registration, the
474 Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall notify the applicant of the
475 denial and of the applicant's right to request a hearing not later than ten
476 days after the applicant receives the notice of denial. If the applicant
477 requests a hearing within such ten-day period, the commissioner shall
478 give notice of the grounds for the commissioner's refusal and shall
479 conduct a hearing concerning such refusal in accordance with the
480 provisions of chapter 54 concerning contested cases. If the
481 commissioner's denial is sustained after such hearing, the applicant

482 shall not apply for a new dealer registration for a period of one year after
483 the date on which such denial was sustained.

484 (i) No person whose dealer registration has been revoked, including
485 the owners of such registrant, shall apply for a dealer registration under
486 this section for a period of one year after the date of such revocation.

487 (j) The voluntary surrender of a dealer registration, or the failure to
488 renew a dealer registration, shall not prevent the Commissioner of
489 Consumer Protection from suspending or revoking such dealer
490 registration or imposing other penalties permitted by applicable law.

491 (k) All fees, settlement amounts and fines collected under this section
492 shall be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account
493 established in section 21a-8a.

494 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) No person engaged in the
495 business of shipping or transporting electronic nicotine delivery
496 systems or vapor products shall ship or transport, or cause to be shipped
497 or transported, any electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product
498 to any person in this state except to (1) a person who holds a dealer
499 registration or a manufacturer registration, or (2) a person who is an
500 officer, employee or agent of the United States government, this state or
501 a department, agency, instrumentality or political subdivision of the
502 United States or of this state, when such person is acting in accordance
503 with such person's official duties. The Commissioner of Consumer
504 Protection shall publish, on the Department of Consumer Protection's
505 Internet web site, a list of each person who holds a dealer registration or
506 a manufacturer registration.

507 (b) No common or contract carrier shall knowingly transport any
508 electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product to a residential
509 dwelling or to any person in this state who the common or contract
510 carrier reasonably believes is not a person described in subdivision (1)
511 or (2) of subsection (a) of this section. No person other than a common
512 or contract carrier shall knowingly transport any electronic nicotine

513 delivery system or vapor product to any person in this state who is not
514 a person described in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this
515 section.

516 (c) When a person engaged in the business of selling or delivering
517 electronic nicotine delivery systems or vapor products ships or
518 transports, or causes to be shipped or transported, any electronic
519 nicotine delivery system or vapor product to any person described in
520 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section, other than in the
521 electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product manufacturer's
522 original container or wrapping, the container or wrapping shall be
523 plainly and visibly marked with the words "electronic nicotine delivery
524 system" or "vapor product", as applicable. Any person engaged in the
525 business of selling or delivering electronic nicotine delivery systems or
526 vapor products who ships, or causes to be shipped, any electronic
527 nicotine delivery system or vapor product to any person described in
528 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section (1) shall require, as
529 a condition of such sale or delivery, such person to sign an
530 acknowledgment of receipt and provide proper proof of age, and (2)
531 may not sell or deliver such electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor
532 product to such person unless such person provides proper proof of age.

533 (d) Any electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product shipped
534 or transported in violation of this section is a common nuisance and is
535 subject to immediate seizure by the state or local police. The authorized
536 officer shall hold such electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor
537 product subject to confiscation and destruction by order of a court of
538 competent jurisdiction. All costs of such seizure, confiscation and
539 destruction shall be borne by the shipper or transporter.

540 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may impose a civil
541 penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars for each violation of
542 subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of this section. For purposes of this
543 subsection, each shipment or transport of electronic nicotine delivery
544 systems or vapor products shall constitute a separate violation. The
545 Attorney General, upon request of the commissioner, may bring an

546 action in the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to collect
547 such civil penalty and for any injunctive or equitable relief. In any action
548 brought by the Attorney General to enforce the provisions of this
549 section, the state shall be entitled to recover, when the state is the
550 prevailing party, the costs of investigation, expert witness fees, costs of
551 the action and reasonable attorneys' fees.

552 (f) A violation of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of this section shall
553 be an unfair or deceptive act or practice pursuant to subsection (a) of
554 section 42-110b of the general statutes.

555 Sec. 7. Subdivision (1) of section 21a-420 of the general statutes is
556 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
557 *passage*):

558 (1) "Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis
559 Act" or "RERACA" means this section, sections 2-56j, 7-294kk, 7-294ll,
560 12-330ll to 12-330nn, inclusive, 14-227p, 21a-278b, 21a-278c, 21a-279c,
561 21a-279d, 21a-420a to 21a-420j, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-
562 420l to 21a-421r, inclusive, 21a-421aa to 21a-421ff, inclusive, 21a-421aaa
563 to 21a-421hhh, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-422 to 21a-422c,
564 inclusive, 21a-422e to 21a-422g, inclusive, 21a-422j to 21a-422s, inclusive,
565 22-61n, 23-4b, 47a-9a, 53-247a, 53a-213a, 53a-213b, 54-33p, 54-56q, 54-56r,
566 54-125k and 54-142u, sections 23, 60, 63 to 65, inclusive, 124, 144 and 165
567 of public act 21-1 of the June special session, and the amendments in
568 public act 21-1 of the June special session to sections 7-148, 10-221, 12-
569 30a, 12-35b, 12-412, 12-650, 12-704d, 14-44k, 14-111e, 14-227a to 14-227c,
570 inclusive, 14-227j, 15-140q, 15-140r, 18-100h, 19a-342, 19a-342a, 21a-267,
571 21a-277, 21a-279, 21a-279a, 21a-408 to 21a-408f, inclusive, 21a-408h to
572 21a-408p, inclusive, 21a-408r to 21a-408w, inclusive, 21a-420aa, 21a-
573 421s, 30-89a, 31-40q, 32-39, 46b-120, 51-164n, 53-394, 53a-39c, 54-1m, 54-
574 33g, 54-41b, 54-56e, 54-56g, 54-56i, 54-56k, 54-56n, 54-63d, 54-66a and 54-
575 142e, section 20 of public act 23-79 and sections 8 to 10, inclusive, and 41
576 of this act;

577 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) (1) During the period

578 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2026, a social equity
579 applicant that has submitted an application to the department for a
580 cultivator license, or has received a provisional cultivator license,
581 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as
582 amended by this act, may withdraw such application and apply for a
583 micro-cultivator license pursuant to this section if:

584 (A) The Social Equity Council has verified that the applicant meets
585 the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant to subdivision (1) of
586 subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by
587 this act;

588 (B) The social equity applicant is eligible to receive a provisional
589 cultivator license pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the
590 general statutes, as amended by this act; and

591 (C) The social equity applicant submits to the department, in a form
592 and manner prescribed by the commissioner, a written statement by the
593 social equity applicant withdrawing the social equity applicant's
594 application submitted, or provisional cultivator license issued, under
595 subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by
596 this act.

597 (2) No social equity applicant that withdraws an application or
598 provisional cultivator license in the manner set forth in subdivision (1)
599 of this subsection shall be eligible to receive a refund for any fee paid in
600 connection with such withdrawn application.

601 (b) During the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending March 31,
602 2027, the department shall issue a provisional micro-cultivator license
603 to a social equity applicant pursuant to this section:

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

606 (2) If during the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending December
607 31, 2026, the social equity applicant submits to the department, in a form

608 and manner prescribed by the commissioner:

609 (A) A completed micro-cultivator license application and other
610 documentation required to determine eligibility as set forth in
611 subsections (e) to (l), inclusive, of section 21a-420g of the general
612 statutes, as amended by this act;

613 (B) A written statement by the social equity applicant disclosing
614 whether any change occurred in the ownership or control of the social
615 equity applicant after the Social Equity Council verified that the
616 applicant met the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant to
617 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general
618 statutes, as amended by this act; and

619 (C) The application fee required under subdivision (1) of subsection
620 (c) of this section; and

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

623 (A) Such change in ownership or control is allowed under (i) section
624 21a-420g of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and (ii) any
625 regulation adopted, or policy or procedure issued, pursuant to section
626 21a-420g of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 21a-420h of
627 the general statutes, as amended by this act; and

628 (B) Pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, (i) the Social Equity
629 Council has determined that the social equity applicant continues to
630 meet the criteria for a social equity applicant, and (ii) the department
631 has received a written notice from the Social Equity Council affirming
632 that the Social Equity Council has determined that the social equity
633 applicant continues to meet the criteria for a social equity applicant.

634 (c) (1) A social equity applicant that has not obtained a provisional
635 cultivator license under subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general
636 statutes, as amended by this act, and submits a micro-cultivator license
637 application pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall submit to the

638 department an application fee in the amount of five hundred thousand
639 dollars. The three-million-dollar fee paid by the social equity applicant
640 pursuant to section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by this
641 act, to receive a provisional cultivator license shall be considered the
642 application fee to convert to a micro-cultivator license pursuant to this
643 section. All application fees collected pursuant to this subdivision shall
644 be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account
645 established in section 21a-8a of the general statutes.

646 (2) The fee to renew a final micro-cultivator license issued pursuant
647 to this section shall be the same as the fee to renew a final micro-
648 cultivator license as set forth in section 21a-420e of the general statutes,
649 as amended by this act. All renewal fees collected pursuant to this
650 subdivision shall be paid to the State Treasurer and credited to the
651 General Fund.

652 (d) If any change described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of
653 subsection (b) of this section has occurred, the Social Equity Council
654 shall (1) determine whether the social equity applicant continues to meet
655 the criteria for a social equity applicant, and (2) submit to the
656 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, a
657 written notice disclosing such determination.

658 (e) No social equity applicant that receives a micro-cultivator license
659 under this section shall be eligible to apply for a provisional license and
660 a final license to create more than one equity joint venture to be
661 approved by the Social Equity Council under section 21a-420d of the
662 general statutes, as amended by this act, and no such social equity
663 applicant shall operate any such equity joint venture unless such social
664 equity applicant has received a micro-cultivator license under this
665 section, commenced cultivation activities under such micro-cultivator
666 license and submitted to the department both the application fee
667 required under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section and a
668 conversion fee in the amount of five hundred thousand dollars. The
669 conversion fee collected pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited
670 in the social equity and innovation account established in section 21a-

671 420f of the general statutes. The three-million-dollar fee paid by the
672 social equity applicant pursuant to section 21a-420o of the general
673 statutes, as amended by this act, to receive a provisional cultivator
674 license shall be considered the conversion fee to convert to a micro-
675 cultivator license pursuant to this section. Cultivators that paid the
676 three-million-dollar fee under section 21a-420o of the general statutes,
677 as amended by this act, and received license conversion approval under
678 section 21a-420aa of the general statutes may create not more than two
679 equity joint ventures. No such cultivator shall apply for, or create, any
680 additional equity joint venture if, on July 1, 2025, such cultivator has
681 created at least two equity joint ventures that have each received a
682 provisional license.

683 (f) Each application submitted to the department pursuant to
684 subsection (b) of this section, and all information included in, or
685 submitted with, any application submitted pursuant to said subsection,
686 shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of section 21a-420e of
687 the general statutes.

688 (g) A micro-cultivator licensed under this section, including the
689 backer of such micro-cultivator, shall not increase its ownership in an
690 equity joint venture in excess of fifty per cent during the seven-year
691 period beginning on the date on which a final micro-cultivator license is
692 issued by the department under this section.

693 (h) Notwithstanding any other provision of RERACA, and except as
694 otherwise provided in subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section:

695 (1) Each application submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this
696 section shall be processed as any other micro-cultivator application that
697 has been selected through the lottery; and

698 (2) Each social equity applicant, application submitted pursuant to
699 subsection (b) of this section and micro-cultivator license issued
700 pursuant to this section shall be subject to subsections (e) to (l), inclusive,
701 of section 21a-420g of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

702 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) During the period beginning
703 January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2027, the department shall
704 issue a cultivator license or micro-cultivator license to a social equity
705 applicant, which permits such applicant to locate such applicant's
706 cultivator or micro-cultivator facility outside of a disproportionately
707 impacted area, provided:

708 (1) On or before July 1, 2026, the social equity applicant submits to
709 the department a complete application for a provisional cultivator or
710 micro-cultivator license pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of
711 the general statutes, as amended by this act;

712 (2) On or before June 30, 2027, the Social Equity Council verifies,
713 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the
714 general statutes, as amended by this act, that such applicant meets the
715 criteria established for a social equity applicant;

716 (3) On or before June 30, 2027, the department issues a provisional
717 cultivator or micro-cultivator license to the social equity applicant
718 pursuant to section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by this
719 act; and

720 (4) On or before July 1, 2027, the provisional licensee submits to the
721 department a complete application for a final cultivator or micro-
722 cultivator license, as prescribed in section 21a-420g of the general
723 statutes, as amended by this act, which application shall include:

724 (A) A copy of a fully executed lease agreement between the
725 provisional licensee and a hemp producer, which hemp producer has
726 been continually licensed under section 22-61l of the general statutes
727 since January 1, 2024, and which agreement provides:

728 (i) For the use of the hemp producer's lot, as defined in section 22-61l
729 of the general statutes, that is on record with the Department of
730 Agriculture on January 1, 2024, and may be located outside of a
731 disproportionately impacted area; and

732 (ii) That the hemp producer does not currently hold a position of
733 ownership, control or management of the provisional licensee, and if a
734 final cultivator or micro-cultivator license is issued to the provisional
735 licensee pursuant to this section, the hemp producer shall not hold a
736 position of ownership, control or management of the licensee for a
737 period of seven years commencing on the date on which such final
738 license is issued pursuant to this section; and

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

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

747 (C) An acknowledgment by the provisional licensee that, if the
748 department issues a final cultivator or micro-cultivator license to such
749 provisional licensee pursuant to this section, such licensee shall (i) in the
750 case of a final cultivator license, be eligible to create not more than one
751 equity joint venture after such licensee receives such license and
752 commences cultivation activities under such license, or (ii) in the case of
753 a final micro-cultivator license, ineligible to create an equity joint
754 venture after such licensee receives such license; and

755 (D) An attestation by the provisional licensee that (i) the hemp
756 producer from which such provisional licensee is leasing land shall have
757 no ownership interest in, or managerial control over, such licensee,
758 other than any ownership interest or control previously disclosed to the
759 Social Equity Council for the purpose of determining that the social
760 equity applicant meets the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant
761 to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general
762 statutes, as amended by this act, and (ii) all hemp has been harvested
763 from the lot subject to the lease between the provisional licensee and the

764 hemp producer.

765 (b) During the seven-year period commencing on the date on which
766 a final cultivator license or final micro-cultivator license is issued
767 pursuant to this section, the cultivator or micro-cultivator issued such
768 final license shall:

769 (1) Not enter into any business arrangement with the hemp producer,
770 other than for the lease of the hemp producer's lot, or any affiliate,
771 subsidiary or entity controlled by the hemp producer if such business
772 arrangement may result in such hemp producer, affiliate, subsidiary or
773 entity holding a position of ownership, control or management of the
774 cultivator or micro-cultivator; and

775 (2) Disclose any direct or indirect business interest or relationship
776 between the cultivator or micro-cultivator and the hemp producer or
777 any affiliate, subsidiary or entity controlled by the hemp producer or
778 any key participant, as defined in section 22-61l of the general statutes.

779 (c) The fee to renew a final cultivator license or final micro-cultivator
780 license issued pursuant to this section shall be the same as the fee to
781 renew a final cultivator license or final micro-cultivator license as set
782 forth in section 21a-420e of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

783 (d) All hemp located on the lot subject to the lease agreement between
784 the provisional licensee and the hemp producer shall continue to be
785 deemed hemp until the department issues a final cultivator license or
786 final micro-cultivator license to such licensee. After the department
787 issues a final cultivator license or final micro-cultivator license pursuant
788 to this section, such hemp shall be deemed to be cannabis and shall be
789 subject to all cannabis cultivation, testing, labeling, tracking, reporting
790 and manufacturing provisions of RERACA as such provisions apply to
791 cultivators and micro-cultivators.

792 (e) No provisional licensee that receives a final cultivator license
793 under this section shall be eligible to create more than one equity joint
794 venture, and no such licensee shall create any equity joint venture unless

795 such licensee has received a final cultivator license under this section
796 and commenced cultivation activities under such cultivator license. No
797 provisional licensee that receives a micro-cultivator license under this
798 section shall be eligible to create an equity joint venture.

799 (f) Each application submitted to the department pursuant to
800 subsection (a) of this section, and all information included in or
801 submitted with such application, shall be subject to the provisions of
802 subsection (g) of section 21a-420e of the general statutes.

803 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) The Department of
804 Consumer Protection shall develop signage containing a quick response
805 code, or a comparable electronic identifier, that verifies whether the
806 person displaying such signage holds an active cannabis establishment
807 license issued by the department. Such signage shall be displayed in the
808 form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
809 Protection.

810 (b) No person shall display the signage developed by the Department
811 of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or any
812 substantially similar signage, unless such person holds an active
813 cannabis establishment license issued by the department.

814 (c) No cannabis establishment shall display the signage developed by
815 the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
816 this section in any form or manner other than the form and manner
817 prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to
818 subsection (a) of this section.

819 (d) Any violation of the provisions of subsection (b) or (c) of this
820 section shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under
821 subsection (a) of section 42-110b of the general statutes. Any cannabis
822 establishment that violates the provisions of subsection (c) of this section
823 may be subject to additional enforcement action pursuant to section 21a-
824 421p of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

825 Sec. 11. Section 21a-420c of the general statutes is repealed and the

826 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

827 (a) As used in this section:

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

829 (2) "Electronic cigarette liquid" has the same meaning as provided in
830 section 21a-415, as amended by this act;

831 (3) "Electronic nicotine delivery system" has the same meaning as
832 provided in section 21a-415, as amended by this act;

833 (4) "Immediate threat to public health and safety" includes, but is not
834 limited to, the presence of (A) any cannabis or cannabis product in
835 connection with a violation of this section, or (B) any cigarette, tobacco
836 product, electronic cigarette liquid, electronic nicotine delivery system
837 or liquid nicotine container stored or displayed adjacent or proximate to
838 any cannabis or cannabis product or otherwise being sold unlawfully;

839 (5) "Liquid nicotine container" has the same meaning as provided in
840 section 19a-342a; and

841 (6) "Tobacco product" has the same meaning as provided in section
842 12-330a.

843 [(a)] (b) Except as provided in RERACA and chapter 420b or 420f, (1)
844 no person, other than a retailer, hybrid retailer, micro-cultivator or
845 delivery service, or an employee thereof in the course of such
846 employee's employment, may sell or offer any cannabis or cannabis
847 product to a consumer, and (2) no person, other than a hybrid retailer,
848 dispensary facility or a delivery service, or an employee thereof in the
849 course of such employee's employment, may sell or offer any cannabis
850 or cannabis product to a qualifying [patients and caregivers] patient or
851 caregiver.

852 [(b)] (c) No person except a delivery service, or an employee of a
853 delivery service, subject to the restrictions set forth in section 21a-420z,
854 as amended by this act, acting in the course of such employee's

855 employment, may deliver any cannabis or cannabis product to
856 [consumers, patients or caregivers] a consumer, qualifying patient or
857 caregiver.

858 [(c)] (d) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be
859 deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of
860 section 42-110b.

861 [(d)] (e) (1) Any municipality may, by vote of its legislative body,
862 prohibit the operation of any business within such municipality that is
863 found to be in violation of the provisions of this section or if such
864 operation poses an immediate threat to public health and safety.

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

872 (3) Upon an application under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
873 Superior Court, upon a finding that a business within the municipality
874 is operating in violation of the provisions of this section or poses an
875 immediate threat to public health and safety, may issue forthwith, ex
876 parte and without a hearing, an order that shall direct the chief law
877 enforcement officer of the municipality to take from such business
878 possession and control of any merchandise related to such violation or
879 immediate threat to public health and safety, which merchandise shall
880 include, but need not be limited to, (A) any cannabis or cannabis
881 product, (B) any cigarette, tobacco, [or] tobacco product, electronic
882 cigarette liquid, electronic nicotine delivery system or liquid nicotine
883 container, (C) any merchandise related to the merchandise described in
884 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision, and (D) any proceeds
885 related to the merchandise described in subparagraphs (A) to (C),
886 inclusive, of this subdivision.

887 (4) As used in this subsection, [(A) "cigarette" has the same meaning
888 as provided in section 4-28h, (B) "immediate threat to public health and
889 safety" includes, but is not limited to, the presence of (i) any cannabis or
890 cannabis product in connection with a violation of this section, or (ii)
891 any cigarette or tobacco product alongside any cannabis or cannabis
892 product, and (C)] "operation" and "operating" mean engaging in the sale
893 of [, or otherwise offering for sale,] goods and services to the general
894 public, including, but not limited to, through indirect retail sales.

895 [(e)] (f) (1) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall
896 be assessed a civil penalty of thirty thousand dollars for each violation.
897 Each day that such violation continues shall constitute a separate
898 offense.

899 (2) Any person who aids or abets any violation of the provisions of
900 this section shall be assessed a civil penalty of thirty thousand dollars
901 for each violation. Each day that such person aids or abets such violation
902 shall constitute a separate offense. For the purposes of this subdivision,
903 no person shall be deemed to have aided or abetted a violation of the
904 provisions of this section unless (A) such person was the owner, officer,
905 controlling shareholder or in a similar position of authority that allowed
906 such person to make command or control decisions regarding the
907 operations and management of another person who (i) is prohibited
908 from selling or offering any cannabis or cannabis product under this
909 section, and (ii) sold or offered any cannabis or cannabis product in
910 violation of this section, (B) such person knew that such other person (i)
911 is prohibited from selling or offering any cannabis or cannabis product
912 under this section, and (ii) sold or offered any cannabis or cannabis
913 product in violation of this section, (C) such person provided substantial
914 assistance or encouragement in connection with the sale or offer of such
915 cannabis or cannabis product in violation of this section, and (D) such
916 person's conduct was a substantial factor in furthering the sale or offer
917 of such cannabis or cannabis product in violation of this section.

918 (3) Any person who manages or controls a commercial property, or
919 who manages or controls a commercial building, room, space or

920 enclosure, in such person's capacity as an owner, lessee, agent,
921 employee or mortgagor, who knowingly leases, rents or makes such
922 property, building, room, space or enclosure available for use, with or
923 without compensation, for the purpose of any sale or offer of any
924 cannabis or cannabis product in violation of this section shall be
925 assessed a civil penalty of ten thousand dollars for each violation. Each
926 day that such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

927 (4) No person other than the Attorney General, upon complaint of the
928 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or a municipality in which the
929 violation of this section occurred shall assess any civil penalty under this
930 subsection or institute a civil action to recover any civil penalty imposed
931 under this subsection. If a municipality institutes a civil action to recover
932 any civil penalty imposed under this subsection, such penalty shall be
933 paid [first] to the municipality. [to reimburse such municipality for the
934 costs incurred in instituting such action. One-half of the remainder, if
935 any, shall be payable to the treasurer of such municipality and one-half
936 of such remainder shall be payable to the Treasurer and deposited in the
937 General Fund.]

938 [(f)] (g) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the
939 imposition of any criminal penalty on any person who (1) is prohibited
940 from selling or offering any cannabis or cannabis product under this
941 section, and (2) sells or offers any cannabis or cannabis product in
942 violation of this section.

943 Sec. 12. Subsections (h) to (k), inclusive, of section 21a-420d of the
944 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
945 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

946 (h) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Social Equity Council shall,
947 taking into account the results of the study conducted in accordance
948 with subsection (g) of this section, make written recommendations, in
949 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and the
950 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
951 of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, consumer

952 protection and the judiciary regarding legislation to implement the
953 provisions of this section. The council shall make recommendations
954 regarding:

955 (1) Creating programs to ensure that individuals from communities
956 that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and
957 enforcement are provided equal access to licenses for cannabis
958 establishments;

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

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

964 (4) Establishing minimum criteria for any cannabis establishment
965 licensed on or after January 1, 2022, [that is not owned by a social equity
966 applicant,] to comply with an approved workforce development plan to
967 reinvest or provide employment and training opportunities for
968 individuals in disproportionately impacted areas;

969 (5) Establishing criteria for a social equity plan for any cannabis
970 establishment licensed on or after January 1, 2022, to further the
971 principles of equity, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this
972 act;

973 (6) Recruiting individuals from communities that have been
974 disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and enforcement to
975 enroll in the workforce training program established pursuant to section
976 21a-421g;

977 (7) Potential uses for revenue generated under RERACA to further
978 equity;

979 (8) Encouraging participation of investors, cannabis establishments
980 [.] and entrepreneurs in the cannabis business accelerator program

981 established pursuant to section 21a-421f;

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

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

989 (i) (1) Not later than August 1, 2021, and annually thereafter until July
990 31, 2023, the Social Equity Council shall use the most recent five-year
991 United States Census Bureau American Community Survey estimates
992 or any successor data to determine one or more United States census
993 tracts in the state that are a disproportionately impacted area and shall
994 publish a list of such tracts on the council's Internet web site.

995 (2) Not later than August 1, 2023, the council shall use poverty rate
996 data from the most recent five-year United States Census Bureau
997 American Community Survey estimates, population data from the most
998 recent decennial census and conviction information from databases
999 managed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public
1000 Protection to identify all United States census tracts in the state that are
1001 disproportionately impacted areas and shall publish a list of such tracts
1002 on the council's Internet web site. In identifying which census tracts in
1003 this state are disproportionately impacted areas and preparing such list,
1004 the council shall:

1005 (A) Not deem any census tract with a poverty rate that is less than the
1006 state-wide poverty rate to be a disproportionately impacted area;

1007 (B) After eliminating the census tracts described in subparagraph (A)
1008 of this subdivision, rank the remaining census tracts in order from the
1009 census tract with the greatest historical conviction rate for drug-related
1010 offenses to the census tract with the lowest historical conviction rate for
1011 drug-related offenses; and

1012 (C) Include census tracts in the order of rank described in
1013 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision until including the next census
1014 tract would cause the total population of all included census tracts to
1015 exceed twenty-five per cent of the state's population.

1016 (j) After developing criteria for workforce development plans as
1017 described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this section, the Social
1018 Equity Council shall review and approve or deny in writing any such
1019 plan submitted by [a producer under section 21a-420l or a hybrid-
1020 retailer under section 21a-420u] an applicant for a final license. If the
1021 Social Equity Council does not approve a workforce development plan
1022 for a cannabis establishment on or before July 1, 2025, the cannabis
1023 establishment shall submit a workforce development plan to the council
1024 not later than October 1, 2025, or sixty days prior to the next renewal
1025 date for such cannabis establishment's license, whichever is earlier. Not
1026 later than sixty days after the cannabis establishment submits the
1027 workforce development plan to the council, the council shall send notice
1028 to the cannabis establishment disclosing whether such workforce
1029 development plan has been approved, rejected or requires modification.

1030 (k) The Social Equity Council shall develop criteria for evaluating the
1031 ownership and control of any equity joint venture created under section
1032 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, 21a-
1033 420j, as amended by this act, [or] 21a-420aa, section 8 of this act or
1034 section 9 of this act and shall review and approve or deny in writing
1035 such equity joint venture prior to such equity joint venture being
1036 licensed under section 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-420u, as
1037 amended by this act, 21a-420j, as amended by this act, [or] 21a-420aa,
1038 section 8 of this act or section 9 of this act. The council shall not approve
1039 any equity joint venture applicant which shares with an equity joint
1040 venture any individual owner who meets the criteria established in
1041 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (51) of section 21a-420, other
1042 than an individual owner in their capacity as a backer licensed under
1043 section 21a-420o, as amended by this act.

1044 Sec. 13. Subsection (c) of section 21a-420e of the general statutes is

1045 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1046 *2025*):

1047 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the following
1048 fees shall be paid by each applicant:

1049 (1) For a retailer license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be five
1050 hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be five
1051 thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal of a
1052 final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

1053 (2) For a hybrid retailer license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be five
1054 hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be five
1055 thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal of a
1056 final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

1057 (3) For a cultivator license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be one
1058 thousand dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be twenty-
1059 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal
1060 of a final license shall be seventy-five thousand dollars.

1061 (4) For a micro-cultivator license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be
1062 two hundred fifty dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall
1063 be five hundred dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal
1064 of a final license shall be one thousand dollars.

1065 (5) (A) For a product manufacturer license, the fee to enter the lottery
1066 shall be seven hundred fifty dollars, the fee to receive a provisional
1067 license shall be five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license
1068 or a renewal of a final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

1069 (B) For a product manufacturer seeking authorization to expand the
1070 product manufacturer's authorized activities to include the authorized
1071 activities of a food and beverage manufacturer, the application fee for
1072 such expanded authorization shall be five thousand dollars and the fee
1073 to renew such expanded authorization shall be five thousand dollars.
1074 The fees due under this subparagraph shall be in addition to the fees

1075 due under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

1076 (6) (A) For a food and beverage manufacturer license, the fee to enter
1077 the lottery shall be two hundred fifty dollars, the fee to receive a
1078 provisional license shall be one thousand dollars and the fee to receive
1079 a final license or a renewal of a final license shall be five thousand
1080 dollars.

1081 (B) For a food and beverage manufacturer seeking authorization to
1082 expand the food and beverage manufacturer's authorized activities to
1083 include the authorized activities of a product manufacturer, the
1084 application fee for such expanded authorization shall be twenty-five
1085 thousand dollars and the fee to renew such expanded authorization
1086 shall be twenty-five thousand dollars. The fees due under this
1087 subparagraph shall be in addition to the fees due under subparagraph
1088 (A) of this subdivision.

1089 (7) (A) For a product packager license, the fee to enter the lottery shall
1090 be five hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be
1091 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal
1092 of a final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

1093 (B) For a product packager seeking authorization to expand the
1094 product packager's authorized activities to include the authorized
1095 activities of a product manufacturer, the application fee for such
1096 expanded authorization shall be thirty thousand dollars and the fee to
1097 renew such expanded authorization shall be twenty-five thousand
1098 dollars. The [fees] renewal fee due under this subparagraph shall be in
1099 lieu of the [fees] renewal fee due under subparagraph (A) of this
1100 subdivision.

1101 (8) For a delivery service or transporter license, the fee to enter the
1102 lottery shall be two hundred fifty dollars, the fee to receive a provisional
1103 license shall be one thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license
1104 or a renewal of a final license shall be five thousand dollars.

1105 (9) For an initial or renewal of a backer license, the fee shall be one

1106 hundred dollars.

1107 (10) For an initial or renewal of a key employee license, the fee shall
1108 be one hundred dollars.

1109 (11) For an initial or renewal of a registration of an employee who is
1110 not a key employee, the fee shall be fifty dollars.

1111 (12) The license conversion fee for a dispensary facility to become a
1112 hybrid retailer shall be one million dollars, except as provided in section
1113 21a-420u, as amended by this act.

1114 (13) The license conversion fee for a producer to engage in the adult
1115 use cannabis market shall be three million dollars, except as provided in
1116 section 21a-420l.

1117 (14) For a dispensary facility license, the fee to enter the lottery shall
1118 be five hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be
1119 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal
1120 of a final license shall be five thousand dollars.

1121 (15) For a producer license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be one
1122 thousand dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be twenty-
1123 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal
1124 of a final license shall be seventy-five thousand dollars.

1125 Sec. 14. Subsections (b) to (j), inclusive, of section 21a-420g of the
1126 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1127 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1128 (b) Except as provided in sections 21a-420o, as amended by this act,
1129 and 21a-420aa and sections 8 and 9 of this act, prior to the first date that
1130 the department begins accepting applications for a license type, the
1131 department shall determine the maximum number of applications that
1132 shall be considered for such license type and post such information on
1133 its Internet web site. Fifty per cent of the maximum number of
1134 applications that shall be considered for each license type (1) shall be

1135 selected through a social equity lottery for such license type, and (2)
1136 shall be reserved by the department for social equity applicants. If, upon
1137 the close of the application period for a license type, the department
1138 receives more applications than the maximum number to be considered
1139 in total or to be reserved for social equity applicants as set forth in this
1140 subsection, a third-party lottery operator shall conduct a lottery to
1141 identify applications for review by the department and the Social Equity
1142 Council.

1143 (c) (1) The third-party lottery operator shall:

1144 (A) Not be provided any application received after the close of the
1145 application period;

1146 (B) Give equal weight to every complete application submitted
1147 during the application period; and

1148 (C) Conduct multiple, separate geographic lotteries if required by the
1149 department.

1150 (2) For purposes of the lottery, the third-party lottery operator shall:

1151 (A) Conduct an independent social equity lottery and general lottery
1152 for each license type that results in each application being randomly
1153 ranked starting with one and continuing sequentially; and

1154 (B) Rank all applications in each lottery numerically according to the
1155 order in which they were drawn, including those that exceed the
1156 number to be considered, and identify for the department all
1157 applications to be considered.

1158 (d) (1) Prior to submitting an application, an applicant that is a
1159 business entity shall register such business entity with the Secretary of
1160 the State to do business in this state, and include with such application
1161 an attestation that such applicant has so registered.

1162 (2) No applicant shall apply more than once in any application period
1163 to the social equity lottery round, if applicable, or the general lottery

1164 round. The department shall review the list of all lottery applicants in
1165 the social equity lottery round and the general lottery round,
1166 independently for each such round, to determine whether any applicant
1167 has submitted more than one application under the same applicant
1168 name. Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, if the
1169 department determines that any applicant has submitted more than one
1170 application in the social equity lottery round or the general lottery
1171 round, all applications submitted in such round by such applicant shall
1172 be disqualified and the department shall remove all such applications
1173 from the pool of eligible applications the department provides to the
1174 third-party lottery operator for selection in such round.

1175 (3) If a social equity application is entered into the general lottery
1176 round pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of this section,
1177 thereby resulting in two entries by the same social equity applicant in
1178 the general lottery round, such entries shall not result in disqualification
1179 under subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such social equity applicant
1180 shall not be eligible to receive more than one license from any round of
1181 the general lottery. If such social equity applicant is selected twice for
1182 consideration in any general lottery round, the department shall
1183 disqualify the second such selection and request that the third-party
1184 lottery operator identify the next-ranked application in the applicable
1185 lottery.

1186 (4) No disqualification under this subsection shall result in any
1187 refund of lottery fees.

1188 (5) For the purpose of this subsection: (A) "Application period" means
1189 the established period of time within which the department may accept
1190 applications for a specific license type for the social equity or general
1191 lottery; and (B) "round" means each time a lottery is run to determine
1192 the ranking of applicants after the conclusion of an application period,
1193 either for the social equity lottery or the general lottery.

1194 (e) (1) Upon receipt of an application for social equity consideration
1195 or, in the case where a social equity lottery is conducted, after such

1196 lottery applicants are selected, the department shall provide to the
1197 Social Equity Council the documentation received by the department
1198 during the application process that is required under subsection (a) of
1199 this section. No identifying information beyond what is necessary to
1200 establish social equity status shall be provided to the Social Equity
1201 Council. The Social Equity Council shall review the social equity
1202 applications to be considered as identified by the third-party lottery
1203 operator to determine whether the applicant meets the criteria for a
1204 social equity applicant. If the Social Equity Council determines that an
1205 applicant does not qualify as a social equity applicant, the application
1206 shall not be reviewed further for purposes of receiving a license
1207 designated for social equity applicants. The application shall be entered
1208 into the general lottery for the applicable license type and may be
1209 reviewed further if selected through such lottery, provided the
1210 applicant pays the additional amount necessary to pay the full fee for
1211 entry into such lottery within five business days of being notified by the
1212 Social Equity Council that such applicant does not qualify as a social
1213 equity applicant. Not later than thirty days after the Social Equity
1214 Council notifies an applicant of the Social Equity Council's
1215 determination that the applicant does not meet the criteria for a social
1216 equity applicant, the applicant may appeal from such determination to
1217 the Superior Court in accordance with section 4-183.

1218 (2) Upon determination by the Social Equity Council that an
1219 application selected through the lottery process does not qualify for
1220 consideration as a social equity applicant, the department shall request
1221 that the third-party lottery operator identify the next-ranked application
1222 in the social equity lottery. This process may continue until the Social
1223 Equity Council has identified for further consideration the number of
1224 applications set forth on the department's web site pursuant to
1225 subsection (b) of this section or until there are no remaining social equity
1226 applications to be considered.

1227 (3) For each license type, the Social Equity Council shall identify for
1228 the department the social equity applications that qualify as social

1229 equity applicants and that should be reviewed by the department for
1230 purposes of awarding a provisional license.

1231 (4) Any application entered into, but not selected through, the social
1232 equity lottery shall not be reviewed as a social equity application, but
1233 shall be entered into the general lottery for the applicable license type.

1234 (5) After receiving the list of selected social equity applications
1235 reviewed and approved by the Social Equity Council, the department
1236 shall notify the third-party lottery operator, which shall then conduct
1237 the independent general lottery for all remaining applicants for each
1238 license type, rank all general lottery applications numerically including
1239 those that exceed the number to be considered, and identify for the
1240 department all of the selected applications to be reviewed. The number
1241 of applications to be reviewed by the department shall consist of the
1242 applications ranked numerically one through the maximum number
1243 necessary to ensure that fifty per cent of the applications for each license
1244 type identified through the lottery process are selected from the social
1245 equity lottery and approved by the Social Equity Council.

1246 (6) The numerical rankings created by the third-party lottery operator
1247 shall be confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure under the
1248 Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200.

1249 (f) The department shall review each application to be considered, as
1250 identified by the third-party lottery operator or Social Equity Council,
1251 as applicable, to confirm such application is complete and to determine
1252 whether any application: (1) Includes a backer with a disqualifying
1253 conviction; (2) exceeds the cap set forth in section 21a-420i; or (3) has a
1254 backer who individually or in connection with a cannabis business in
1255 another state or country has an administrative finding or judicial
1256 decision that may substantively compromise the integrity of the
1257 cannabis program, as determined by the department, or that precludes
1258 its participation in this state's cannabis program.

1259 (g) No additional backers may be added to a cannabis establishment

1260 application between the time of lottery entry, or any initial application
1261 for a license, and when a final license is awarded to the cannabis
1262 establishment, except, if a backer of an applicant or provisional licensee
1263 dies, the applicant or provisional licensee may apply to the
1264 commissioner to replace the deceased backer, provided if such applicant
1265 is a social equity applicant, the Social Equity Council shall review
1266 ownership to ensure such replacement would not cause the applicant to
1267 no longer qualify as a social equity applicant. A backer may be removed
1268 from a cannabis establishment application selected through the general
1269 lottery at any time upon notice to the department.

1270 (h) If an applicant is disqualified on the basis of any of the criteria set
1271 forth in subsection (f) of this section, the entire application shall be
1272 denied, and such denial shall be a final decision of the department
1273 unless the applicant removes from such application all backers that
1274 would cause such denial not later than thirty days after the department
1275 sends notice to the applicant disclosing such denial. Any change to a
1276 social equity applicant shall be reviewed and approved by the Social
1277 Equity Council before such change is reviewed by the department. Not
1278 later than thirty days after the department sends notice to the applicant
1279 disclosing such denial, the applicant may appeal such denial to the
1280 Superior Court.

1281 (i) For each application denied pursuant to subsection (f) of this
1282 section, the department may, within its discretion, request that the third-
1283 party lottery operator identify the next-ranked application in the
1284 applicable lottery. If the applicant that was denied was a social equity
1285 applicant, the next ranked social equity applicant shall first be reviewed
1286 by the Social Equity Council to confirm that the applicant qualifies as a
1287 social equity applicant prior to being further reviewed by the
1288 department. This process may continue until the department has
1289 identified for further consideration the number of applications
1290 equivalent to the maximum number set forth on its Internet web site
1291 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. If the number of applications
1292 remaining is less than the maximum number posted on the

1293 department's Internet web site, the department shall award fewer
1294 licenses. To the extent the denials result in less than fifty per cent of
1295 applicants being social equity applicants, the department shall continue
1296 to review and issue provisional and final licenses for the remaining
1297 applications, but shall reopen the application period only for social
1298 equity applicants.

1299 (j) All applicants selected in the lottery and not denied shall be
1300 provided a provisional license application, which shall be submitted in
1301 a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner. Lottery applicants
1302 shall have sixty days from the date they receive their provisional
1303 application to complete the application. The right to apply for a
1304 provisional license is nontransferable. Upon receiving a provisional
1305 application from an applicant, the department shall review the
1306 application for completeness and to confirm that all information
1307 provided is acceptable and in compliance with this section and any
1308 regulations adopted under this section. If a provisional application does
1309 not meet the standards set forth in this section, the applicant shall not
1310 be provided a provisional license. A provisional license issued by the
1311 department to an applicant, [on or before June 30, 2023,] other than a
1312 provisional license issued pursuant to section 21a-420o, as amended by
1313 this act, shall expire twenty-four months after the date on which the
1314 department issued such provisional license and shall not be renewed.
1315 [A provisional license issued by the department to an applicant on or
1316 after July 1, 2023, other than a provisional license issued pursuant to
1317 section 21a-420o, shall expire after fourteen months and shall not be
1318 renewed.] Upon granting a provisional license, the department shall
1319 notify the applicant of the project labor agreement requirements of
1320 section 21a-421e. A provisional licensee may apply for a final license of
1321 the license type for which the licensee applied during the initial
1322 application period. A provisional license shall be nontransferable. If the
1323 provisional application does not meet the standards set forth in this
1324 section or is not completed within sixty days, the applicant shall not
1325 receive a provisional license. The decision of the department not to
1326 award a provisional license shall be final and may be appealed in

1327 accordance with section 4-183. Nothing in this section shall prevent a
1328 provisional applicant from submitting an application for a future
1329 lottery.

1330 Sec. 15. Section 21a-420h of the general statutes is repealed and the
1331 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1332 The Social Equity Council shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
1333 the provisions of chapter 54, to prevent the sale or change in ownership
1334 or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a social equity
1335 applicant to someone other than another qualifying social equity
1336 applicant during the period of provisional licensure, and for three years
1337 following the issuance of a final license, unless the backer of such
1338 licensee has died or has a condition, including, but not limited to, a
1339 physical illness or loss of skill or deterioration due to the aging process,
1340 emotional disorder or mental illness that would interfere with the
1341 backer's ability to operate. If the council approves any sale or change in
1342 ownership or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a
1343 social equity applicant during the three-year period following issuance
1344 of a final license, and such sale or change in ownership or control is
1345 made to anyone other than another qualifying social equity applicant,
1346 the cannabis establishment licensee shall be treated as a cannabis
1347 establishment licensee without social equity status beginning on the
1348 date of such approval and such cannabis licensee shall no longer be
1349 eligible to pay a reduced license renewal fee. Notwithstanding the
1350 requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to effectuate
1351 this section, prior to adopting such regulations and not later than
1352 October 1, 2021, the council shall issue policies and procedures to
1353 implement the provisions of this section that shall have the force and
1354 effect of law. The council shall post all policies and procedures on its
1355 Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures to the
1356 Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least
1357 fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any
1358 such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of
1359 either the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final regulation under

1360 section 4-172 or [forty-eight] sixty-three months from July 1, 2021. [, if
1361 such regulations have not been submitted to the legislative regulation
1362 review committee for consideration under section 4-170.] Any violation
1363 of such policies and procedures or any violation of such regulations
1364 related to the sale or change in ownership may be referred by the Social
1365 Equity Council to the department for administrative enforcement
1366 action, which may result in a fine of not more than ten million dollars or
1367 action against the establishment's license.

1368 Sec. 16. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420j of the general statutes is
1369 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1370 *passage*):

1371 (d) [A] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a
1372 cultivator licensed under section 21a-420o, as amended by this act,
1373 including the backer of such cultivator, shall not increase its ownership
1374 in an equity joint venture in excess of fifty per cent during the seven-
1375 year period after a license is issued by the department under this section.

1376 (2) A cultivator licensed under section 21a-420o, as amended by this
1377 act, who satisfies the criteria established in subparagraph (A) of
1378 subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 21a-420o, as amended by this
1379 act, including the backer of such cultivator, shall not increase its
1380 ownership in an equity joint venture in excess of fifty per cent during
1381 the seven-year period beginning on the date on which a final license is
1382 issued by the department under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
1383 section 21a-420o, as amended by this act.

1384 Sec. 17. Subsection (g) of section 21a-420m of the general statutes is
1385 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1386 *passage*):

1387 (g) If a producer has paid a reduced conversion fee, as described in
1388 subsection (b) of section 21a-420l, and subsequently did not create two
1389 equity joint ventures under this section that, not later than [fourteen]
1390 twenty-four months after the Department of Consumer Protection

1391 approved the producer's license expansion application under section
1392 21a-420l, each received a final license from the department, the producer
1393 shall be liable for the full conversion fee of three million dollars
1394 established in section 21a-420l minus such paid reduced conversion fee.

1395 Sec. 18. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420n of the general statutes is
1396 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
1397 *passage*):

1398 (b) (1) A cultivator is authorized to cultivate, grow and propagate
1399 cannabis at an establishment containing not less than fifteen thousand
1400 square feet of grow space, provided such cultivator complies with the
1401 provisions of any regulations adopted under section 21a-420q, as
1402 amended by this act, concerning grow space. A cultivator establishment
1403 shall meet physical security controls and protocols set forth and
1404 required by the commissioner.

1405 (2) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
1406 subsection, during the period beginning on June 6, 2024, through
1407 December 31, [2025] 2027, the department may grant a final cultivator
1408 license to the holder of a provisional cultivator license issued under
1409 section 21a-420o, as amended by this act, who has not developed the
1410 capability to cultivate, grow and propagate cannabis at an establishment
1411 containing at least fifteen thousand square feet of grow space, and such
1412 holder may carry out the functions of a cultivator, if such holder submits
1413 to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
1414 commissioner:

1415 (i) A completed application for a final cultivator license; and

1416 (ii) Evidence that (I) such holder's licensed cultivation facility
1417 contains at least five thousand square feet of grow space, (II) such
1418 holder, and such holder's licensed cultivation facility, are in compliance
1419 with the provisions of this chapter and the regulations adopted, and
1420 policies and procedures issued, under this chapter, (III) such holder has
1421 a detailed business plan and buildout schedule to cultivate, grow and

1422 propagate cannabis at a licensed establishment containing at least
1423 fifteen thousand square feet of grow space on or before December 31,
1424 [2025] 2027, and (IV) such holder has paid the three-million-dollar fee
1425 required under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o, as
1426 amended by this act.

1427 (B) If the department issues a final cultivator license under this
1428 subdivision, and the licensee fails to cultivate, grow and propagate
1429 cannabis at a licensed establishment containing at least fifteen thousand
1430 square feet of grow space on or before December 31, [2025] 2027, such
1431 licensee shall pay to the department, in a form and manner prescribed
1432 by the commissioner, an extension fee in the amount of five hundred
1433 dollars for each day that such licensee's licensed establishment fails to
1434 satisfy such minimum grow space requirement. The department may,
1435 in addition to imposing such extension fee, exercise the department's
1436 enforcement authority under section 21a-421p, as amended by this act,
1437 if the licensee fails to satisfy such minimum grow space requirement on
1438 or before December 31, [2025] 2027.

1439 Sec. 19. Section 21a-420o of the general statutes is repealed and the
1440 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1441 (a) Thirty days after the Social Equity Council posts the criteria for
1442 social equity applicants on its Internet web site, the department shall
1443 open up a three-month application period for cultivators during which
1444 a social equity applicant may apply to the department for a provisional
1445 cultivator license and final license for a cultivation facility located in a
1446 disproportionately impacted area, or at another location described in
1447 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section,
1448 without participating in a lottery or request for proposals. Such
1449 application for a provisional license shall be granted upon: (1)
1450 Verification by the Social Equity Council that the applicant meets the
1451 criteria for a social equity applicant; (2) the applicant submitting to and
1452 passing a criminal background check; and (3) payment of a three-
1453 million-dollar fee to be deposited in the Cannabis Social Equity and
1454 Innovation Fund established in section 21a-420f. Upon granting such

1455 provisional license, the department shall notify the applicant of the
1456 project labor agreement requirements of section 21a-421e. The
1457 department shall not grant an application for a provisional cultivator
1458 license under this subsection after December 31, [2025] 2026.

1459 (b) (1) To obtain a final cultivator license under this section, the social
1460 equity applicant shall provide evidence of [:(1) A] (A) a contract with
1461 an entity providing an approved electronic tracking system as described
1462 in section 21a-421n, [:(2)] (B) a right to exclusively occupy the location
1463 at which the cultivation facility will be located, which location shall be
1464 situated [(A)] (i) in a disproportionately impacted area, [(B)] (ii) on any
1465 reservation, as defined in section 47-63, of the Schaghticoke, Paucatuck
1466 Eastern Pequot or Golden Hill Paugussett indigenous tribe recognized
1467 by this state under subsection (b) of section 47-59a, provided such
1468 reservation includes at least ten acres of contiguous land and such land
1469 comprised part of such reservation on July 1, 2024, [(C)] (iii) on any
1470 parcel of land owned in fee simple by any indigenous tribe recognized
1471 by this state under subsection (b) of section 47-59a, provided such parcel
1472 includes at least ten acres of contiguous land and is located in a
1473 municipality that, prior to July 1, 2024, contained any portion of a
1474 disproportionately impacted area, [or (D)] (iv) in the case of an
1475 exclusively outdoor grow, in a municipality containing any portion of a
1476 disproportionately impacted area, provided [(i)] (I) such outdoor grow
1477 is conducted on land that such municipality has approved for
1478 agricultural or farming uses, and [(ii)] (II) all cultivation complies with
1479 the provisions of the regulations adopted, and policies and procedures
1480 issued, pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, permitting
1481 the outdoor cultivation of cannabis, [:(3)] or (v) at a location within this
1482 state outside of a disproportionately impacted area, provided the Social
1483 Equity Council has verified that such social equity applicant satisfies the
1484 criteria established in subdivision (2) of this subsection, (C) any
1485 necessary local zoning approval and building permits for the cultivation
1486 facility, [:(4)] (D) a business plan, [:(5)] (E) a social equity plan and a
1487 workforce development plan approved by the [Social Equity Council;
1488 (6)] council, (F) written policies for preventing diversion and misuse of

1489 cannabis and sales of cannabis to underage persons, [;] and [(7)] (G)
1490 blueprints of the facility and all other security requirements of the
1491 department.

1492 (2) (A) Beginning on or after October 1, 2025, a social equity applicant
1493 that obtains a final cultivator license pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
1494 subsection may conduct all activities authorized in section 21a-420n, as
1495 amended by this act, except for manufacturing or extraction of cannabis,
1496 at a location within this state outside of a disproportionately impacted
1497 area as set forth in subparagraph (B)(v) of subdivision (1) of this
1498 subsection, provided the social equity applicant agrees to comply with
1499 the provisions of this subdivision and submits a written request for
1500 verification of compliance to the Social Equity Council, and the council
1501 determines and verifies based on evidence deemed sufficient by the
1502 council, that (i) in the event such social equity applicant engages in
1503 manufacturing or extraction of cannabis, such applicant shall engage in
1504 such manufacturing or extraction exclusively at a location situated in a
1505 disproportionately impacted area in accordance with the provisions of
1506 this chapter and the regulations adopted, and policies and procedures
1507 issued, under this chapter, (ii) at least fifty per cent of the employees
1508 employed by such social equity applicant to engage in manufacturing
1509 or extraction of cannabis shall reside in a disproportionately impacted
1510 area, (iii) of the employees employed by such social equity applicant to
1511 engage in any activity other than manufacturing or extraction of
1512 cannabis, (I) at least twenty-five per cent of such employees shall reside
1513 in a disproportionately impacted area during the first year after such
1514 social equity applicant obtains a final cultivator license and commences
1515 cultivation activities under such license, (II) at least fifty per cent of such
1516 employees shall reside in a disproportionately impacted area during the
1517 second year after such social equity applicant obtains a final cultivator
1518 license and commences cultivation activities under such license, and
1519 (III) at least seventy-five per cent of such employees shall reside in a
1520 disproportionately impacted area during each year beginning with the
1521 third year after such social equity applicant obtains a final cultivator
1522 license and commences cultivation activities under such license, (iv)

1523 such social equity applicant shall, at such social equity applicant's
1524 expense, (I) make transportation available to each of its employees who
1525 resides in a disproportionately impacted area in order to transport such
1526 employee from such employee's residence to such employee's place of
1527 work and from such employee's place of work to such employee's
1528 residence, or (II) make advance payment to each of its employees who
1529 resides in a disproportionately impacted area for the cost of travelling
1530 from such employee's residence to such employee's place of work and
1531 from such employee's place of work to such employee's residence, and
1532 (v) such social equity applicant shall periodically pay to the Social
1533 Equity Council, in a form and manner prescribed by the council, on
1534 payment dates established by the council and for deposit in the social
1535 equity and innovation account established in section 21a-420f, (I) for the
1536 first year after such social equity applicant obtains a final cultivator
1537 license and commences cultivation activities under such license, one-
1538 half per cent of the licensee's gross revenue derived from such licensee's
1539 sales to unaffiliated third parties for such year, (II) for the second year
1540 after such social equity applicant obtains a final cultivator license and
1541 commences cultivation activities under such license, one per cent of the
1542 licensee's gross revenue derived from such licensee's sales to
1543 unaffiliated third parties for such year, and (III) for each year beginning
1544 with the third year after such social equity applicant obtains a final
1545 cultivator license and commences cultivation activities under such
1546 license, one and one-half per cent of the licensee's gross revenue derived
1547 from such licensee's sales to unaffiliated third parties for such year.

1548 (B) The evidence required to be submitted in a written request for
1549 verification as set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be
1550 submitted to the Social Equity Council in a form and manner prescribed
1551 by the council. Upon receipt of a written request for verification under
1552 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the council shall review the
1553 request to determine whether the social equity applicant satisfies the
1554 criteria set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. If the council
1555 determines that the social equity applicant does not satisfy such criteria,
1556 the council may accept an amended written request for verification or

1557 deny such request. Not later than thirty days after the council notifies
1558 the social equity applicant that the council has determined that the
1559 applicant does not satisfy the criteria set forth in subparagraph (A) of
1560 this subdivision, the applicant may appeal from such determination to
1561 the Superior Court in accordance with section 4-183.

1562 (C) The Social Equity Council shall identify for the department each
1563 social equity applicant that has submitted a written request for
1564 verification as set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, qualifies
1565 as a social equity applicant and should be reviewed by the department
1566 for purposes of awarding a final cultivator license. After receiving notice
1567 from the council that a provisional licensee has been verified and
1568 identified by the council pursuant to this subdivision, the department
1569 shall proceed with review and processing of such applicant's final
1570 license. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall not issue a
1571 final license to a provisional licensee pursuant to this subdivision unless
1572 the council has notified the department of the results of such
1573 verification.

1574 (D) Each cultivator issued a final license pursuant to this subdivision
1575 shall (i) attest that such cultivator satisfies the criteria set forth in
1576 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision at each license renewal, and (ii)
1577 comply with all requests for information from the Social Equity Council,
1578 and produce copies of all documents necessary for the council to
1579 confirm that such cultivator satisfies the criteria set forth in
1580 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, in a form and manner prescribed
1581 by the council and not later than two business days after such request.
1582 In the event the council determines and verifies that the licensee does
1583 not satisfy the criteria set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision,
1584 the council shall, after a cure period established by the council, provide
1585 to the department a detailed report outlining the basis for the council's
1586 determination of noncompliance and any evidence supporting such
1587 determination. The council shall concurrently produce a copy of such
1588 report to the applicable licensee. Upon receipt of the noncompliance
1589 report issued by the council, the department shall schedule a hearing on

1590 such matter within forty-five days.

1591 (E) Prior to engaging in any manufacturing or extraction of cannabis,
1592 a cultivator licensed pursuant to this subdivision shall apply to the
1593 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, for
1594 an off-site manufacturing endorsement to be issued on or after October
1595 1, 2025. The department may require the cultivator to submit to an
1596 inspection of the cultivator's facility prior to issuing such endorsement
1597 to ensure that such facility satisfies the provisions of this chapter and
1598 the regulations adopted, and policies and procedures issued, under this
1599 chapter.

1600 (F) On and after July 1, 2026, any person that holds a final cultivator
1601 license issued pursuant to this subdivision shall (i) weigh all cannabis,
1602 excluding the leaves or stem of such plant, harvested at such facility not
1603 later than twenty-four hours after cutting or trimming such plant and
1604 (I) record such weight in an approved electronic tracking system as set
1605 forth in section 21a-421n, (II) annually reserve at least eighty per cent of
1606 all cannabis weighed pursuant to subparagraph (F)(i) of this subdivision
1607 for the purpose of manufacturing or extraction of such cannabis into a
1608 cannabis product or cannabis concentrate, and (III) annually sell not
1609 more than twenty per cent of all cannabis harvested at such facility,
1610 based on the weight recorded pursuant to subparagraph (F)(i) of this
1611 subdivision, for distribution as cannabis flower, and (ii) upon each
1612 renewal of such final cultivator license, attest that during the then
1613 preceding calendar year, such cultivator (I) caused at least eighty per
1614 cent of all cannabis weighed and recorded pursuant to subparagraph
1615 (F)(i) of this subdivision to be used for the purpose of manufacturing or
1616 extraction of such cannabis into a cannabis product or cannabis
1617 concentrate, and (II) sold not more than twenty per cent of all cannabis
1618 harvested at such facility, based on the weight recorded pursuant to
1619 subparagraph (F)(i) of this subdivision, for distribution as cannabis
1620 flower.

1621 (c) If the department grants a provisional cultivator license to any
1622 person under subsection (a) of this section, such person may apply to

1623 the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner,
1624 to convert the provisional cultivator license to a micro-cultivator license,
1625 without paying any conversion fee or additional provisional license fee,
1626 provided such person has not created more than two equity joint
1627 ventures that have obtained final licensure. As part of such application,
1628 such person shall attest that such person shall:

1629 (1) Surrender such provisional cultivator license effective
1630 immediately upon the department issuing the micro-cultivator license;

1631 (2) Be entitled to create two equity joint ventures, which shall include
1632 any equity joint venture created prior to conversion to a micro-cultivator
1633 license;

1634 (3) Comply with all provisions of law governing micro-cultivators;
1635 and

1636 (4) Not have any change of ownership or control associated with the
1637 conversion to a micro-cultivator license.

1638 (d) The department shall not issue a final license to a micro-cultivator
1639 provisional licensee unless such licensee has complied with all final
1640 licensure requirements set forth in this section and section 21a-420g, as
1641 amended by this act.

1642 Sec. 20. Section 21a-420p of the general statutes is repealed and the
1643 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1644 (a) [On and after July 1, 2021, the] The department may issue or renew
1645 a license for a person to be a micro-cultivator. No person may act as a
1646 micro-cultivator or represent that such person is a licensed micro-
1647 cultivator unless such person has obtained a license from the
1648 department pursuant to this section.

1649 (b) A micro-cultivator is authorized to cultivate, grow, propagate,
1650 manufacture and package the cannabis plant at an establishment
1651 containing not less than two thousand square feet and not more than ten

1652 thousand square feet of grow space, prior to any expansion authorized
1653 by the commissioner, provided such micro-cultivator complies with the
1654 provisions of any regulations adopted under section 21a-420q, as
1655 amended by this act, concerning grow space. A micro-cultivator
1656 business shall meet physical security controls set forth and required by
1657 the commissioner.

1658 (c) A micro-cultivator may apply for expansion of its grow space, in
1659 increments of five thousand square feet, on an annual basis, from the
1660 date of initial licensure, if such licensee is not subject to any pending or
1661 final administrative actions or judicial findings. If there are any pending
1662 or final administrative actions or judicial findings against the licensee,
1663 the department shall conduct a suitability review to determine whether
1664 such expansion shall be granted, which determination shall be final and
1665 appealable only to the Superior Court. The micro-cultivator may apply
1666 for an expansion of its business annually upon renewal of its credential
1667 until such licensee reaches a maximum of twenty-five thousand square
1668 feet of grow space. If a micro-cultivator desires to expand beyond
1669 twenty-five thousand square feet of grow space, the micro-cultivator
1670 licensee may apply for a cultivator license one year after its last
1671 expansion request. The micro-cultivator licensee shall not be required to
1672 apply through the lottery application process to convert its license to a
1673 cultivator license. If a micro-cultivator maintains its license and meets
1674 all of the application and licensure requirements for a cultivator license,
1675 including payment of the cultivator license fee established under section
1676 21a-420e, as amended by this act, the micro-cultivator licensee shall be
1677 granted a cultivator license.

1678 (d) A micro-cultivator may label, manufacture, package and perform
1679 extractions on any cannabis cultivated, grown and propagated at its
1680 licensed establishment provided it meets all licensure and application
1681 requirements for a food and beverage manufacturer, product
1682 manufacturer or product packager, as applicable.

1683 (e) A micro-cultivator may sell, transfer or transport its cannabis to a
1684 dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, retailer, delivery service, food and

1685 beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer, research program,
1686 cannabis testing laboratory or product packager, provided the cannabis
1687 is cultivated, grown and propagated at the micro-cultivator's licensed
1688 establishment and transported utilizing the micro-cultivator's own
1689 employees or a transporter. A micro-cultivator shall not gift or transfer
1690 cannabis or cannabis products at no cost to a consumer as part of a
1691 commercial transaction.

1692 (f) (1) [Subject to the requirements of this subsection and subsection
1693 (b) of section 21a-420c, a] A micro-cultivator may sell [its own] cannabis
1694 [, including, but not limited to, its own cannabis seedlings,] seedlings
1695 cultivated at its micro-cultivator establishment directly to consumers,
1696 excluding qualifying patients and caregivers, solely through delivery by
1697 either utilizing a delivery service or its own employees, subject to the
1698 requirements of subsection (b) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this
1699 act. No cannabis establishment other than a micro-cultivator shall sell
1700 cannabis seedlings to consumers, and no cannabis establishment other
1701 than a delivery service or a micro-cultivator utilizing its own employees
1702 shall deliver cannabis seedlings cultivated and sold by a micro-
1703 cultivator to consumers.

1704 (2) No micro-cultivator shall sell a cannabis seedling to a consumer
1705 unless:

1706 (A) The micro-cultivator cultivated the cannabis seedling in this state
1707 from seed or clone;

1708 (B) The cannabis seedling (i) has a standing height of not more than
1709 six inches measured from the base of the stem to the tallest point of the
1710 plant, (ii) does not contain any bud or flower, and (iii) has been tested
1711 for pesticides and heavy metals in accordance with the laboratory
1712 testing standards established in the policies and procedures issued, and
1713 final regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-
1714 421j, as amended by this act; and

1715 (C) A label or informational tag is affixed to the cannabis seedling

1716 disclosing the following in legible English, black lettering, Times New
1717 Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background and in
1718 uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a capital
1719 letter "K":

1720 (i) The name of the micro-cultivator;

1721 (ii) A product description for the cannabis seedling;

1722 (iii) One of the following chemotypes anticipated after flowering: (I)
1723 "High THC, Low CBD"; (II) "Low THC, High CBD"; or (III) "50/50 THC
1724 and CBD";

1725 (iv) The results of the testing required under subparagraph (B)(iii) of
1726 this subdivision;

1727 (v) Directions for optimal care of the cannabis seedling;

1728 (vi) Unobscured symbols, in a size of not less than one-half inch by
1729 one-half inch and in a format approved by the commissioner, which
1730 symbols shall indicate that the cannabis seedling contains THC and is
1731 not legal or safe for individuals younger than twenty-one years of age;
1732 and

1733 (vii) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
1734 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
1735 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
1736 the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act.

1737 (3) Notwithstanding section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, no
1738 cannabis seedling shall be required to be sold in child-resistant
1739 packaging.

1740 (4) No micro-cultivator shall knowingly sell more than three cannabis
1741 seedlings to a consumer in any six-month period.

1742 (5) No micro-cultivator shall accept any returned cannabis seedling.

1743 (g) (1) A micro-cultivator that has obtained a final license from the
1744 department pursuant to this section and maintains an exclusively
1745 indoor grow facility may submit an application to the department, in a
1746 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, for a retailer or
1747 hybrid retailer endorsement to such final license under this subsection.
1748 Such endorsement, if issued, shall authorize the micro-cultivator to
1749 operate a retailer or hybrid retailer pursuant to this subsection. An
1750 applicant micro-cultivator shall submit a complete application for an
1751 endorsement under this subsection, along with the endorsement
1752 application fee, to the department not later than one year after the date
1753 on which the applicant micro-cultivator obtained a final micro-
1754 cultivator license from the department pursuant to this section or June
1755 30, 2026, whichever is later. The department shall not accept an
1756 application submitted pursuant to this subsection after such time period
1757 has expired. The amount of the application fee for an endorsement
1758 under this subsection shall be the same as the fee imposed to receive a
1759 final retailer license or a final hybrid retailer license set forth in
1760 subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420e, as amended by this act. All
1761 application fees for an initial endorsement under this subsection shall
1762 be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account
1763 established in section 21a-8a. The annual renewal fee for an
1764 endorsement issued under this subsection shall be the same as the
1765 renewal fee for a final retailer license or a final hybrid retailer license set
1766 forth in subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420e, as amended by this
1767 act.

1768 (2) The department shall issue an endorsement to a micro-cultivator
1769 pursuant to this subsection if the micro-cultivator:

1770 (A) Submits a timely and complete endorsement application to the
1771 department, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner;

1772 (B) Attests that the retailer or hybrid retailer created pursuant to the
1773 endorsement shall be operated in compliance with all requirements
1774 established in this chapter for a licensed retailer or a licensed hybrid
1775 retailer; and

1776 (C) Acknowledges and attests that such micro-cultivator shall not
1777 engage in any outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

1778 (3) Each micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
1779 subsection shall have twenty-four months from the date such
1780 endorsement is issued to (A) satisfy the requirements established in
1781 section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, for a retailer or hybrid retailer
1782 that has been issued a final license, and (B) seek and obtain a written
1783 statement from the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
1784 commissioner, confirming that such micro-cultivator satisfies such
1785 requirements and is authorized to engage in the activities of a retailer or
1786 hybrid retailer.

1787 (4) An endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall expire
1788 and shall not be eligible for reapplication or renewal if the micro-
1789 cultivator (A) fails to satisfy the requirements established in subdivision
1790 (3) of this subsection, or (B) allows such endorsement to lapse.

1791 (5) The facility of a retailer or hybrid retailer established pursuant to
1792 an endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall be located (A)
1793 on the same premises as the micro-cultivator, or (B) on a tract of land or
1794 parcel that abuts such premises or is located within one hundred feet of
1795 such premises measured from the point on such tract of land or parcel
1796 that is closest to such premises.

1797 (6) Upon receipt of a written statement from the department as set
1798 forth in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the
1799 micro-cultivator shall:

1800 (A) (i) In the case of a retailer endorsement, be authorized to sell
1801 cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-cultivator to consumers, or (ii)
1802 in the case of a hybrid retailer endorsement, be authorized to sell (I)
1803 cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-cultivator to consumers, and
1804 (II) medical marijuana products to qualifying patients and caregivers;

1805 (B) Acknowledge and agree that such micro-cultivator is not eligible
1806 to expand to a cultivator license, as provided in this section;

1807 (C) Maintain the retailer's or hybrid-retailer's activities and facility in
1808 accordance with the requirements established in this chapter, chapter
1809 420f and the regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued
1810 pursuant to said chapters, as applicable; and

1811 (D) Acknowledge and agree that in the event that an administrative
1812 agency or court of competent jurisdiction issues a suspension,
1813 revocation, cease and desist order or other order halting the micro-
1814 cultivator's operations, the micro-cultivator shall cease all public retailer
1815 or hybrid-retailer activities associated with the retailer or hybrid retailer
1816 endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection.

1817 (7) A micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
1818 subsection may (A) in the case of a retailer endorsement, sell cannabis
1819 cultivated by the micro-cultivator directly to consumers by utilizing a
1820 delivery service or its own employees, subject to the provisions of
1821 subsection (b) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act, provided such
1822 micro-cultivator shall exclusively sell cannabis cultivated by such
1823 micro-cultivator, and (B) in the case of a hybrid retailer endorsement,
1824 sell medical marijuana products directly to qualifying patients and
1825 caregivers, and cannabis cultivated by such micro-cultivator directly to
1826 consumers, by utilizing a delivery service or its own employees, subject
1827 to the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-420c, as amended by
1828 this act.

1829 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a micro-cultivator
1830 with an active endorsement issued under this subsection shall not
1831 exceed twenty-five thousand square feet of grow space and shall not be
1832 eligible to convert to a cultivator unless the micro-cultivator
1833 permanently surrenders such endorsement and ceases all retailer and
1834 hybrid retailer activities at the cannabis establishment.

1835 (9) An endorsement issued under this subsection shall not impact any
1836 right a micro-cultivator may have to create an equity joint venture.

1837 Sec. 21. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 21a-420p of the general

1838 statutes, as amended by section 20 of this act, are repealed and the
1839 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1840 (f) (1) A micro-cultivator may sell cannabis seedlings cultivated at its
1841 micro-cultivator establishment directly to consumers, excluding
1842 qualifying patients and caregivers, solely through delivery by either
1843 utilizing a delivery service or its own employees, subject to the
1844 requirements of subsection [(b)] (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by
1845 this act. No cannabis establishment other than a micro-cultivator shall
1846 sell cannabis seedlings to consumers, and no cannabis establishment
1847 other than a delivery service or a micro-cultivator utilizing its own
1848 employees shall deliver cannabis seedlings cultivated and sold by a
1849 micro-cultivator to consumers.

1850 (2) No micro-cultivator shall sell a cannabis seedling to a consumer
1851 unless:

1852 (A) The micro-cultivator cultivated the cannabis seedling in this state
1853 from seed or clone;

1854 (B) The cannabis seedling (i) has a standing height of not more than
1855 six inches measured from the base of the stem to the tallest point of the
1856 plant, (ii) does not contain any bud or flower, and (iii) has been tested
1857 for pesticides and heavy metals in accordance with the laboratory
1858 testing standards established in the policies and procedures issued, and
1859 final regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-
1860 421j, as amended by this act; and

1861 (C) A label or informational tag is affixed to the cannabis seedling
1862 disclosing the following in legible English, black lettering, Times New
1863 Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background and in
1864 uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a capital
1865 letter "K":

1866 (i) The name of the micro-cultivator;

1867 (ii) A product description for the cannabis seedling;

- 1868 (iii) One of the following chemotypes anticipated after flowering: (I)
1869 "High THC, Low CBD"; (II) "Low THC, High CBD"; or (III) "50/50 THC
1870 and CBD";
- 1871 (iv) The results of the testing required under subparagraph (B)(iii) of
1872 this subdivision;
- 1873 (v) Directions for optimal care of the cannabis seedling;
- 1874 (vi) Unobscured symbols, in a size of not less than one-half inch by
1875 one-half inch and in a format approved by the commissioner, which
1876 symbols shall indicate that the cannabis seedling contains THC and is
1877 not legal or safe for individuals younger than twenty-one years of age;
1878 and
- 1879 (vii) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
1880 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
1881 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
1882 the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act.
- 1883 (3) Notwithstanding section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, no
1884 cannabis seedling shall be required to be sold in child-resistant
1885 packaging.
- 1886 (4) No micro-cultivator shall knowingly sell more than three cannabis
1887 seedlings to a consumer in any six-month period.
- 1888 (5) No micro-cultivator shall accept any returned cannabis seedling.
- 1889 (g) (1) A micro-cultivator that has obtained a final license from the
1890 department pursuant to this section and maintains an exclusively
1891 indoor grow facility may submit an application to the department, in a
1892 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, for a retailer or
1893 hybrid retailer endorsement to such final license under this subsection.
1894 Such endorsement, if issued, shall authorize the micro-cultivator to
1895 operate a retailer or hybrid retailer pursuant to this subsection. An
1896 applicant micro-cultivator shall submit a complete application for an

1897 endorsement under this subsection, along with the endorsement
1898 application fee, to the department not later than one year after the date
1899 on which the applicant micro-cultivator obtained a final micro-
1900 cultivator license from the department pursuant to this section or June
1901 30, 2026, whichever is later. The department shall not accept an
1902 application submitted pursuant to this subsection after such time period
1903 has expired. The amount of the application fee for an endorsement
1904 under this subsection shall be the same as the fee imposed to receive a
1905 final retailer license or a final hybrid retailer license set forth in
1906 subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420e, as amended by this act. All
1907 application fees for an initial endorsement under this subsection shall
1908 be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account
1909 established in section 21a-8a. The annual renewal fee for an
1910 endorsement issued under this subsection shall be the same as the
1911 renewal fee for a final retailer license or a final hybrid retailer license set
1912 forth in subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420e, as amended by this
1913 act.

1914 (2) The department shall issue an endorsement to a micro-cultivator
1915 pursuant to this subsection if the micro-cultivator:

1916 (A) Submits a timely and complete endorsement application to the
1917 department, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner;

1918 (B) Attests that the retailer or hybrid retailer created pursuant to the
1919 endorsement shall be operated in compliance with all requirements
1920 established in this chapter for a licensed retailer or a licensed hybrid
1921 retailer; and

1922 (C) Acknowledges and attests that such micro-cultivator shall not
1923 engage in any outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

1924 (3) Each micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
1925 subsection shall have twenty-four months from the date such
1926 endorsement is issued to (A) satisfy the requirements established in
1927 section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, for a retailer or hybrid retailer

1928 that has been issued a final license, and (B) seek and obtain a written
1929 statement from the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
1930 commissioner, confirming that such micro-cultivator satisfies such
1931 requirements and is authorized to engage in the activities of a retailer or
1932 hybrid retailer.

1933 (4) An endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall expire
1934 and shall not be eligible for reapplication or renewal if the micro-
1935 cultivator (A) fails to satisfy the requirements established in subdivision
1936 (3) of this subsection, or (B) allows such endorsement to lapse.

1937 (5) The facility of a retailer or hybrid retailer established pursuant to
1938 an endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall be located (A)
1939 on the same premises as the micro-cultivator, or (B) on a tract of land or
1940 parcel that abuts such premises or is located within one hundred feet of
1941 such premises measured from the point on such tract of land or parcel
1942 that is closest to such premises.

1943 (6) Upon receipt of a written statement from the department as set
1944 forth in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the
1945 micro-cultivator shall:

1946 (A) Be authorized to sell cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-
1947 cultivator to consumers and, in the case of a hybrid retailer
1948 endorsement, consumers, qualifying patients and caregivers;

1949 (B) Acknowledge and agree that such micro-cultivator is not eligible
1950 to expand to a cultivator license, as provided in this section;

1951 (C) Maintain the retailer's or hybrid-retailer's activities and facility in
1952 accordance with the requirements established in this chapter, chapter
1953 420f and the regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued
1954 pursuant to said chapters, as applicable; and

1955 (D) Acknowledge and agree that in the event that an administrative
1956 agency or court of competent jurisdiction issues a suspension,
1957 revocation, cease and desist order or other order halting the micro-

1958 cultivator's operations, the micro-cultivator shall cease all public retailer
1959 or hybrid-retailer activities associated with the retailer or hybrid retailer
1960 endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection.

1961 (7) A micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
1962 subsection may sell cannabis cultivated by the micro-cultivator directly
1963 to consumers by utilizing a delivery service or its own employees,
1964 subject to the provisions of subsection [(b)] (c) of section 21a-420c, as
1965 amended by this act, provided such micro-cultivator shall exclusively
1966 sell cannabis cultivated by such micro-cultivator.

1967 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a micro-cultivator
1968 with an active endorsement issued under this subsection shall not
1969 exceed twenty-five thousand square feet of grow space and shall not be
1970 eligible to convert to a cultivator unless the micro-cultivator
1971 permanently surrenders such endorsement and ceases all retailer and
1972 hybrid retailer activities at the cannabis establishment.

1973 (9) An endorsement issued under this subsection shall not impact any
1974 right a micro-cultivator may have to create an equity joint venture.

1975 Sec. 22. Section 21a-420q of the general statutes is repealed and the
1976 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1977 The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
1978 provisions of chapter 54, to establish the maximum grow space
1979 permitted by a cultivator and micro-cultivator. In adopting such
1980 regulations, the commissioner shall seek to ensure an adequate supply
1981 of cannabis for the market. Notwithstanding the requirements of
1982 sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to effectuate this section, prior
1983 to adopting such regulations, the commissioner shall issue policies and
1984 procedures to implement the provisions of this section that shall have
1985 the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all policies and
1986 procedures on the department's Internet web site and submit such
1987 policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for posting on the
1988 eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of

1989 any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer
1990 be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or
1991 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or [forty-eight] sixty-
1992 three months from July 1, 2021. [, if such regulations have not been
1993 submitted to the legislative regulation review committee for
1994 consideration under section 4-170.]

1995 Sec. 23. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420r of the general statutes is
1996 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1997 *1, 2025*):

1998 (d) A retailer may deliver cannabis through a delivery service or by
1999 utilizing its own employees, subject to the provisions of subsection [(b)]
2000 (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act.

2001 Sec. 24. Section 21a-420s of the general statutes is repealed and the
2002 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2003 (a) [On and after July 1, 2021, the] The department may issue or renew
2004 a license for a hybrid retailer. No person may act as a hybrid retailer or
2005 represent that such person is a hybrid retailer unless such person has
2006 obtained a license from the department pursuant to this section.

2007 (b) A hybrid retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-
2008 cultivator, producer, product packager, food and beverage
2009 manufacturer, product manufacturer or transporter. In addition to the
2010 activities authorized under section 21a-420t, as amended by this act, a
2011 hybrid retailer may sell, transport or transfer cannabis to a delivery
2012 service, cannabis testing laboratory or research program. A hybrid
2013 retailer may sell cannabis products to a consumer or research program.
2014 A hybrid retailer shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost to a
2015 consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver as part of a commercial
2016 transaction.

2017 (c) In addition to conducting general retail sales, a hybrid retailer may
2018 sell cannabis and medical marijuana products [,] to qualifying patients
2019 and caregivers. Any cannabis or medical marijuana products sold to

2020 qualifying patients and caregivers shall be dispensed by a licensed
2021 pharmacist and shall be recorded in the electronic prescription drug
2022 monitoring program, established pursuant to section 21a-254, in real-
2023 time or immediately upon completion of the transaction, unless not
2024 reasonably feasible for a specific transaction, but in no case longer than
2025 one hour after completion of the transaction. Only a licensed pharmacist
2026 or dispensary technician may upload or access data in the prescription
2027 drug monitoring program.

2028 (d) (1) A hybrid retailer shall maintain a licensed pharmacist on
2029 premises [at all times] for at least eight consecutive hours per calendar
2030 week when the hybrid retail location is open to the public or to
2031 qualifying patients and caregivers. At all times while a hybrid retailer
2032 location is open to the public and a licensed pharmacist is not physically
2033 present on premises and available for qualifying patient and caregiver
2034 consultations, the hybrid retailer shall ensure that a licensed pharmacist
2035 is readily available to (A) provide telehealth consultations for qualifying
2036 patients and caregivers, and (B) conduct remote order entry verification
2037 in accordance with regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant
2038 to section 20-576, which remote order entry verification shall only be
2039 conducted by a licensed pharmacist in compliance with all remote order
2040 entry verification requirements established in regulations adopted by
2041 the commissioner pursuant to section 20-576.

2042 (2) A hybrid retailer that offers telehealth consultations with a
2043 licensed pharmacist shall (A) employ such pharmacist for at least
2044 twenty hours per calendar week, (B) maintain technology that is capable
2045 of facilitating such consultations, and (C) make such consultations
2046 readily available and accessible to qualifying patients and caregivers,
2047 including, but not limited to, by telephone from a remote location
2048 outside of the hybrid retailer location and from the private consultation
2049 space required under subsection (e) of this section.

2050 (3) Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously post and maintain a sign
2051 at the main entrance of the hybrid retailer location, which sign shall (A)
2052 be at least twelve inches in height and eighteen inches in width, (B)

2053 incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear and legible, and (C)
2054 state the name of the licensed pharmacist who is available for qualifying
2055 patient and caregiver consultations either in-person or through
2056 telehealth.

2057 (4) Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously post and maintain a sign
2058 at each register or comparable point of sale within the hybrid retailer
2059 location, and on any Internet web site maintained by such hybrid
2060 retailer, which sign shall (A) be at least eight inches in height and ten
2061 inches in width, (B) incorporate lettering in a size and style that is clear
2062 and legible, and (C) state "Pharmacist available for consultation" in a
2063 clear and legible manner.

2064 (5) Each licensed pharmacist who consults with qualifying patients
2065 or caregivers shall annually complete not less than five contact hours of
2066 continuing professional education, as set forth in section 20-600, related
2067 to the cannabis industry, the pharmacy laws of this state or the
2068 treatment of debilitating medical conditions, as defined in section 21a-
2069 408. Such contact hours shall be included in, and not be in addition to,
2070 the fifteen contact hours required under section 20-600.

2071 (e) The hybrid retailer location shall include a private consultation
2072 space for pharmacists to meet with qualifying patients and caregivers.
2073 Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously display, on the exterior of the
2074 hybrid retailer location, a symbol that denotes the sale of medical
2075 marijuana products, which symbol shall be in a form and manner
2076 prescribed by the commissioner and posted on the department's
2077 Internet web site. Additionally, the hybrid retailer premises shall
2078 accommodate an expedited method of entry that allows for priority
2079 entrance into the premises for qualifying patients and caregivers.

2080 (f) Hybrid retailers shall maintain a secure location, in a manner
2081 approved by the commissioner, at the licensee's premises where
2082 cannabis that is unable to be delivered may be returned to the hybrid
2083 retailer. Such secure cannabis return location shall meet specifications
2084 set forth by the commissioner and published on the department's

2085 Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by the department.

2086 (g) Cannabis dispensed to a qualifying patient or caregiver that [are]
2087 is unable to be delivered and [are] is returned by the delivery service to
2088 the hybrid retailer shall be returned to the licensee inventory system and
2089 removed from the prescription drug monitoring program not later than
2090 forty-eight hours after receipt of the cannabis from the delivery service.

2091 (h) A hybrid retailer may not convert its license to a retailer license.
2092 To obtain a retailer license, a hybrid retailer shall apply through the
2093 lottery application process. A hybrid retailer may convert to a
2094 dispensary facility, [if] provided the hybrid retailer complies with all
2095 applicable provisions of chapter 420f [,] and [upon] has received written
2096 approval [by] from the department.

2097 (i) A retailer may apply to the department to convert its license to a
2098 hybrid retailer license, without applying through the lottery application
2099 system. To convert a retailer license to a hybrid retailer license, a retailer
2100 shall submit a complete application to the department, in a form and
2101 manner prescribed by the commissioner. Prior to issuing a hybrid
2102 retailer license pursuant to this section, the department shall conduct an
2103 inspection of the converting retailer establishment. Upon a satisfactory
2104 inspection, the department shall deactivate the converting retailer
2105 license and issue a new hybrid retailer license to the applicant.

2106 [(i)] (j) Manufacturer hemp products, as defined in section 22-61l,
2107 may be sold within a hybrid retailer facility, provided such
2108 manufacturer hemp products are:

2109 (1) Stored separately from cannabis and cannabis products;

2110 (2) Separated, by a physical separation, from cannabis and cannabis
2111 products in any display area;

2112 (3) Displayed with signage approved by the department;

2113 (4) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation

2114 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
2115 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
2116 may be located outside of this state;

2117 (5) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (A) a manufacturer
2118 hemp product, (B) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
2119 and (C) not cannabis or a cannabis product; [and]

2120 (6) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
2121 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters; and

2122 (7) Derived from hemp grown by a United States Department of
2123 Agriculture hemp producer licensee under an approved state or tribal
2124 hemp production plan.

2125 Sec. 25. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 21a-420t of the general
2126 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2127 (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2128 (d) [On and after September 1, 2021, a] A dispensary facility or hybrid
2129 retailer may apply to the department, in a form and in a manner
2130 prescribed by the commissioner, to provide delivery services through a
2131 delivery service or utilizing its own employees, subject to the provisions
2132 of subsection [(b)] (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this act, to
2133 qualifying patients, caregivers, research program subjects, as defined in
2134 section 21a-408, and hospice and other inpatient care facilities licensed
2135 by the Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that have
2136 a protocol for the handling and distribution of cannabis that has been
2137 approved by the Department of Consumer Protection. A dispensary
2138 facility or hybrid retailer may deliver cannabis or medical marijuana
2139 products only from its own inventory to qualifying patients and
2140 caregivers. If such application is approved by the commissioner, the
2141 dispensary facility or hybrid retailer may commence delivery services
2142 on and after January 1, 2022, provided the commissioner may authorize
2143 dispensary facilities or hybrid retailers to commence delivery services
2144 prior to January 1, 2022, upon forty-five days advance written notice,

2145 published on the department's Internet web site.

2146 (e) Hybrid retailers may commence delivery of cannabis directly to
2147 consumers as of the date the first adult use cannabis sales are permitted
2148 by the commissioner as set forth in subsection (f) of this section, through
2149 a delivery service, or utilizing their own employees, subject to the
2150 provisions of subsection [(b)] (c) of section 21a-420c, as amended by this
2151 act.

2152 Sec. 26. Subsection (g) of section 21a-420u of the general statutes is
2153 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2154 *passage*):

2155 (g) If a dispensary facility has paid the reduced conversion fee, in
2156 accordance with subsection (a) of this section, and did not subsequently
2157 create one equity joint venture under this section that, not later than
2158 [fourteen] twenty-four months after the Department of Consumer
2159 Protection approved the dispensary facility's license conversion
2160 application under section 21a-420t, as amended by this act, receives a
2161 final license from the department, the dispensary facility shall be liable
2162 for the full conversion fee of one million dollars established in section
2163 21a-420e, as amended by this act, minus such paid reduced conversion
2164 fee.

2165 Sec. 27. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420z of the general statutes is
2166 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2167 *passage*):

2168 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
2169 chapter 54, to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
2170 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
2171 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
2172 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
2173 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section that
2174 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
2175 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site, and

2176 submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for
2177 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
2178 effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure
2179 shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such
2180 policy or procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or [forty-
2181 eight] sixty-three months from July 1, 2021. [, if such final regulations
2182 have not been submitted to the legislative regulation review committee
2183 for consideration under section 4-170.] The commissioner shall issue
2184 policies and procedures, and thereafter adopt final regulations,
2185 requiring that: (1) The delivery service and transporter meet certain
2186 security requirements related to the storage, handling and transport of
2187 cannabis, the vehicles employed, the conduct of employees and agents,
2188 and the documentation that shall be maintained by the delivery service,
2189 transporter and its drivers; (2) a delivery service that delivers cannabis
2190 to consumers maintain an online interface that verifies the age of
2191 consumers ordering cannabis for delivery and meets certain
2192 specifications and data security standards; and (3) a delivery service that
2193 delivers cannabis to consumers, qualifying patients or caregivers, and
2194 all employees and agents of such licensee, to verify the identity of the
2195 qualifying patient, caregiver or consumer and the age of the consumer
2196 upon delivery of cannabis to the end consumer, qualifying patient or
2197 caregiver, in a manner acceptable to the commissioner. The individual
2198 placing the cannabis order shall be the individual accepting delivery of
2199 the cannabis except, in the case of a qualifying patient, the individual
2200 accepting the delivery may be the caregiver of such qualifying patient.

2201 Sec. 28. Section 21a-420z of the general statutes, as amended by
2202 section 27 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2203 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2204 (a) [On and after July 1, 2021, the] The department may issue or renew
2205 a license for a person to be a delivery service or a transporter. No person
2206 may act as a delivery service or transporter or represent that such person
2207 is a licensed delivery service or transporter unless such person has
2208 obtained a license from the department pursuant to this section.

2209 (b) Upon application for a delivery service or transporter license, the
2210 applicant shall indicate whether the applicant is applying to transport
2211 cannabis (1) between cannabis establishments, in which case the
2212 applicant shall apply for a transporter license, or (2) from certain
2213 cannabis establishments to consumers or qualifying patients and
2214 caregivers, or a combination thereof, in which case the applicant shall
2215 apply for a delivery service license.

2216 (c) A delivery service may (1) deliver cannabis from a micro-
2217 cultivator, retailer, or hybrid retailer directly to a consumer, and (2)
2218 deliver cannabis and medical marijuana products from a hybrid retailer
2219 or dispensary facility directly to a qualifying patient, caregiver, or
2220 hospice or other inpatient care facility licensed by the Department of
2221 Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that has protocols for the
2222 handling and distribution of cannabis that have been approved by the
2223 Department of Consumer Protection. A delivery service may not store
2224 or maintain control of cannabis or medical marijuana products for more
2225 than twenty-four hours between the point when a consumer, qualifying
2226 patient, caregiver or facility places an order, until the time that the
2227 cannabis or medical marijuana product is delivered to such consumer,
2228 qualifying patient, caregiver or facility.

2229 (d) [A] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a
2230 transporter may deliver cannabis between cannabis establishments,
2231 research programs and cannabis testing laboratories and shall not store
2232 or maintain control of cannabis for more than twenty-four hours from
2233 the time the transporter obtains the cannabis from a cannabis
2234 establishment, research program or cannabis testing laboratory until the
2235 time such cannabis is delivered to the destination.

2236 (2) (A) A transporter may expand the transporter's authorized
2237 activities to store, maintain and handle cannabis in accordance with the
2238 provisions of this subsection, provided such transporter:

2239 (i) Possesses each unit of cannabis for a period not to exceed thirty
2240 days beginning on the date on which the transporter receives such

2241 cannabis;

2242 (ii) Complies with all security requirements established pursuant to
2243 section 21a-421l, as amended by this act, and the policies, procedures
2244 and regulations adopted pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by
2245 this act;

2246 (iii) Attests that such transporter shall not open or remove any
2247 cannabis from individual child-resistant packaging, provided nothing
2248 in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit a transporter from
2249 consolidating or separating bulk packaged cannabis for the purposes of
2250 commercial distribution;

2251 (iv) Attests that such transporter shall comply with all requirements
2252 set forth in section 21a-421n, and all policies, procedures and regulations
2253 adopted pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, for the
2254 electronic tracking system concerning the receipt, storage, repackaging
2255 and distribution of cannabis;

2256 (v) Pays to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
2257 commissioner, a one-time expansion authorization payment of five
2258 thousand dollars, to be deposited in the consumer protection
2259 enforcement account established in section 21a-8a;

2260 (vi) Notifies the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
2261 commissioner, at least thirty days before the date on which the
2262 transporter intends to commence the storage of cannabis for a period
2263 exceeding twenty-four hours; and

2264 (vii) Receives written confirmation from the department that the
2265 transporter meets the security requirements described in subparagraph
2266 (A)(ii) of this subdivision.

2267 (B) The department shall take all reasonable efforts to schedule an
2268 inspection of the cannabis establishment facility not later than sixty days
2269 after the department receives an application for transporter expansion
2270 pursuant to this subdivision. Upon completion of such inspection, the

2271 department shall promptly provide to the transporter (i) written
2272 confirmation of compliance with the security requirements set forth in
2273 subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision, or (ii) notice of noncompliance
2274 with the security requirements set forth in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this
2275 subdivision.

2276 (C) A transporter that expands the transporter's authorized activities
2277 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) comply with all
2278 provisions of this chapter, and all regulations, policies and procedures
2279 prescribed pursuant to this chapter, concerning product packagers, and
2280 (ii) not open or remove any cannabis from individual child-resistant
2281 packaging, provided nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to
2282 prohibit a transporter from consolidating or separating bulk packaged
2283 cannabis for the purposes of commercial distribution on a scale that is
2284 greater than commercial distribution on an individual and final
2285 packaging basis.

2286 (D) In the event of a conflict between any provision of this chapter, or
2287 any regulation, policy or procedure prescribed pursuant to this chapter,
2288 concerning transporters and any such provision, regulation, policy or
2289 procedure concerning product packagers, the provision, regulation,
2290 policy or procedure imposing the more stringent public health and
2291 safety standard shall prevail.

2292 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
2293 chapter 54, to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
2294 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
2295 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
2296 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
2297 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section that
2298 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
2299 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site, and
2300 submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for
2301 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
2302 effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure
2303 shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such

2304 policy or procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or sixty-
2305 three months from July 1, 2021. The commissioner shall issue policies
2306 and procedures, and thereafter adopt final regulations, requiring that:
2307 (1) The delivery service and transporter meet certain security
2308 requirements related to the storage, handling and transport of cannabis,
2309 the vehicles employed, the conduct of employees and agents, and the
2310 documentation that shall be maintained by the delivery service,
2311 transporter and its drivers; (2) a delivery service that delivers cannabis
2312 to consumers maintain an online interface that verifies the age of
2313 consumers ordering cannabis for delivery and meets certain
2314 specifications and data security standards; and (3) a delivery service that
2315 delivers cannabis to consumers, qualifying patients or caregivers, and
2316 all employees and agents of such licensee, to verify the identity of the
2317 qualifying patient, caregiver or consumer and the age of the consumer
2318 upon delivery of cannabis to the end consumer, qualifying patient or
2319 caregiver, in a manner acceptable to the commissioner. The individual
2320 placing the cannabis order shall be the individual accepting delivery of
2321 the cannabis except, in the case of a qualifying patient, the individual
2322 accepting the delivery may be the caregiver of such qualifying patient.

2323 (f) A delivery service shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost to a
2324 consumer or qualifying patient or caregiver as part of a commercial
2325 transaction.

2326 (g) A delivery service that employs twelve or more individuals to
2327 deliver cannabis pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may only use
2328 individuals employed on a full-time basis, not less than thirty-five hours
2329 [a] per week, to deliver cannabis pursuant to subsection (c) of this
2330 section. Any delivery service employees who deliver cannabis shall be
2331 registered with the department, and a delivery service shall not employ
2332 more than twenty-five such delivery employees at any given time.

2333 (h) No provision of this section shall be construed to excuse any
2334 delivery service from the requirement that such delivery service enter
2335 into a labor peace agreement with a bona fide labor organization under
2336 section 21a-421d.

2337 Sec. 29. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421j of the general statutes is
2338 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2339 *passage*):

2340 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
2341 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
2342 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
2343 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
2344 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
2345 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of RERACA that
2346 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
2347 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site and
2348 submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for
2349 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
2350 effective date of any policy or procedure. The commissioner shall also
2351 provide such policies and procedures, in a manner prescribed by the
2352 commissioner, to each licensee. Any such policy or procedure shall no
2353 longer be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy
2354 or procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or [forty-eight]
2355 sixty-three months from June 22, 2021. [, if such regulations have not
2356 been submitted to the legislative regulation review committee for
2357 consideration under section 4-170.] The commissioner shall issue
2358 policies and procedures and thereafter final regulations that include, but
2359 are not limited to, the following:

2360 (1) Setting appropriate dosage, potency, concentration and serving
2361 size limits and delineation requirements for cannabis, provided a
2362 standardized serving of edible cannabis product or beverage, other than
2363 a medical marijuana product, shall contain not more than five
2364 milligrams of THC.

2365 (2) Requiring that each single standardized serving of cannabis
2366 product in a multiple-serving edible product or beverage is physically
2367 demarked in a way that enables a reasonable person to determine how
2368 much of the product constitutes a single serving and a maximum
2369 amount of THC per multiple-serving edible cannabis product or

2370 beverage.

2371 (3) Requiring that, if it is impracticable to clearly demark every
2372 standardized serving of cannabis product or to make each standardized
2373 serving easily separable in an edible cannabis product or beverage, the
2374 product, other than cannabis concentrate or medical marijuana product,
2375 shall contain not more than five milligrams of THC per unit of sale.

2376 (4) Establishing, in consultation with the Department of Mental
2377 Health and Addiction Services, consumer health materials that shall be
2378 posted or distributed, as specified by the commissioner, by cannabis
2379 establishments to maximize dissemination to cannabis consumers.
2380 Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts,
2381 signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed
2382 health materials.

2383 (5) Imposing labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis sold
2384 by a cannabis establishment that include, but are not limited to, the
2385 following:

2386 (A) Inclusion of universal symbols to indicate that cannabis, or a
2387 cannabis product, contains THC and is not legal or safe for individuals
2388 younger than twenty-one years of age, and prescribe how such product
2389 and product packaging shall utilize and exhibit such symbols.

2390 (B) A disclosure concerning the length of time it typically takes for
2391 the cannabis to affect an individual, including that certain forms of
2392 cannabis take longer to have an effect.

2393 (C) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is
2394 considered the equivalent to.

2395 (D) A list of ingredients and [all] additives for cannabis.

2396 (E) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
2397 21a-420p, as amended by this act, child-resistant, tamper-resistant and
2398 light-resistant packaging. For the purposes of this subparagraph,

2399 packaging shall be deemed to be (i) child-resistant if the packaging
2400 satisfies the standard for special packaging established in 16 CFR
2401 1700.1(b)(4), as amended from time to time, (ii) tamper-resistant if the
2402 packaging has at least one barrier to, or indicator of, entry that would
2403 preclude the contents of such packaging from being accessed or
2404 adulterated without indicating to a reasonable person that such
2405 packaging has been breached, and (iii) light-resistant if the packaging is
2406 entirely and uniformly opaque and protects the entirety of the contents
2407 of such packaging from the effects of light.

2408 (F) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
2409 21a-420p, as amended by this act, (i) packaging for cannabis intended
2410 for multiple servings to be resealable in such a manner so as to render
2411 such packaging continuously child-resistant, as described in
2412 subparagraph (E)(i) of this subdivision, and preserve the integrity of the
2413 contents of such packaging, and (ii) if packaging for cannabis intended
2414 for multiple servings contains any edible cannabis product, for each
2415 single standardized serving to be easily discernible and (I) individually
2416 wrapped, or (II) physically demarked and delineated as required under
2417 this subsection.

2418 (G) Impervious packaging that protects the contents of such
2419 packaging from contamination and exposure to any toxic or harmful
2420 substance, including, but not limited to, any glue or other adhesive or
2421 substance that is incorporated in such packaging.

2422 (H) Product tracking information sufficient to determine where and
2423 when the cannabis was grown and manufactured such that a product
2424 recall could be effectuated.

2425 (I) A net weight statement.

2426 (J) A recommended use by or expiration date.

2427 (K) Standard and uniform packaging and labeling, including, but not
2428 limited to, requirements (i) regarding branding or logos, (ii) that all
2429 packaging be opaque, and (iii) that amounts and concentrations of THC

2430 and cannabidiol, per serving and per package, be clearly marked on the
2431 packaging or label of any cannabis product sold.

2432 (L) For any cannabis concentrate cannabis product that contains a
2433 total THC percentage greater than thirty per cent, a warning that such
2434 cannabis product is a high-potency product and may increase the risk
2435 of psychosis.

2436 (M) Chemotypes, which shall be displayed as (i) "High THC, Low
2437 CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is greater than five to one and the
2438 total THC percentage is at least fifteen per cent, (ii) "Moderate THC,
2439 Moderate CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is at least one to five but
2440 not greater than five to one and the total THC percentage is greater than
2441 five per cent but less than fifteen per cent, (iii) "Low THC, High CBD"
2442 where the ratio of THC to CBD is less than one to five and the total THC
2443 percentage is not greater than five per cent, or (iv) the chemotype
2444 described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph that most closely
2445 fits the cannabis or cannabis product, as determined by mathematical
2446 analysis of the ratio of THC to CBD, where such cannabis or cannabis
2447 product does not fit a chemotype described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of
2448 this subparagraph.

2449 (N) A requirement that, prior to being sold and transferred to a
2450 consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver, cannabis packaging be
2451 clearly labeled, whether printed directly on such packaging or affixed
2452 by way of a separate label, other than an extended content label, with:

2453 (i) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
2454 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
2455 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
2456 the commissioner pursuant to this section; and

2457 (ii) The following information concerning the cannabis contained in
2458 such packaging, which shall be in legible English, black lettering, Times
2459 New Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background
2460 and in uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a

2461 capital letter "K", which information shall also be available on the
2462 Internet web site of the cannabis establishment that sells and transfers
2463 such cannabis:

2464 (I) The name of such cannabis, as registered with the department
2465 under the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted,
2466 by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

2467 (II) The expiration date, which shall not account for any refrigeration
2468 after such cannabis is sold and transferred to the consumer, qualifying
2469 patient or caregiver.

2470 (III) The net weight or volume, expressed in metric and imperial
2471 units.

2472 (IV) The standardized serving size, expressed in customary units, and
2473 the number of servings included in such packaging, if applicable.

2474 (V) Directions for use and storage.

2475 (VI) Each active ingredient comprising at least one per cent of such
2476 cannabis, including cannabinoids, isomers, esters, ethers and salts and
2477 salts of isomers, esters and ethers, and all quantities thereof expressed
2478 in metric units and as a percentage of volume.

2479 (VII) A list of all known allergens, as identified by the federal Food
2480 and Drug Administration, contained in such cannabis, or the denotation
2481 "no known FDA identified allergens" if such cannabis does not contain
2482 any allergen identified by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

2483 (VIII) The following warning statement within, and outlined by, a red
2484 box:

2485 "This product is not FDA-approved, may be intoxicating, cause long-
2486 term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side
2487 effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence
2488 of cannabis. Keep away from children."

2489 (IX) At least one of the following warning statements, rotated
2490 quarterly on an alternating basis:

2491 "Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to
2492 mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression,
2493 stunted brain development and impaired memory."

2494 "Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be
2495 harmful."

2496 "Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit-
2497 forming and addictive."

2498 "Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may
2499 result in adverse effects requiring medical attention."

2500 (X) All information necessary to comply with labeling requirements
2501 imposed under the laws of this state and federal law, including, but not
2502 limited to, sections 21a-91 to 21a-120, inclusive, and 21a-151 to 21a-159,
2503 inclusive, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq.,
2504 as amended from time to time, and the federal Fair Packaging and
2505 Labeling Act, 15 USC 1451 et seq., as amended from time to time, for
2506 similar products that do not contain cannabis.

2507 (XI) Such additional warning labels for certain cannabis products as
2508 the commissioner may require and post on the department's Internet
2509 web site.

2510 (6) Establishing laboratory testing standards, consumer disclosures
2511 concerning mold and yeast in cannabis and permitted remediation
2512 practices.

2513 (7) Restricting forms of cannabis products and cannabis product
2514 delivery systems to ensure consumer safety and deter public health
2515 concerns.

2516 (8) Prohibiting certain manufacturing methods, or inclusion of
2517 additives to cannabis products, including, but not limited to, (A) added

2518 flavoring, terpenes or other additives unless approved by the
2519 department, or (B) any form of nicotine or other additive containing
2520 nicotine.

2521 (9) Prohibiting cannabis product types that appeal to children.

2522 (10) Establishing physical and cyber security requirements related to
2523 build out, monitoring and protocols for cannabis establishments as a
2524 requirement for licensure.

2525 (11) Placing temporary limits on the sale of cannabis in the adult-use
2526 market, if deemed appropriate and necessary by the commissioner, in
2527 response to a shortage of cannabis for qualifying patients.

2528 (12) Requiring retailers and hybrid retailers to make best efforts to
2529 provide access to (A) low-dose THC products, including products that
2530 have one milligram and two and a half milligrams of THC per dose, and
2531 (B) high-dose CBD products.

2532 (13) Requiring producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product
2533 manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers to register brand
2534 names for cannabis, in accordance with the policies and procedures and
2535 subject to the fee set forth in, regulations adopted under chapter 420f.

2536 (14) Prohibiting a cannabis establishment from selling, other than the
2537 sale of medical marijuana products between cannabis establishments
2538 and the sale of cannabis to [qualified] qualifying patients and caregivers,
2539 (A) cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC
2540 concentration greater than thirty per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B)
2541 any cannabis product other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant
2542 material with a total THC concentration greater than sixty per cent on a
2543 dry-weight basis, except that the provisions of subparagraph (B) of this
2544 subdivision shall not apply to the sale of prefilled cartridges for use in
2545 an electronic cannabis delivery system, as defined in section 19a-342a
2546 and the department may adjust the percentages set forth in
2547 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision in regulations adopted
2548 pursuant to this section for purposes of public health or to address

2549 market access or shortage. As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant
2550 material" means material from the cannabis plant, as defined in section
2551 21a-279a.

2552 (15) Permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

2553 (16) Prohibiting packaging that is (A) visually similar to any
2554 commercially similar product that does not contain cannabis, or (B) used
2555 for any good that is marketed to individuals reasonably expected to be
2556 younger than twenty-one years of age.

2557 (17) Allowing packaging to include a picture of the cannabis product
2558 and contain a logo of one cannabis establishment, which logo may be
2559 comprised of not more than three colors and provided neither black nor
2560 white shall be considered one of such three colors.

2561 (18) Requiring packaging to (A) be entirely and uniformly one color,
2562 and (B) not incorporate any information, print, embossing, debossing,
2563 graphic or hidden feature, other than any permitted or required label.

2564 (19) Requiring that packaging and labeling for an edible cannabis
2565 product, excluding the warning labels required under this subsection
2566 and a picture of the cannabis product described in subdivision (17) of
2567 this subsection but including, but not limited to, the logo of the cannabis
2568 establishment, shall only be comprised of black and white or a
2569 combination thereof.

2570 (20) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,
2571 requiring that delivery device cartridges be labeled, in a clearly legible
2572 manner and in as large a font as the size of the device reasonably allows,
2573 with only the following information (i) the name of the cannabis
2574 establishment where the cannabis is grown or manufactured, (ii) the
2575 cannabis brand, (iii) the total THC and total CBD content contained
2576 within the delivery device cartridge, (iv) the expiration date, and (v) the
2577 unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking system
2578 maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under the
2579 policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by the

2580 commissioner pursuant to this section.

2581 (B) A cannabis establishment may emboss, deboss or similarly print
2582 the name of the cannabis establishment's business entity, and one logo
2583 with not more than three colors, on a delivery device cartridge.

2584 (21) Prescribing signage to be prominently displayed at dispensary
2585 facilities, retailers and hybrid retailers disclosing (A) possible health
2586 risks related to mold, and (B) the use and possible health risks related to
2587 the use of mold remediation techniques.

2588 Sec. 30. Section 21a-421j of the general statutes, as amended by section
2589 29 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2590 (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2591 (a) As used in this section, "total THC" has the same meaning as
2592 provided in section 21a-240.

2593 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
2594 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
2595 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
2596 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
2597 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
2598 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of RERACA that
2599 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
2600 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site and
2601 submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for
2602 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
2603 effective date of any policy or procedure. The commissioner shall also
2604 provide such policies and procedures, in a manner prescribed by the
2605 commissioner, to each licensee. Any such policy or procedure shall no
2606 longer be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy
2607 or procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or sixty-three
2608 months from June 22, 2021. The commissioner shall issue policies and
2609 procedures and thereafter final regulations that include, but are not
2610 limited to, the following:

2611 (1) Setting appropriate dosage, potency, concentration and serving
2612 size limits and delineation requirements for cannabis, provided a
2613 standardized serving of edible cannabis product or beverage, other than
2614 a medical marijuana product, shall contain not more than five
2615 milligrams of THC.

2616 (2) Requiring that each single standardized serving of cannabis
2617 product in a multiple-serving edible product or beverage is physically
2618 demarked in a way that enables a reasonable person to determine how
2619 much of the product constitutes a single serving and a maximum
2620 amount of THC per multiple-serving edible cannabis product or
2621 beverage.

2622 (3) Requiring that, if it is impracticable to clearly demark every
2623 standardized serving of cannabis product or to make each standardized
2624 serving easily separable in an edible cannabis product or beverage, the
2625 product, other than cannabis concentrate or medical marijuana product,
2626 shall contain not more than five milligrams of THC per unit of sale.

2627 (4) Establishing, in consultation with the Department of Mental
2628 Health and Addiction Services, consumer health materials that shall be
2629 posted or distributed, as specified by the commissioner, by cannabis
2630 establishments to maximize dissemination to cannabis consumers.
2631 Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts,
2632 signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed
2633 health materials.

2634 (5) Imposing labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis sold
2635 by a cannabis establishment that include, but are not limited to, the
2636 following:

2637 (A) Inclusion of universal symbols to indicate that cannabis, or a
2638 cannabis product, contains THC and is not legal or safe for individuals
2639 younger than twenty-one years of age, and prescribe how such product
2640 and product packaging shall utilize and exhibit such symbols.

2641 (B) A disclosure concerning the length of time it typically takes for

2642 the cannabis to affect an individual, including that certain forms of
2643 cannabis take longer to have an effect.

2644 (C) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is
2645 considered the equivalent to.

2646 (D) A list of ingredients and additives for cannabis.

2647 (E) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
2648 21a-420p, as amended by this act, child-resistant, tamper-resistant and
2649 light-resistant packaging. For the purposes of this subparagraph,
2650 packaging shall be deemed to be (i) child-resistant if the packaging
2651 satisfies the standard for special packaging established in 16 CFR
2652 1700.1(b)(4), as amended from time to time, (ii) tamper-resistant if the
2653 packaging has at least one barrier to, or indicator of, entry that would
2654 preclude the contents of such packaging from being accessed or
2655 adulterated without indicating to a reasonable person that such
2656 packaging has been breached, and (iii) light-resistant if the packaging is
2657 entirely and uniformly opaque and protects the entirety of the contents
2658 of such packaging from the effects of light.

2659 (F) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
2660 21a-420p, as amended by this act, (i) packaging for cannabis intended
2661 for multiple servings to be resealable in such a manner so as to render
2662 such packaging continuously child-resistant, as described in
2663 subparagraph (E)(i) of this subdivision, and preserve the integrity of the
2664 contents of such packaging, and (ii) if packaging for cannabis intended
2665 for multiple servings contains any edible cannabis product, for each
2666 single standardized serving to be easily discernible and (I) individually
2667 wrapped, or (II) physically demarked and delineated as required under
2668 this subsection.

2669 (G) Impervious packaging that protects the contents of such
2670 packaging from contamination and exposure to any toxic or harmful
2671 substance, including, but not limited to, any glue or other adhesive or
2672 substance that is incorporated in such packaging.

2673 (H) Product tracking information sufficient to determine where and
2674 when the cannabis was grown and manufactured such that a product
2675 recall could be effectuated.

2676 (I) A net weight statement.

2677 (J) A recommended use by or expiration date.

2678 (K) Standard and uniform packaging and labeling, including, but not
2679 limited to, requirements (i) regarding branding or logos, (ii) that all
2680 packaging be opaque, and (iii) that amounts and concentrations of THC
2681 and cannabidiol, per serving and per package, be clearly marked on the
2682 packaging or label of any cannabis product sold.

2683 (L) For any cannabis concentrate cannabis product that contains a
2684 total THC percentage greater than thirty per cent, a warning that such
2685 cannabis product is a high-potency product and may increase the risk
2686 of psychosis.

2687 (M) Chemotypes, which shall be displayed as (i) "High THC, Low
2688 CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is greater than five to one and the
2689 total THC percentage is at least fifteen per cent, (ii) "Moderate THC,
2690 Moderate CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is at least one to five but
2691 not greater than five to one and the total THC percentage is greater than
2692 five per cent but less than fifteen per cent, (iii) "Low THC, High CBD"
2693 where the ratio of THC to CBD is less than one to five and the total THC
2694 percentage is not greater than five per cent, or (iv) the chemotype
2695 described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph that most closely
2696 fits the cannabis or cannabis product, as determined by mathematical
2697 analysis of the ratio of THC to CBD, where such cannabis or cannabis
2698 product does not fit a chemotype described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of
2699 this subparagraph.

2700 (N) A requirement that, prior to being sold and transferred to a
2701 consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver, cannabis packaging be
2702 clearly labeled, whether printed directly on such packaging or affixed
2703 by way of a separate label, other than an extended content label, with:

2704 (i) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
2705 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
2706 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
2707 the commissioner pursuant to this section; and

2708 (ii) The following information concerning the cannabis contained in
2709 such packaging, which shall be in legible English, black lettering, Times
2710 New Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background
2711 and in uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a
2712 capital letter "K", which information shall also be available on the
2713 Internet web site of the cannabis establishment that sells and transfers
2714 such cannabis:

2715 (I) The name of such cannabis, as registered with the department
2716 under the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted,
2717 by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

2718 (II) The expiration date, which shall not account for any refrigeration
2719 after such cannabis is sold and transferred to the consumer, qualifying
2720 patient or caregiver.

2721 (III) The net weight or volume, expressed in metric and imperial
2722 units.

2723 (IV) The standardized serving size, expressed in customary units, and
2724 the number of servings included in such packaging, if applicable.

2725 (V) Directions for use and storage.

2726 (VI) Each active ingredient comprising at least one per cent of such
2727 cannabis, including cannabinoids, isomers, esters, ethers and salts and
2728 salts of isomers, esters and ethers, and all quantities thereof expressed
2729 in metric units and as a percentage of volume.

2730 (VII) A list of all known allergens, as identified by the federal Food
2731 and Drug Administration, contained in such cannabis, or the denotation
2732 "no known FDA identified allergens" if such cannabis does not contain

2733 any allergen identified by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

2734 (VIII) The following warning statement within, and outlined by, a red
2735 box:

2736 "This product is not FDA-approved, may be intoxicating, cause long-
2737 term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side
2738 effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence
2739 of cannabis. Keep away from children."

2740 (IX) At least one of the following warning statements, rotated
2741 quarterly on an alternating basis:

2742 "Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to
2743 mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression,
2744 stunted brain development and impaired memory."

2745 "Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be
2746 harmful."

2747 "Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit-
2748 forming and addictive."

2749 "Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may
2750 result in adverse effects requiring medical attention."

2751 (X) All information necessary to comply with labeling requirements
2752 imposed under the laws of this state and federal law, including, but not
2753 limited to, sections 21a-91 to 21a-120, inclusive, and 21a-151 to 21a-159,
2754 inclusive, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq.,
2755 as amended from time to time, and the federal Fair Packaging and
2756 Labeling Act, 15 USC 1451 et seq., as amended from time to time, for
2757 similar products that do not contain cannabis.

2758 (XI) Such additional warning labels for certain cannabis products as
2759 the commissioner may require and post on the department's Internet
2760 web site.

2761 (6) Establishing laboratory testing standards, consumer disclosures
2762 concerning mold and yeast in cannabis and permitted remediation
2763 practices.

2764 (7) Restricting forms of cannabis products and cannabis product
2765 delivery systems to ensure consumer safety and deter public health
2766 concerns.

2767 (8) Prohibiting certain manufacturing methods, or inclusion of
2768 additives to cannabis products, including, but not limited to, (A) added
2769 flavoring, terpenes or other additives unless approved by the
2770 department, or (B) any form of nicotine or other additive containing
2771 nicotine.

2772 (9) Prohibiting cannabis product types that appeal to children,
2773 including, but not limited to, facsimiles of foods, beverages and other
2774 items that appeal to children.

2775 (10) Establishing physical and cyber security requirements related to
2776 build out, monitoring and protocols for cannabis establishments as a
2777 requirement for licensure.

2778 (11) Placing temporary limits on the sale of cannabis in the adult-use
2779 market, if deemed appropriate and necessary by the commissioner, in
2780 response to a shortage of cannabis for qualifying patients.

2781 (12) Requiring retailers and hybrid retailers to make best efforts to
2782 provide access to (A) low-dose THC products, including products that
2783 have one milligram and two and a half milligrams of THC per dose, and
2784 (B) high-dose CBD products.

2785 (13) Requiring producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product
2786 manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers to register brand
2787 names for cannabis, in accordance with the policies and procedures and
2788 subject to the fee set forth in, regulations adopted under chapter 420f.

2789 (14) Prohibiting a cannabis establishment from selling, other than the

2790 sale of medical marijuana products between cannabis establishments
2791 and the sale of cannabis to qualifying patients and caregivers, (A)
2792 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC
2793 concentration greater than [thirty] thirty-five per cent on a dry-weight
2794 basis, and (B) any cannabis product other than cannabis flower and
2795 cannabis plant material with a total THC concentration greater than
2796 [sixty] seventy per cent on a dry-weight basis, except that the provisions
2797 of subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall not apply to the sale of
2798 prefilled cartridges for use in an electronic cannabis delivery system, as
2799 defined in section 19a-342a and the department may adjust the
2800 percentages set forth in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision in
2801 regulations adopted pursuant to this section for purposes of public
2802 health or to address market access or shortage. As used in this
2803 subdivision, "cannabis plant material" means material from the cannabis
2804 plant, as defined in section 21a-279a.

2805 (15) Requiring dispensary facilities, hybrid retailers and retailers to
2806 display the following types of cannabis in a form and manner prescribed
2807 by the department and in an area physically and visually separated from
2808 other cannabis for sale at such establishment: (A) Cannabis flower or
2809 other cannabis plant material with a total THC concentration greater
2810 than thirty per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B) any cannabis product
2811 other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant material with a total THC
2812 concentration greater than sixty per cent on a dry-weight basis,
2813 excluding prefilled cartridges for use in an electronic cannabis delivery
2814 system. As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant material" has the
2815 same meaning as provided in subsection (j) of section 21a-279a.

2816 (16) Requiring any dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer that
2817 sells any form of cannabis that exceeds the THC concentrations set forth
2818 in subdivision (15) of this subsection to include the words "Warning -
2819 High THC" next to each such form of cannabis on such cannabis
2820 establishment's menus and advertisements.

2821 (17) Prescribing signage to be displayed at a dispensary facility,
2822 hybrid retailer or retailer informing consumers, qualifying patients and

2823 caregivers of health risks associated with cannabis in excess of the THC
2824 concentrations set forth in subdivision (15) of this subsection.

2825 ~~[(15)]~~ (18) Permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

2826 ~~[(16)]~~ (19) Prohibiting packaging that is (A) visually similar to any
2827 commercially similar product that does not contain cannabis, or (B) used
2828 for any good that is marketed to individuals reasonably expected to be
2829 younger than twenty-one years of age.

2830 ~~[(17)]~~ (20) Allowing packaging to include a picture of the cannabis
2831 product and contain a logo of one cannabis establishment, which logo
2832 may be comprised of not more than three colors and provided neither
2833 black nor white shall be considered one of such three colors.

2834 ~~[(18)]~~ (21) Requiring packaging to (A) be entirely and uniformly one
2835 color, and (B) not incorporate any information, print, embossing,
2836 debossing, graphic or hidden feature, other than any permitted or
2837 required label.

2838 ~~[(19)]~~ (22) Requiring that packaging and labeling for an edible
2839 cannabis product, excluding the warning labels required under this
2840 subsection and a picture of the cannabis product described in
2841 subdivision ~~[(17)]~~ (20) of this subsection but including, but not limited
2842 to, the logo of the cannabis establishment, shall only be comprised of
2843 black and white or a combination thereof.

2844 ~~[(20)]~~ (23) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
2845 subdivision, requiring that delivery device cartridges be labeled, in a
2846 clearly legible manner and in as large a font as the size of the device
2847 reasonably allows, with only the following information (i) the name of
2848 the cannabis establishment where the cannabis is grown or
2849 manufactured, (ii) the cannabis brand, (iii) the total THC and total CBD
2850 content contained within the delivery device cartridge, (iv) the
2851 expiration date, and (v) the unique identifier generated by a cannabis
2852 analytic tracking system maintained by the department and used to
2853 track cannabis under the policies and procedures issued, and final

2854 regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

2855 (B) A cannabis establishment may emboss, deboss or similarly print
2856 the name of the cannabis establishment's business entity, and one logo
2857 with not more than three colors, on a delivery device cartridge.

2858 [(21)] (24) Prescribing signage to be prominently displayed at
2859 dispensary facilities, retailers and hybrid retailers disclosing (A)
2860 possible health risks related to mold, and (B) the use and possible health
2861 risks related to the use of mold remediation techniques.

2862 Sec. 31. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421k of the general statutes is
2863 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2864 *passage*):

2865 (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
2866 inclusive, in order to effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect
2867 public health and safety, prior to adopting such regulations the
2868 commissioner shall implement policies and procedures to implement
2869 the provisions of RERACA that shall have the force and effect of law.
2870 The commissioner shall post all such policies and procedures on the
2871 department's Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures
2872 to the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at
2873 least fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure.
2874 Any such policies and procedures shall no longer be effective upon the
2875 earlier of either adoption of such policies and procedures as a final
2876 regulation under section 4-172 or [forty-eight] sixty-three months from
2877 June 22, 2021, [if such regulations have not been submitted to the
2878 legislative regulation review committee for consideration under section
2879 4-170.]

2880 Sec. 32. Section 21a-421l of the general statutes is repealed and the
2881 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2882 (a) Each cannabis establishment shall establish, maintain and comply
2883 with written policies and procedures for the cultivation, processing,
2884 manufacture, security, storage, inventory and distribution of cannabis,

2885 as applicable to the specific license type. Such policies and procedures
2886 shall include methods for identifying, recording and reporting
2887 diversion, theft or loss, and for correcting all errors and inaccuracies in
2888 inventories. Cannabis establishments shall include in their written
2889 policies and procedures a process for each of the following, if the
2890 establishment engages in such activity:

2891 (1) Handling mandatory and voluntary recalls of cannabis. Such
2892 process shall be adequate to deal with recalls due to any order of the
2893 commissioner and any voluntary action by the cannabis establishment
2894 to remove defective or potentially defective cannabis from the market
2895 or any action undertaken to promote public health and safety by
2896 replacing existing cannabis with improved products or packaging;

2897 (2) Preparing for, protecting against and handling any crisis that
2898 affects the security or operation of any facility used in the operation of
2899 a cannabis establishment in the event of a strike, fire, flood or other
2900 natural disaster, or other situations of local, state or national emergency;

2901 (3) Ensuring that any outdated, damaged, deteriorated, misbranded
2902 or adulterated cannabis is segregated from all other inventory and
2903 destroyed. Such procedure shall provide for written documentation of
2904 the cannabis disposition; and

2905 (4) Ensuring the oldest stock of a cannabis is sold, delivered or
2906 dispensed first. Such procedure may permit deviation from this
2907 requirement, if such deviation is temporary and approved by the
2908 commissioner.

2909 (b) A cannabis establishment shall (1) store all cannabis in such a
2910 manner as to prevent diversion, theft or loss, (2) make cannabis
2911 accessible only to the minimum number of specifically authorized
2912 employees essential for efficient operation, and (3) return any cannabis
2913 to a secure location at the end of the scheduled business day. For the
2914 purposes of this subsection, a location shall be deemed to be secure if
2915 the location satisfies the requirements imposed in subsection (b) of

2916 section 21a-262-4 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies for
2917 controlled substances listed in schedules III, IV and V of the Connecticut
2918 controlled substance scheduling regulations adopted pursuant to
2919 section 21a-243.

2920 (c) In the event of any suspected diversion of cannabis from a
2921 cannabis establishment, the cannabis establishment may conduct an
2922 internal investigation prior to notifying the department, provided:

2923 (1) The cannabis establishment has reasonably determined that the
2924 amount of cannabis involved with such suspected diversion is equal to
2925 not more than one-half ounce of raw cannabis or the equivalent as set
2926 forth in section 21a-279a;

2927 (2) Not later than two business days after the suspected diversion is
2928 initially discovered, the cannabis establishment notifies the department
2929 of the diversion and any findings of the cannabis establishment's
2930 investigation;

2931 (3) If at least two instances of cannabis diversion occur at the cannabis
2932 establishment within any six-month period, the commissioner may, in
2933 the commissioner's sole discretion, require the cannabis establishment
2934 to immediately notify the department of any subsequent suspected
2935 employee diversion;

2936 (4) If at least three instances of cannabis diversion occur at the
2937 cannabis establishment within any twelve-month period, the cannabis
2938 establishment shall notify the department immediately upon any future
2939 discovery or suspicion of cannabis diversion;

2940 (5) The suspected diversion does not involve any person with a
2941 financial interest in the cannabis establishment or a key employee of the
2942 cannabis establishment, and the cannabis establishment shall
2943 immediately notify the department of any such suspected diversion;
2944 and

2945 (6) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the

2946 department from conducting an investigation.

2947 Sec. 33. Subsection (a) of section 21a-421p of the general statutes is
2948 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
2949 *passage*):

2950 (a) For sufficient cause found pursuant to subsection (b) of this
2951 section, the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license or
2952 registration, issue fines of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars
2953 per violation, accept an offer in compromise or refuse to grant or renew
2954 a license or registration issued pursuant to RERACA, or place such
2955 licensee or registrant on probation, place conditions on such licensee or
2956 registrant or take other actions authorized by law. Information from
2957 inspections and investigations conducted by the department related to
2958 administrative complaints or cases shall not be subject to disclosure
2959 under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200,
2960 except after the department has entered into a settlement agreement, or
2961 concluded its investigation or inspection as evidenced by case closure,
2962 provided nothing in this section shall prevent the department from
2963 sharing information with other state and federal agencies and law
2964 enforcement as it relates to investigating violations of law. At the
2965 conclusion of any inspection or compliance check, the department shall
2966 provide a written statement to the licensee or registrant detailing (1) the
2967 findings and results of such inspection or compliance check, (2) any area
2968 of concern that has been identified, and (3) any corrective action that is
2969 required to address such area of concern.

2970 Sec. 34. Subsection (a) of section 21a-421bb of the general statutes is
2971 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2972 *1, 2025*):

2973 (a) No person, other than the holder of a cannabis establishment
2974 license issued pursuant to this chapter, [or] a person who provides
2975 professional services related to the purchase, sale or use of cannabis or
2976 a person who displays advertising or promotional materials that are
2977 solely visible within the interior of a cannabis establishment, shall

2978 advertise any cannabis or services related to cannabis in this state.

2979 Sec. 35. Section 21a-422f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2980 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

2981 (a) As used in this section, "municipality" means any town, city or
2982 borough, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and
2983 borough, and a district establishing a zoning commission under section
2984 7-326.

2985 (b) Any municipality may, by amendment to such municipality's
2986 zoning regulations or by local ordinance, (1) prohibit the establishment
2987 of a cannabis establishment, (2) except as provided in subsection (f) of
2988 this section, establish reasonable restrictions regarding the hours and
2989 signage within the limits of such municipality, or (3) establish
2990 restrictions on the proximity of cannabis establishments to any of the
2991 establishments listed in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 30-
2992 46. The chief zoning official of a municipality shall report, in writing,
2993 any zoning changes adopted by the municipality regarding cannabis
2994 establishments pursuant to this subsection to the Secretary of the Office
2995 of Policy and Management and to the department not later than
2996 fourteen days after the adoption of such changes.

2997 (c) Unless otherwise provided for by a municipality through its
2998 zoning regulations or ordinances, a cannabis establishment shall be
2999 zoned as if for any other similar use, other than a cannabis
3000 establishment, would be zoned.

3001 (d) Any restriction regarding hours, zoning and signage of a cannabis
3002 establishment adopted by a municipality shall not apply to an existing
3003 cannabis establishment located in such municipality if such cannabis
3004 establishment does not convert to a different license type, for a period
3005 of five years after the adoption of such prohibition or restriction.

3006 (e) For purposes of ensuring compliance with this section, a special
3007 permit or other affirmative approval shall be required for any retailer or
3008 micro-cultivator seeking to be located within a municipality. When

3009 awarding final licenses for a retailer or micro-cultivator, the Department
3010 of Consumer Protection may assume that, if an applicant for such final
3011 license has obtained zoning approval, the approval of a final license for
3012 such applicant shall not result in a violation of this section or any
3013 municipal restrictions on the number or density of cannabis
3014 establishments.

3015 (f) No retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator with a retailer or
3016 hybrid-retailer endorsement shall engage in any direct or indirect retail
3017 sale of cannabis (1) on Sunday before ten o'clock a.m. or after six o'clock
3018 p.m., or (2) on any day other than Sunday before eight o'clock a.m. or
3019 after ten o'clock p.m.

3020 Sec. 36. Section 21a-425 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3021 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3022 For the purposes of this section, [and] sections 21a-425a, as amended
3023 by this act, and 21a-425b, and sections 37 and 38 of this act:

3024 (1) "Alcoholic beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
3025 30-1;

3026 [(1)] (2) "Cannabis" means marijuana, as defined in section 21a-240;

3027 [(2)] (3) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided
3028 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3029 [(3)] (4) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in
3030 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3031 [(4)] (5) "Cannabis testing laboratory" has the same meaning as
3032 provided in section 21a-408;

3033 [(5)] (6) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
3034 Protection;

3035 [(6)] (7) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3036 420, as amended by this act;

3037 [(7)] (8) "Container" (A) means an object that is offered, intended for
3038 sale or sold to a consumer and directly contains an infused beverage or
3039 high-THC beverage, and (B) does not include an object or packaging
3040 that indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for transportation purposes,
3041 an infused beverage or high-THC beverage;

3042 [(8)] (9) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3043 420, as amended by this act;

3044 [(9)] (10) "Department" means the Department of Consumer
3045 Protection;

3046 [(10)] (11) "Dispensary facility" has the same meaning as provided in
3047 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3048 [(11)] (12) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning
3049 as provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3050 [(12)] (13) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-
3051 61l;

3052 [(13)] (14) "Hemp producer" means producer, as defined in section
3053 22-61l;

3054 [(14)] (15) "Hemp products" has the same meaning as provided in
3055 section 22-61l;

3056 (16) "High-THC beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an
3057 alcoholic beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, (C)
3058 contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, total
3059 THC that is greater than three milligrams per container, and (D)
3060 contains THC solely derived from hemp (i) grown by a United States
3061 Department of Agriculture hemp producer licensee under an approved
3062 state or tribal hemp production plan, and (ii) with a total THC
3063 concentration of not more than three-tenths per cent on a dry weight
3064 basis or by volume, as applicable;

3065 [(15)] (17) "Hybrid retailer" has the same meaning as provided in

3066 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3067 [(16)] (18) "Infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an
3068 alcoholic beverage, [as defined in section 30-1,] (B) is intended for
3069 human consumption, and (C) contains, or is advertised, labeled or
3070 offered for sale as containing, total THC that is not greater than three
3071 milligrams per container;

3072 [(17)] (19) "Infused beverage manufacturer" means a person licensed
3073 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-
3074 425a, as amended by this act;

3075 (20) "Infused beverage wholesaler" (A) means a person that has been
3076 issued an infused beverage wholesaler license under section 37 of this
3077 act, and (B) does not include the holder of a wholesaler permit or a
3078 wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17;

3079 [(18)] (21) "Legacy infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not
3080 an alcoholic beverage, [as defined in section 30-1,] (B) is intended for
3081 human consumption, (C) contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered
3082 for sale as containing, THC, [as defined in section 21a-240,] and (D) as
3083 of June 30, 2024, is in compliance with (i) the provisions of RERACA, [as
3084 defined in section 21a-420,] and (ii) the policies and procedures issued
3085 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to implement, and any
3086 regulations adopted pursuant to, RERACA; [, as defined in section 21a-
3087 420;]

3088 [(19)] (22) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in
3089 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3090 [(20)] (23) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as
3091 provided in section 22-61l;

3092 (24) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,
3093 as amended by this act;

3094 [(21)] (25) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section

3095 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3096 [(22)] (26) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided
3097 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3098 (27) "RERACA" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,
3099 as amended by this act;

3100 [(23)] (28) "Retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3101 420, as amended by this act; [and]

3102 (29) "THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240; and

3103 [(24)] (30) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section
3104 21a-240.

3105 Sec. 37. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) The Department of
3106 Consumer Protection may issue or renew a license for a person to be an
3107 infused beverage wholesaler. No person, other than the holder of a
3108 wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section
3109 30-17 of the general statutes, may act as an infused beverage wholesaler
3110 or represent that such person is an infused beverage wholesaler unless
3111 such person has obtained an infused beverage wholesaler license from
3112 the department pursuant to this section. No infused beverage
3113 wholesaler shall distribute alcoholic liquor. A holder of a wholesaler
3114 permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17 of the
3115 general statutes shall not be required to apply for or maintain an infused
3116 beverage wholesaler license in order to engage in the distribution of
3117 infused beverages as set forth in this section and chapter 420i of the
3118 general statutes.

3119 (b) A person seeking an infused beverage wholesaler license under
3120 this section shall submit to the Department of Consumer Protection, in
3121 a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
3122 Protection, a complete application. Each infused beverage wholesaler
3123 license issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for a period of one
3124 year, and shall be renewable for additional one-year periods upon

3125 submission of a renewal application in the manner set forth for an initial
3126 application under this subsection.

3127 (c) The Department of Consumer Protection may issue an infused
3128 beverage wholesaler license to an applicant in accordance with
3129 subsection (b) of this section, provided (1) the owners of such applicant
3130 submit to, and provide to the department, a third-party local and
3131 national criminal background check pursuant to section 21a-421c of the
3132 general statutes, (2) the owners subject to such background check do not
3133 have any disqualifying convictions, as defined in section 21a-420 of the
3134 general statutes, as amended by this act, and (3) the facility to be
3135 operated as an infused beverage wholesaler facility is inspected by the
3136 department and satisfies the department's requirements pertaining to
3137 cleanliness and security.

3138 (d) An infused beverage wholesaler shall only sell infused beverages
3139 to holders of package store permits issued under subsection (b) of
3140 section 30-20 of the general statutes, and to retailers, hybrid retailers and
3141 dispensary facilities.

3142 (e) An infused beverage wholesaler shall ensure that any infused
3143 beverage offered or sold by the infused beverage wholesaler shall not
3144 appeal to any person who is younger than twenty-one years of age,
3145 including, but not limited to, by virtue of the name or appearance of
3146 such infused beverage, or make any health claim.

3147 (f) Each infused beverage wholesaler shall assess a fee of one dollar
3148 on each infused beverage container sold to the holder of a package store
3149 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20 of the general
3150 statutes, or to a retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility. Such fee
3151 shall not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income pursuant to any
3152 provision of the general statutes. Beginning on October 1, 2025, and
3153 every six months thereafter, each infused beverage wholesaler shall
3154 remit payment to the Department of Consumer Protection for each
3155 infused beverage container sold during the preceding six-month period.
3156 The funds received by the department from infused beverage sales shall

3157 be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account
3158 established in section 21a-8a of the general statutes for the purposes of
3159 (1) protecting public health and safety, (2) educating consumers and
3160 licensees, and (3) ensuring compliance with cannabis and liquor control
3161 laws.

3162 (g) (1) Each infused beverage wholesaler shall maintain all records
3163 necessary to fully demonstrate business transactions related to infused
3164 beverages for a period covering the then current taxable year and the
3165 three taxable years immediately preceding such taxable year. Such
3166 records shall be maintained in an auditable format, and the infused
3167 beverage manufacturer, or any other person in charge or having custody
3168 of such records, shall make such records available to the department
3169 pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection.

3170 (2) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may require any
3171 infused beverage wholesaler to furnish such information as the
3172 commissioner deems necessary for the proper administration of this
3173 section and chapter 420i of the general statutes, and may require a third-
3174 party independent audit of any infused beverage wholesaler, the
3175 expense thereof to be paid by such infused beverage wholesaler.

3176 (3) Upon request by the commissioner or any other enforcement
3177 agency or person authorized by chapter 420i of the general statutes, an
3178 infused beverage wholesaler, and any other person in charge or having
3179 custody of such records, shall make such records immediately available
3180 for inspection and copying by the commissioner or such other
3181 enforcement agency or person. The infused beverage wholesaler, or
3182 such other person, shall produce copies of such records to the
3183 commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative not later
3184 than two business days after the commissioner or such representative
3185 requests such copies. Such records shall be provided to the
3186 commissioner or such representative in an electronic format, unless
3187 providing such records to the commissioner or such representative in
3188 an electronic format is commercially impractical.

3189 (4) In complying with the provisions of this subsection, no person
3190 shall use any foreign language, code or symbol to designate any infused
3191 beverage or person.

3192 (h) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, for the purposes
3193 of the supervision and enforcement of the provisions of this section and
3194 chapter 420i of the general statutes, enter any facility utilized or
3195 maintained by an infused beverage wholesaler and inspect and
3196 inventory all pertinent equipment, finished or unfinished materials,
3197 containers or labeling, and all other items in such place, including, but
3198 not limited to, records, files, financial data, sales data, shipping data,
3199 pricing data, employee data, research, papers, processes, controls and
3200 facilities.

3201 (i) Any violation of the provisions of subsections (a) to (h), inclusive,
3202 of this section shall constitute sufficient cause for action by the
3203 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, including, but not limited to,
3204 the suspension, probation or revocation of a license, the placement of
3205 conditions on a license, the issuance of a fine in an amount not to exceed
3206 five thousand dollars per violation, the acceptance of an offer in
3207 compromise, the refusal to grant or renew an infused beverage
3208 wholesaler license issued pursuant to this section or any other action
3209 authorized by law. All information from inspections and investigations
3210 conducted by the Department of Consumer Protection related to
3211 administrative complaints or cases shall not be subject to disclosure
3212 under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200 of the
3213 general statutes, except after the department has entered into a
3214 settlement agreement, or concluded its investigation or inspection as
3215 evidenced by case closure, provided nothing in this section shall prevent
3216 the department from sharing any information with another state or
3217 federal agency or law enforcement as such information relates to an
3218 investigation conducted for a suspected violation of applicable law.

3219 Sec. 38. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) On and after January 1,
3220 2026, no person shall manufacture a high-THC beverage in this state
3221 unless such person is an infused beverage manufacturer that has

3222 received a high-THC beverage endorsement issued by the
3223 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section. A high-
3224 THC beverage endorsement shall authorize the infused beverage
3225 manufacturer to manufacture high-THC beverages for sale exclusively
3226 outside of this state. No infused beverage manufacturer shall advertise,
3227 offer or sell any high-THC beverage in this state or offer or sell any high-
3228 THC beverage directly to any individual. An infused beverage
3229 manufacturer shall verify that purchasers of high-THC beverages
3230 intend to engage in the commercial resale of such beverages exclusively
3231 outside of this state.

3232 (b) Beginning on January 1, 2026, an infused beverage manufacturer
3233 seeking a high-THC beverage endorsement under this section shall
3234 submit an application to the Department of Consumer Protection in a
3235 form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
3236 Protection.

3237 (c) Each infused beverage manufacturer with a high-THC beverage
3238 endorsement shall (1) use the electronic tracking system, in a form and
3239 manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, to
3240 monitor the intake, manufacturing, disposition and distribution of all
3241 hemp oil, infused beverages and high-THC beverages in such infused
3242 beverage manufacturer's possession, and the information contained
3243 therein shall be subject to section 21a-421n of the general statutes, unless
3244 otherwise specified by the commissioner as set forth in regulations,
3245 policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of this
3246 section, and (2) include a clear and conspicuous warning, in at least
3247 twelve-point font, on each high-THC beverage that reads "Not for Sale
3248 in CT".

3249 (d) Each infused beverage manufacturer with a high-THC beverage
3250 endorsement shall comply with the hemp acquisition, manufacturing
3251 and laboratory testing requirements set forth in section 21a-425a of the
3252 general statutes, as amended by this act, except an infused beverage
3253 manufacturer shall not be required to comply with the provisions of
3254 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of section 21a-425a

3255 of the general statutes, subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 21a-
3256 425a of the general statutes or subsection (f) of section 21a-425a of the
3257 general statutes, as amended by this act, for the manufacture of high-
3258 THC beverages.

3259 (e) Beginning on July 31, 2026, and biannually thereafter on January
3260 thirty-first and July thirty-first, each infused beverage manufacturer that
3261 has received a high-THC beverage endorsement under this section shall
3262 submit a report to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a form
3263 and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,
3264 (1) for the six-month period beginning on the preceding January first or
3265 July first, as applicable, and (2) disclosing the total number of high-THC
3266 beverages such infused beverage manufacturer sold outside of this state
3267 during the six-month period that is the subject of such report.

3268 (f) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt
3269 regulations in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes to
3270 implement the provisions of this section. Notwithstanding the
3271 requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, of the general statutes,
3272 in order to effectuate the purposes of this section and protect public
3273 health and safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner
3274 shall issue policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this
3275 section that shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner
3276 shall post all policies and procedures on the Department of Consumer
3277 Protection's Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures
3278 to the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at
3279 least fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure.
3280 The commissioner shall also provide such policies and procedures, in a
3281 manner prescribed by the commissioner, to each licensee. Any such
3282 policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either
3283 the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final regulation under
3284 section 4-172 of the general statutes or June 30, 2029, if such regulations
3285 have not been submitted to the legislative regulation review committee
3286 for consideration under section 4-170 of the general statutes.

3287 Sec. 39. Subsection (f) of section 21a-425a of the general statutes is

3288 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3289 *1, 2025*):

3290 (f) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage
3291 manufacturer shall sell an infused beverage to any person in this state
3292 other than (A) a dispensary facility, (B) a hybrid retailer, (C) a retailer,
3293 [or] (D) the holder of a wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer
3294 issued under section 30-17, or (E) an infused beverage wholesaler.

3295 (2) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, a] A dispensary facility, hybrid
3296 retailer or retailer, before selling an infused beverage to a consumer in
3297 this state, [or] a wholesaler permittee under section 30-17, before selling
3298 an infused beverage to a package store permittee under subsection (b)
3299 of section 30-20, or an infused beverage wholesaler, before selling an
3300 infused beverage to a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer or a
3301 package store permittee under subsection (b) of section 30-20, shall,
3302 based on a representative sample of the infused beverage containers
3303 included in the shipment that includes such infused beverage, (A) verify
3304 that the infused beverages included in such shipment satisfy the
3305 requirements established in subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of this
3306 section and any regulations adopted, and policies and procedures
3307 issued, pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, and (B) for the purpose
3308 of preserving public health and safety, verify that the infused beverages
3309 included in such shipment were manufactured in accordance with
3310 requirements that are substantially similar to the requirements
3311 established in subsections (d) and (e) of this section and any regulations
3312 adopted, and policies and procedures issued, pursuant to subsection (k)
3313 of this section if such infused beverages were manufactured (i) in a
3314 facility located in, and regulated by, another state, and (ii) by a person
3315 who is regulated as a food or nonalcoholic beverage manufacturer.

3316 Sec. 40. Subsection (x) of section 22-61m of the general statutes is
3317 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3318 *passage*):

3319 (x) No manufacturer hemp product that is a food, beverage, oil or

3320 other product intended for human ingestion shall be distributed or sold
3321 in this state unless such product is derived from hemp grown by a
3322 United States Department of Agriculture hemp producer licensee under
3323 an approved state or tribal hemp production plan and such product is
3324 contained within a package, or a label is affixed to such package, that
3325 includes:

3326 (1) A scannable barcode, Internet web site address or quick response
3327 code that is linked to the certificate of analysis of the final form product
3328 batch by an independent testing laboratory and discloses:

3329 (A) The name of such product;

3330 (B) The name, address and telephone number of such product's
3331 manufacturer, packer and distributor, as applicable;

3332 (C) The batch number, which shall match the batch number on such
3333 package or label; and

3334 (D) The concentration of cannabinoids present in such product,
3335 including, but not limited to, total THC and any cannabinoids or active
3336 ingredients comprising at least one per cent of such product;

3337 (2) The expiration or best by date for such product, if applicable;

3338 (3) A clear and conspicuous statement disclosing that:

3339 (A) [Children, or those] Those who are pregnant or breastfeeding []
3340 should avoid using such product prior to consulting with a health care
3341 professional concerning such product's safety;

3342 (B) Products containing cannabinoids should be kept out of reach of
3343 children; and

3344 (C) The federal Food and Drug Administration has not evaluated
3345 such product for safety or efficacy; and

3346 (4) If such product is intended to be inhaled, a clear and conspicuous

3347 warning statement disclosing that smoking or vaporizing is hazardous
3348 to human health.

3349 Sec. 41. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) Any cannabis establishment
3350 licensee or any servant or agent of a cannabis establishment licensee
3351 who sells or delivers any synthetic cannabinoid to any person shall be
3352 guilty of a class E felony. For purposes of this section, "synthetic
3353 cannabinoid" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240 of
3354 the general statutes.

3355 Sec. 42. Section 21a-421aaa of the general statutes is repealed and the
3356 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3357 (a) Any cannabis establishment licensee or any [servant or] agent of
3358 a cannabis establishment licensee who sells or delivers cannabis [or
3359 cannabis paraphernalia] to any person under twenty-one years of age
3360 shall be guilty of a class [A misdemeanor] E felony.

3361 (b) Any cannabis establishment licensee or any agent of a cannabis
3362 establishment licensee who sells or delivers cannabis paraphernalia to
3363 any person under twenty-one years of age shall be guilty of a class C
3364 misdemeanor. For purposes of this section, "paraphernalia" has the
3365 same meaning as provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

3366 Sec. 43. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than September 1, 2025,
3367 the Social Equity Council shall convene a working group to study and
3368 develop recommendations regarding:

3369 (1) The availability of suitable locations within disproportionately
3370 impacted areas, and the municipalities in which disproportionately
3371 impacted areas are located, for the indoor and outdoor cultivation of
3372 cannabis by cultivators and micro-cultivators;

3373 (2) The estimated cost of developing a cultivator or micro-cultivator
3374 establishment in each disproportionally impacted area;

3375 (3) The average cost of developing a cultivator or micro-cultivator

3376 establishment in a municipality that contains a disproportionately
3377 impacted area compared to the average cost of developing a cultivator
3378 or micro-cultivator establishment in a municipality that does not contain
3379 a disproportionately impacted area;

3380 (4) Any challenges faced by the cannabis market in this state, and any
3381 opportunities available to promote or incentivize progress within such
3382 market;

3383 (5) Any resources available to track municipal cannabis tax revenues
3384 and municipal moratoriums on cannabis establishments;

3385 (6) Equity joint venture business structures and practices;

3386 (7) Cannabis market saturation and whether there is a need to
3387 establish a quantitative cap on cannabis cultivation in this state; and

3388 (8) Any other matter the working group deems relevant for the
3389 purposes of this section.

3390 (b) Not later than January 1, 2027, the working group shall submit a
3391 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
3392 statutes, to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the
3393 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer
3394 protection. Such report shall include the results of the study conducted,
3395 and the recommendations developed, pursuant to subsection (a) of this
3396 section, as well as any legislation recommended by the working group
3397 to address the results of such study or implement such
3398 recommendations. The working group shall terminate on the date that
3399 it submits such report or January 1, 2027, whichever is later.

3400 Sec. 44. Section 53-344b of the general statutes is repealed and the
3401 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3402 (a) As used in this section:

3403 (1) "Electronic nicotine delivery system" has the same meaning as
3404 provided in section 21a-415, as amended by this act;

3405 (2) "Cardholder" means any person who presents a driver's license, a
3406 passport or an identity card to a seller or seller's agent or employee, to
3407 purchase or receive an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor
3408 product from such seller or seller's agent or employee;

3409 (3) "Identity card" means an identification card issued in accordance
3410 with the provisions of section 1-1h;

3411 (4) "Transaction scan" means the process by which a seller or seller's
3412 agent or employee checks, by means of a transaction scan device, the
3413 validity of a driver's license, a passport or an identity card;

3414 (5) "Transaction scan device" means any commercial device or
3415 combination of devices used at a point of sale that is capable of
3416 deciphering in an electronically readable format the information
3417 encoded on the magnetic strip or bar code of a driver's license, a
3418 passport or an identity card;

3419 (6) "Sale" or "sell" means an act done intentionally by any person,
3420 whether done as principal, proprietor, agent, servant or employee, of
3421 transferring, or offering or attempting to transfer, for consideration, an
3422 electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product, including
3423 bartering or exchanging, or offering to barter or exchange, an electronic
3424 nicotine delivery system or a vapor product;

3425 (7) "Give" or "giving" means an act done intentionally by any person,
3426 whether done as principal, proprietor, agent, servant or employee, of
3427 transferring, or offering or attempting to transfer, without
3428 consideration, an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product;

3429 (8) "Deliver" or "delivering" means an act done intentionally by any
3430 person, whether as principal, proprietor, agent, servant or employee, of
3431 transferring, or offering or attempting to transfer, physical possession
3432 or control of an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product;

3433 (9) "Vapor product" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3434 415, as amended by this act; and

3435 (10) "Seller" means any person who sells, gives or delivers an
3436 electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product.

3437 (b) Any person who sells, gives or delivers to any person under
3438 twenty-one years of age an electronic nicotine delivery system or a
3439 vapor product in any form shall be fined not more than [three hundred
3440 dollars for the first offense, not more than seven hundred fifty dollars
3441 for a second offense on or before twenty-four months after the date of
3442 the first offense and not more than] one thousand dollars for each
3443 [subsequent] offense. [on or before twenty-four months after the date of
3444 the first offense.] The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a
3445 person under twenty-one years of age who is delivering or accepting
3446 delivery of an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product (1)
3447 in such person's capacity as an employee, or (2) as part of a scientific
3448 study being conducted by an organization for the purpose of medical
3449 research to further efforts in tobacco use prevention and cessation,
3450 provided such medical research has been approved by the
3451 organization's institutional review board, as defined in section 21a-408.

3452 (c) Any person under twenty-one years of age who misrepresents
3453 such person's age to purchase an electronic nicotine delivery system or
3454 a vapor product in any form shall be fined not more than fifty dollars
3455 for the first offense and not less than fifty dollars or more than one
3456 hundred dollars for each subsequent offense.

3457 (d) (1) A seller or seller's agent or employee shall request that each
3458 person intending to purchase an electronic nicotine delivery system or
3459 a vapor product present a driver's license, a passport or an identity card
3460 to establish that such person is twenty-one years of age or older.

3461 ~~[(d) (1)]~~ (2) A seller or seller's agent or employee may perform a
3462 transaction scan to check the validity of a driver's license, a passport or
3463 an identity card presented by a cardholder as a condition for selling,
3464 giving or otherwise delivering an electronic nicotine delivery system or
3465 a vapor product to the cardholder.

3466 [(2)] (3) If the information deciphered by the transaction scan
3467 performed under subdivision [(1)] (2) of this subsection fails to match
3468 the information printed on the driver's license, passport or identity card
3469 presented by the cardholder, or if the transaction scan indicates that the
3470 information so printed is false or fraudulent, neither the seller nor any
3471 seller's agent or employee shall sell, give or otherwise deliver any
3472 electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product to the cardholder.

3473 [(3) Subdivision (1) of this subsection does not preclude a seller or
3474 seller's agent or employee from using a transaction scan device to check
3475 the validity of a document other than a driver's license or an identity
3476 card, if the document includes a bar code or magnetic strip that may be
3477 scanned by the device, as a condition for selling, giving or otherwise
3478 delivering an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product to the
3479 person presenting the document.]

3480 (e) (1) No seller or seller's agent or employee shall electronically or
3481 mechanically record or maintain any information derived from a
3482 transaction scan, except the following: (A) The name and date of birth
3483 of the person listed on the driver's license, passport or identity card
3484 presented by a cardholder; and (B) the expiration date and identification
3485 number of the driver's license, passport or identity card presented by a
3486 cardholder.

3487 (2) No seller or seller's agent or employee shall use a transaction scan
3488 device for a purpose other than the purposes specified in subsection (d)
3489 of this section, subsection (d) of section 53-344 or subsection (c) of
3490 section 30-86.

3491 (3) No seller or seller's agent or employee shall sell or otherwise
3492 disseminate the information derived from a transaction scan to any third
3493 party, including, but not limited to, selling or otherwise disseminating
3494 that information for any marketing, advertising or promotional
3495 activities, but a seller or seller's agent or employee may release that
3496 information pursuant to a court order.

3497 (4) Nothing in subsection (d) of this section or this subsection relieves
3498 a seller or seller's agent or employee of any responsibility to comply
3499 with any other applicable state or federal laws or rules governing
3500 selling, giving or otherwise delivering electronic nicotine delivery
3501 systems or vapor products.

3502 (5) Any person who violates this subsection shall be subject to a civil
3503 penalty of not more than one thousand dollars.

3504 (f) (1) In any prosecution of a seller or seller's agent or employee for
3505 a violation of subsection (b) of this section, it shall be an affirmative
3506 defense that all of the following occurred: (A) A cardholder attempting
3507 to purchase or receive an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor
3508 product presented a driver's license, a passport or an identity card; (B)
3509 a transaction scan of the driver's license, passport or identity card that
3510 the cardholder presented indicated that the driver's license, passport or
3511 identity card was valid and indicated that the cardholder was at least
3512 twenty-one years of age; and (C) the electronic nicotine delivery system
3513 or vapor product was sold, given or otherwise delivered to the
3514 cardholder in reasonable reliance upon the identification presented and
3515 the completed transaction scan.

3516 (2) In determining whether a seller or seller's agent or employee has
3517 proven the affirmative defense provided by subdivision (1) of this
3518 section, the trier of fact in such prosecution shall consider that
3519 reasonable reliance upon the identification presented and the completed
3520 transaction scan may require a seller or seller's agent or employee to
3521 exercise reasonable diligence and that the use of a transaction scan
3522 device does not excuse a seller or seller's agent or employee from
3523 exercising such reasonable diligence to determine the following: (A)
3524 Whether a person to whom the seller or seller's agent or employee sells,
3525 gives or otherwise delivers an electronic nicotine delivery system or a
3526 vapor product is twenty-one years of age or older; and (B) whether the
3527 description and picture appearing on the driver's license, passport or
3528 identity card presented by a cardholder is that of the cardholder.

3529 (g) Each seller of electronic nicotine delivery systems or vapor
 3530 products or such seller's agent or employee shall require a person who
 3531 is purchasing or attempting to purchase an electronic nicotine delivery
 3532 system or a vapor product and appears to be under the age of thirty to
 3533 exhibit proper proof of age. If a person fails to provide such proof of age,
 3534 such seller or seller's agent or employee shall not sell an electronic
 3535 nicotine delivery system or a vapor product to the person. As used in
 3536 this subsection, "proper proof" means a motor vehicle operator's license,
 3537 a valid passport or an identity card issued in accordance with the
 3538 provisions of section 1-1h.

3539 (h) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may suspend or
 3540 revoke, pursuant to chapter 420g, the dealer registration of a person who
 3541 violates any provision of this section.

3542 Sec. 45. Section 21a-418 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 3543 *October 1, 2025*)

3544 Sec. 46. Section 2 of substitute house bill 6930 of the current session,
 3545 as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A", is repealed. (*Effective*
 3546 *from passage*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-287(a) to (c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-287a
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-415
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420(1)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-420c
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420d(h) to (k)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420e(c)

Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420g(b) to (j)
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420h
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420j(d)
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420m(g)
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420n(b)
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420o
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420p
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-420p(f) and (g)
Sec. 22	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420q
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-420r(d)
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-420s
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-420t(d) and (e)
Sec. 26	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420u(g)
Sec. 27	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420z(e)
Sec. 28	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-420z
Sec. 29	<i>from passage</i>	21a-421j(b)
Sec. 30	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-421j
Sec. 31	<i>from passage</i>	21a-421k(b)
Sec. 32	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-421l
Sec. 33	<i>from passage</i>	21a-421p(a)
Sec. 34	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-421bb(a)
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-422f
Sec. 36	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-425
Sec. 37	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 38	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 39	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-425a(f)
Sec. 40	<i>from passage</i>	22-61m(x)
Sec. 41	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 42	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-421aaa
Sec. 43	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 44	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	53-344b
Sec. 45	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	Repealer section
Sec. 46	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section