



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 401

February Session, 2026

Substitute House Bill No. 5350

House of Representatives, April 2, 2026

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS, HEMP AND INFUSED BEVERAGE REGULATION.

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

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*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

4 (q) Except as otherwise specifically defined, the words "agriculture"
5 and "farming" include cultivation of the soil, dairying, forestry, raising
6 or harvesting any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including the
7 raising, shearing, feeding, caring for, training and management of
8 livestock, including horses, bees, the production of honey, poultry, fur-
9 bearing animals and wildlife, and the raising or harvesting of oysters,
10 clams, mussels, other molluscan shellfish or fish; the operation,
11 management, conservation, improvement or maintenance of a farm and
12 its buildings, tools and equipment, or salvaging timber or cleared land
13 of brush or other debris left by a storm, as an incident to such farming
14 operations; the production or harvesting of maple syrup or maple sugar,

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

37 Sec. 2. Subparagraph (H) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section
38 7-148 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted
39 in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

42 (ii) Regulate and prohibit the carrying on within the municipality of
43 any trade, manufacture, business or profession which is, or may be, so
44 carried on as to become prejudicial to public health, conducive to fraud
45 and cheating, or dangerous to, or constituting an unreasonable
46 annoyance to, those living or owning property in the vicinity;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

64 (x) Control insect pests or plant diseases in any manner deemed
65 appropriate;

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

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

71 (xiii) Make and enforce police, sanitary or other similar regulations
72 and protect or promote the peace, safety, good government and welfare
73 of the municipality and its inhabitants;

74 (xiv) Regulate, in addition to the requirements under section 7-282b,
75 the installation, maintenance and operation of any device or equipment
76 in a residence or place of business which is capable of automatically

77 calling and relaying recorded emergency messages to any state police
78 or municipal police or fire department telephone number or which is
79 capable of automatically calling and relaying recorded emergency
80 messages or other forms of emergency signals to an intermediate third
81 party which shall thereafter call and relay such emergency messages to
82 a state police or municipal police or fire department telephone number.
83 Such regulations may provide for penalties for the transmittal of false
84 alarms by such devices or equipment;

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

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

131 (xvi) Regulate, on any property owned by or under the control of the
132 municipality, any activity deemed to be deleterious to public health,
133 including the burning of a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe or similar device,
134 whether containing, wholly or in part, tobacco or cannabis, as defined
135 in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, and the use or
136 consumption of cannabis, including, but not limited to, electronic
137 cannabis delivery systems, as defined in section 19a-342a, as amended
138 by this act, or vapor products, as defined in said section, containing
139 cannabis. If the municipality's population is greater than fifty thousand,
140 such regulations shall designate a place in the municipality in which
141 public consumption of cannabis is permitted. Such regulations may
142 prohibit the smoking of cannabis and the use of electronic cannabis
143 delivery systems and vapor products containing cannabis in the
144 outdoor sections of a restaurant. Such regulations may prescribe
145 penalties for the violation of such regulations, provided such fine does
146 not exceed fifty dollars for a violation of such regulations regarding

147 consumption by an individual or a fine in excess of one thousand dollars
148 to any business for a violation of such regulations;

149 Sec. 3. Subparagraph (H) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section
150 12-217 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the
151 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

152 (H) In the case of a taxpayer licensed under the provisions of chapter
153 420f or 420h, the amount of ordinary and necessary expenses that would
154 be eligible to be claimed as a deduction for federal income tax purposes
155 under Section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code but that are
156 disallowed under Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code because
157 [marijuana] cannabis is a controlled substance under the federal
158 Controlled Substance Act.

159 Sec. 4. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-330ll of the 2026
160 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
161 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

162 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section [21a-420]
163 21a-240, as amended by this act;

164 Sec. 5. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (120) of section 12-412 of the
165 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
166 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

167 (B) Nonprescription drugs or medicines do not include cosmetics,
168 dentifrices, mouthwash, shaving and hair care products, soaps,
169 deodorants or products containing cannabis or cannabinoids. As used
170 in this subparagraph, "cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in
171 section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, and "cannabinoids"
172 means manufactured cannabinoids or synthetic cannabinoids, as such
173 terms are defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this act.

174 Sec. 6. Section 12-650 of the general statutes is repealed and the
175 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

176 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, revision of 1958,

177 revised to January 1, 2021, any outstanding liabilities or assessments, or
178 any portion thereof, made under said chapter related to the sale,
179 purchase, acquisition or possession within the state or the transport or
180 importation into the state, of [marijuana] cannabis, as defined in section
181 21a-240, as amended by this act, shall be cancelled. The Commissioner
182 of Revenue Services may take any action necessary to effectuate the
183 cancellation of such liabilities and assessments. No cancellation of a
184 liability or an assessment pursuant to this section shall entitle any
185 person affected by such cancellation to a refund or credit of any amount
186 previously paid or collected in connection with such liability or
187 assessment.

188 Sec. 7. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of
189 section 12-701 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed
190 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

191 (B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:

192 (i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
193 income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any
194 state is prohibited by federal law;

195 (ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends
196 paid by a regulated investment company;

197 (iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
198 income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for
199 overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state
200 of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of
201 Columbia;

202 (iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
203 income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal
204 adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in
205 computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad
206 retirement benefits;

207 (v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under

208 Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in
209 service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross
210 income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in
211 computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of
212 such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four
213 succeeding taxable years;

214 (vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
215 income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or
216 on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof,
217 or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar
218 public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;

219 (vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or
220 loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income
221 tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued
222 by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision
223 thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or
224 similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut,
225 in the income year such gain was recognized;

226 (viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase
227 or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax
228 under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that
229 such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal
230 adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried
231 on by such individual;

232 (ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the
233 taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject
234 to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or
235 the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the
236 production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the
237 taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under
238 this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such
239 expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal
240 adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried

241 on by such individual;

242 (x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a
243 person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried
244 individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
245 less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing
246 separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
247 less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a
248 return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly
249 whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than
250 sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal
251 income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income
252 for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount
253 equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax
254 purposes;

255 (II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a
256 person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried
257 individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
258 fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing
259 separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
260 fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a
261 return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly
262 whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty
263 thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the
264 federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross
265 income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an
266 amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security
267 benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of
268 twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the
269 taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section
270 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

271 (III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each
272 taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal
273 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross

274 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
275 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
276 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
277 or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax
278 as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross
279 income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars
280 or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of
281 household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
282 less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social
283 Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

284 (IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each
285 taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal
286 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
287 income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more,
288 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
289 income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more,
290 or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax
291 as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross
292 income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more
293 or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head
294 of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year
295 is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the
296 difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for
297 federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the
298 Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five
299 per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal
300 Revenue Code;

301 (xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
302 income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to
303 section 12-746;

304 (xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal
305 income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to
306 such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in

307 Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and
308 maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the
309 state;

310 (xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to
311 accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as
312 defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and
313 maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the
314 state;

315 (xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
316 income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement
317 payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;

318 (xv) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal
319 income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section
320 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to
321 accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the
322 Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by
323 sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;

324 (xvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
325 income tax purposes, any income received from the United States
326 government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed
327 Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the
328 United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101
329 of Title 10 of the United States Code;

330 (xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
331 income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge
332 of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December
333 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or
334 instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal
335 Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery
336 and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added
337 to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of
338 this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a

339 preceding taxable year;

340 (xviii) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted
341 gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing
342 reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the
343 taxable year that such contribution is made;

344 (xix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
345 income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1,
346 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers'
347 retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1,
348 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income
349 received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the
350 taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year
351 thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers'
352 retirement system or, for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross
353 income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xx) of
354 this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income
355 received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever
356 deduction is greater;

357 (xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
358 income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of
359 this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this
360 subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income
361 tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for
362 such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a
363 married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
364 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
365 or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such
366 taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband
367 and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married
368 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such
369 taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable
370 year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or
371 annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020,

372 twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the
 373 taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any
 374 pension or annuity income, and (IV) for the taxable years commencing
 375 January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, one hundred per cent of any
 376 pension or annuity income;

377 (xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 378 income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of
 379 this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this
 380 subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year
 381 commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year
 382 thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule, for a person who
 383 files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual
 384 whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than
 385 one hundred thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing
 386 separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
 387 less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a head of household
 388 whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than
 389 one hundred thousand dollars:

T1	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T2	Less than \$75,000	100.0%
T3	\$75,000 but not over \$77,499	85.0%
T4	\$77,500 but not over \$79,999	70.0%
T5	\$80,000 but not over \$82,499	55.0%
T6	\$82,500 but not over \$84,999	40.0%
T7	\$85,000 but not over \$87,499	25.0%
T8	\$87,500 but not over \$89,999	10.0%
T9	\$90,000 but not over \$94,999	5.0%
T10	\$95,000 but not over \$99,999	2.5%
T11	\$100,000 and over	0.0%

390 (xxii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 391 income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of
 392 this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this

393 subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year
 394 commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year
 395 thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule for married
 396 individuals who file a return under the federal income tax as married
 397 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such
 398 taxable year is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars:

T12	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T13	Less than \$100,000	100.0%
T14	\$100,000 but not over \$104,999	85.0%
T15	\$105,000 but not over \$109,999	70.0%
T16	\$110,000 but not over \$114,999	55.0%
T17	\$115,000 but not over \$119,999	40.0%
T18	\$120,000 but not over \$124,999	25.0%
T19	\$125,000 but not over \$129,999	10.0%
T20	\$130,000 but not over \$139,999	5.0%
T21	\$140,000 but not over \$149,999	2.5%
T22	\$150,000 and over	0.0%

399 (xxiii) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing
 400 expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred
 401 by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the donation
 402 to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or
 403 after January 1, 2017;

404 (xxiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 405 income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received
 406 from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on
 407 behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442
 408 and 8-443;

409 (xxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 410 income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b)
 411 of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture
 412 capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to

413 time;

414 (xxvi) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of
415 the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income
416 pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing
417 Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such
418 disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding
419 taxable years;

420 (xxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
421 income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal
422 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
423 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
424 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
425 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
426 or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such
427 taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband
428 and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married
429 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such
430 taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, for the taxable
431 year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-five per cent of any
432 distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth
433 individual retirement account;

434 (xxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
435 income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal
436 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
437 income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars,
438 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
439 income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars,
440 or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such
441 taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable
442 year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from
443 an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual
444 retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025,
445 seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement

446 account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for
 447 the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year
 448 thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other
 449 than a Roth individual retirement account. The subtraction under this
 450 clause shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

T23	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T24	Less than \$75,000	100.0%
T25	\$75,000 but not over \$77,499	85.0%
T26	\$77,500 but not over \$79,999	70.0%
T27	\$80,000 but not over \$82,499	55.0%
T28	\$82,500 but not over \$84,999	40.0%
T29	\$85,000 but not over \$87,499	25.0%
T30	\$87,500 but not over \$89,999	10.0%
T31	\$90,000 but not over \$94,999	5.0%
T32	\$95,000 but not over \$99,999	2.5%
T33	\$100,000 and over	0.0%

451 (xxix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 452 income tax purposes, for married individuals who file a return under
 453 the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose
 454 federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one
 455 hundred fifty thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing
 456 January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual
 457 retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II)
 458 for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent
 459 of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a
 460 Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for the taxable year
 461 commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any
 462 distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth
 463 individual retirement account. The subtraction under this clause shall
 464 be made in accordance with the following schedule:

T34	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
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T35	Less than \$100,000	100.0%
T36	\$100,000 but not over \$104,999	85.0%
T37	\$105,000 but not over \$109,999	70.0%
T38	\$110,000 but not over \$114,999	55.0%
T39	\$115,000 but not over \$119,999	40.0%
T40	\$120,000 but not over \$124,999	25.0%
T41	\$125,000 but not over \$129,999	10.0%
T42	\$130,000 but not over \$139,999	5.0%
T43	\$140,000 but not over \$149,999	2.5%
T44	\$150,000 and over	0.0%

465 (xxx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
466 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022,
467 the amount or amounts paid or otherwise credited to any eligible
468 resident of this state under (I) the 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit
469 enhancement program from funding allocated to the state through the
470 Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,
471 and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, and (II) the 2021 Earned
472 Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the
473 state pursuant to Section 9901 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American
474 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2;

475 (xxxii) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, and each
476 taxable year thereafter, for a taxpayer licensed under the provisions of
477 chapter 420f or 420h, the amount of ordinary and necessary expenses
478 that would be eligible to be claimed as a deduction for federal income
479 tax purposes under Section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code but that
480 are disallowed under Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code
481 because [marijuana] cannabis is a controlled substance under the federal
482 Controlled Substance Act;

483 (xxxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
484 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing on or after
485 January 1, 2025, and each taxable year thereafter, any common stock
486 received by the taxpayer during the taxable year under a share plan, as

487 defined in section 12-217ss;

488 (xxxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
489 income tax purposes, the amount of any student loan reimbursement
490 payment received by a taxpayer pursuant to section 10a-19m;

491 (xxxiv) Contributions to an ABLE account established pursuant to
492 sections 3-39k to 3-39q, inclusive, not to exceed five thousand dollars for
493 each individual taxpayer or ten thousand dollars for taxpayers filing a
494 joint return;

495 (xxxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
496 income tax purposes, the amount of any payment received pursuant to
497 subsection (c) of section 3-122a;

498 (xxxvi) For an account holder, as defined in section 12-724b, who files
499 a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual, a
500 married individual filing separately or a head of household, whose
501 federal adjusted gross income for the taxable year is less than one
502 hundred twenty-five thousand dollars or who files a return under the
503 federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal
504 adjusted gross income for the taxable year is less than two hundred fifty
505 thousand dollars:

506 (I) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross
507 income, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2027, an amount
508 equal to the contributions deposited during the taxable years
509 commencing January 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027, in a first-time
510 homebuyer savings account established pursuant to subsection (c) of
511 section 12-724b, less any amounts withdrawn during said taxable years
512 by the account holder from such account under subparagraph (D) of
513 subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-724b. The amount claimed
514 under this subclause shall not exceed two thousand five hundred
515 dollars for each such taxable year for an unmarried individual, a
516 married individual filing separately or a head of household and five
517 thousand dollars for each such taxable year for married individuals
518 filing jointly;

519 (II) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross
520 income, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2028, and each
521 taxable year thereafter, an amount equal to the contributions deposited
522 during the taxable year in a first-time homebuyer savings account
523 established pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-724b, less any
524 amounts withdrawn during the taxable year by the account holder from
525 such account pursuant to subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of
526 subsection (f) of section 12-724b. The amount allowed to be claimed
527 under this subclause for the taxable year shall not exceed two thousand
528 five hundred dollars for an unmarried individual, a married individual
529 filing separately or a head of household and five thousand dollars for
530 married individuals filing jointly; and

531 (III) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
532 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2027,
533 and each taxable year thereafter, an amount equal to the sum of all
534 interest accrued on a first-time homebuyer savings account, established
535 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-724b, during the taxable year;
536 and

537 (xxxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
538 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2027,
539 and each taxable year thereafter, for an account holder who is a qualified
540 beneficiary of a first-time homebuyer savings account, as those terms
541 are defined in section 12-724b, and who files a return under the federal
542 income tax as an unmarried individual, a married individual filing
543 separately or a head of household, whose federal adjusted gross income
544 for the taxable year is less than one hundred twenty-five thousand
545 dollars or who files a return under the federal income tax as married
546 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for the
547 taxable year is less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars, an amount
548 equal to any withdrawal from such account that is used to pay or
549 reimburse such qualified beneficiary for eligible costs, as defined in
550 section 12-724b, incurred by the qualified beneficiary.

551 Sec. 8. Subdivision (13) of subsection (a) of section 12-704d of the

552 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
553 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

554 (13) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section [21a-
555 420] 21a-240, as amended by this act; and

556 Sec. 9. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the 2026
557 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
558 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

559 (d) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued to any
560 applicant who is sixteen or seventeen years of age unless the applicant
561 has held a youth instruction permit and has satisfied the requirements
562 specified in this subsection. The applicant shall (A) submit to the
563 commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a
564 certificate of the successful completion (i) in a public secondary school,
565 a technical education and career school or a private secondary school of
566 a full course of study in motor vehicle operation prepared as provided
567 in section 14-36e, (ii) of training of similar nature provided by a licensed
568 drivers' school approved by the commissioner, or (iii) of home training
569 in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, including, in each
570 case, or by a combination of such types of training, successful
571 completion of: Not less than forty clock hours of behind-the-wheel, on-
572 the-road instruction for applicants to whom a youth instruction permit
573 is issued on or after August 1, 2008; (B) submit to the commissioner, in
574 such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a certificate of the
575 successful completion of (i) a course of not less than eight hours relative
576 to safe driving practices, including a minimum of four hours on the
577 nature and the medical, biological and physiological effects of alcohol
578 and drugs, including cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240,
579 as amended by this act, and their impact on the operator of a motor
580 vehicle, the dangers associated with the operation of a motor vehicle
581 after the consumption of alcohol or drugs by the operator, the problems
582 of alcohol and drug abuse, the penalties for alcohol and drug-related
583 motor vehicle violations and a video presentation specific to the impact
584 of cannabis on the operator of a motor vehicle and how the ingestion of

585 cannabis can cause impairment of motor function, reaction time,
586 perception and peripheral vision, and (ii) for applicants to whom a
587 youth instruction permit is issued on or after January 1, 2026, the
588 highway work zone and roadside vehicle safety awareness program
589 established in section 14-111r; and (C) pass an examination which may
590 include a comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws concerning
591 motor vehicles and the rules of the road in addition to the test required
592 under subsection (c) of this section and shall include an on-the-road
593 skills test as prescribed by the commissioner. At the time of application
594 and examination for a motor vehicle operator's license, an applicant
595 sixteen or seventeen years of age shall have held a youth instruction
596 permit for not less than one hundred eighty days, except that an
597 applicant who presents a certificate under subparagraph (A)(i) or
598 [subparagraph] (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall have held a youth
599 instruction permit for not less than one hundred twenty days and an
600 applicant who is undergoing training and instruction by the driver
601 training unit for persons with disabilities in accordance with the
602 provisions of section 14-11b shall have held such permit for the period
603 of time required by said unit. The commissioner shall approve the
604 content of the safe driving practices course at drivers' schools, high
605 schools and other secondary schools. Subject to such standards and
606 requirements as the commissioner may impose, the commissioner may
607 authorize any drivers' school, licensed in good standing in accordance
608 with the provisions of section 14-69, or secondary school driver
609 education program authorized pursuant to the provisions of section 14-
610 36e, to administer the comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws
611 concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road, required pursuant
612 to subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, as part of the safe driving
613 practices course required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this
614 subdivision, and to certify to the commissioner, under oath, the results
615 of each such test administered. Such hours of instruction required by
616 this subdivision shall be included as part of or in addition to any existing
617 instruction programs. Any fee charged for the course required under
618 subparagraph (B)(i) or (B)(ii) of this subdivision shall not exceed two
619 hundred dollars. Any applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who,

620 while a resident of another state, completed the course required in
621 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, but did not complete the safe
622 driving practices course required in subparagraph (B) of this
623 subdivision, shall complete the safe driving practices course. The
624 commissioner may waive any requirement in this subdivision, except
625 for the requirements of subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, in the case
626 of an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who holds a valid
627 motor vehicle operator's license issued by any other state, provided the
628 commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has received training and
629 instruction of a similar nature.

630 Sec. 10. Subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 14-227a of the 2026
631 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
632 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

643 Sec. 11. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 15-140r of the
644 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
645 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

646 (2) In any prosecution for a violation of subsection (a) of this section
647 in which it is alleged that the defendant's operation of a vessel was
648 impaired, in whole or in part, by consumption of cannabis, as defined
649 in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, the court may take
650 judicial notice that the ingestion of cannabis (A) can impair a person's
651 ability to operate a vessel; (B) can cause impairment of motor function,
652 reaction time, tracking ability, cognitive attention, decision-making,

653 judgment, perception, peripheral vision, impulse control or memory;
654 and (C) does not enhance a person's ability to safely operate a vessel.

655 Sec. 12. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 19a-342 of the
656 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
657 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

660 Sec. 13. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 19a-342a of the
661 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
662 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

665 Sec. 14. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-3b of the 2026
666 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
667 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

668 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section [21a-420]
669 21a-240, as amended by this act;

670 Sec. 15. Section 21a-12g of the general statutes is repealed and the
671 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

672 Not later than December 1, 2022, the Department of Consumer
673 Protection shall develop documents concerning the safe storage by
674 consumers of (1) prescription drugs, as defined in section 19a-754b, and
675 (2) cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this
676 act, and cannabis products, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended
677 by this act. Such documents shall contain, but need not be limited to,
678 information concerning best practices for (A) storing prescription drugs
679 and cannabis and cannabis products in a manner that renders such items
680 inaccessible to children, and (B) disposal of unused and expired
681 prescription drugs and cannabis and cannabis products. Not later than
682 December 15, 2022, the department shall publish such documents on its

683 Internet web site.

684 Sec. 16. Subsection (d) of section 21a-106 of the general statutes is
685 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
686 *1, 2026*):

687 (d) If it is for use by man and contains any quantity of the narcotic or
688 hypnotic substance alpha-eucaine, beta-eucaine, bromal, cannabis,
689 carbromal, chloral, coca, cocaine, codeine, heroin, [marijuana,]
690 morphine, opium, paraldehyde, peyote or sulphonmethane, or any
691 chemical derivative of any such substance, which derivative has been
692 designated as habit-forming by regulations promulgated under Section
693 352(d) of the federal act; unless its label bears the name and quantity or
694 proportion of such substance or derivative and in juxtaposition
695 therewith the statement "Warning-may be habit-forming";

696 Sec. 17. Subdivisions (20) to (29), inclusive, of section 21a-240 of the
697 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
698 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

699 (20) (A) "Drug paraphernalia" means equipment, products and
700 materials of any kind that are used, intended for use or designed for use
701 in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting,
702 manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing,
703 preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing,
704 containing or concealing, or ingesting, inhaling or otherwise
705 introducing into the human body, any controlled substance contrary to
706 the provisions of this chapter, including, but not limited to: (i) Kits
707 intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating,
708 cultivating, growing or harvesting of any species of plant that is a
709 controlled substance or from which a controlled substance can be
710 derived; (ii) kits used, intended for use or designed for use in
711 manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing or
712 preparing controlled substances; (iii) isomerization devices used or
713 intended for use in increasing the potency of any species of plant that is
714 a controlled substance; (iv) testing equipment used, intended for use or
715 designed for use in identifying or analyzing the strength, effectiveness

716 or purity of controlled substances; (v) dilutents and adulterants,
717 including, but not limited to, quinine hydrochloride, mannitol, mannite,
718 dextrose and lactose used, intended for use or designed for use in
719 cutting controlled substances; (vi) separation gins and sifters used,
720 intended for use or designed for use in removing twigs and seeds from,
721 or in otherwise cleaning or refining, [marijuana] cannabis; (vii) capsules
722 and other containers used, intended for use or designed for use in
723 packaging small quantities of controlled substances; (viii) containers
724 and other objects used, intended for use or designed for use in storing
725 or concealing controlled substances; and (ix) objects used, intended for
726 use or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing
727 [marijuana] cannabis, cocaine, hashish or hashish oil into the human
728 body, including, but not limited to, wooden, acrylic, glass, stone, plastic
729 or ceramic pipes with screens, permanent screens, hashish heads or
730 punctured metal bowls; water pipes; carburetion tubes and devices;
731 smoking and carburetion masks; roach clips; miniature cocaine spoons
732 and cocaine vials; chamber pipes; carburetor pipes; electric pipes; air-
733 driven pipes; chillums; bongs; ice pipes and chillers. "Drug
734 paraphernalia" does not include a product used by a manufacturer
735 licensed pursuant to this chapter for the activities permitted under the
736 license or by an individual to test any substance prior to injection,
737 inhalation or ingestion of the substance to prevent accidental overdose
738 by injection, inhalation or ingestion of the substance, provided the
739 licensed manufacturer or individual is not using the product to engage
740 in the unlicensed manufacturing or distribution of controlled
741 substances. As used in this subdivision, "roach clip" means an object
742 used to hold burning material, including, but not limited to, a
743 [marijuana] cannabis cigarette, that has become too small or too short to
744 be held between the fingers.

745 (B) "Factory" means any place used for the manufacturing, mixing,
746 compounding, refining, processing, packaging, distributing, storing,
747 keeping, holding, administering or assembling illegal substances
748 contrary to the provisions of this chapter, or any building, rooms or
749 location which contains equipment or paraphernalia used for this
750 purpose.

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

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

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

762 (24) "Hospital", as used in sections 21a-243 to 21a-283, inclusive, as
763 amended by this act, means an institution for the care and treatment of
764 the sick and injured, approved by the Department of Public Health or
765 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as proper to
766 be entrusted with the custody of controlled drugs and substances and
767 professional use of controlled drugs and substances under the direction
768 of a licensed practitioner.

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

776 (26) "Immediate precursor" means a substance which the
777 Commissioner of Consumer Protection has found to be, and by
778 regulation designates as being, the principal compound commonly used
779 or produced primarily for use, and which is an immediate chemical
780 intermediary used or likely to be used, in the manufacture of a
781 controlled substance, the control of which is necessary to prevent, curtail
782 or limit manufacture.

783 (27) "Laboratory" means a laboratory approved by the Department of
784 Consumer Protection as proper to be entrusted with the custody of
785 controlled substances and the use of controlled substances for scientific
786 and medical purposes and for purposes of instruction, research or
787 analysis.

788 (28) "Manufacture" means the production, preparation, cultivation,
789 growing, propagation, compounding, conversion or processing of a
790 controlled substance, either directly or indirectly by extraction from
791 substances of natural origin, or independently by means of chemical
792 synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and
793 includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or
794 relabeling of its container, except that this term does not include the
795 preparation or compounding of a controlled substance by an individual
796 for the individual's own use or the preparation, compounding,
797 packaging or labeling of a controlled substance: (A) By a practitioner as
798 an incident to the practitioner administering or dispensing of a
799 controlled substance in the course of such practitioner's professional
800 practice; or (B) by a practitioner, or by the practitioner's authorized
801 agent under such practitioner's supervision, for the purpose of, or as an
802 incident to, research, teaching or chemical analysis and not for sale.

803 (29) ["Marijuana"] "Cannabis" (A) means all parts of any plant [,] or
804 species of the genus *cannabis*, or any infra specific taxon thereof,
805 whether growing or not; [the] (B) includes (i) every resin extracted from
806 any part of [the plant; every] such plant, including, but not limited to,
807 every resin extracted from (I) the mature stalks of such plant, (II) the
808 fiber produced from the mature stalks of such plant, or (III) the oil or
809 cake made from the seeds of such plant, (ii) every other compound,
810 manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of such plant [,] or
811 its resin, [, any] (iii) every high-THC hemp product, [, manufactured
812 cannabinoids; or] (iv) every manufactured cannabinoid, and (v) except
813 as provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, (I) cannabimon,
814 cannabinol or cannabidiol, and (II) every chemical [compounds]
815 compound which [are] is similar to cannabimon, cannabimon or
816 cannabidiol in chemical structure or [which are similar thereto in]

817 physiological effect [, which are controlled substances] and is a
818 controlled substance under this chapter; [, except cannabidiol derived
819 from hemp, as defined in section 22-61l, that is not a high-THC hemp
820 product. "Marijuana"] and (C) does not include [: (A) The] (i) the mature
821 stalks of such plant, (ii) the fiber produced from [such stalks,] the mature
822 stalks of such plant, (iii) the oil or cake made from the seeds of such
823 plant, (iv) any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture
824 or preparation of [such] the mature stalks [, except the resin extracted
825 from such mature stalks or fiber, oil or cake; (B) the seed] of such plant,
826 (v) the seeds of such plant,; (C)] (vi) hemp, as defined in section 22-61l,
827 as amended by this act, [(i) (I) with a total THC concentration of not
828 more than three-tenths per cent on a dry-weight basis, and [(ii) (II) that
829 is not a high-THC hemp product,; (D)] (vii) cannabinon, cannabino,
830 cannabigerol, cannabichromene or any other minor cannabinoid
831 derived from hemp, (viii) any substance approved by the federal Food
832 and Drug Administration or successor agency as a drug and reclassified
833 in any schedule of controlled substances or unscheduled by the federal
834 Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency which is
835 included in the same schedule designated by the federal Drug
836 Enforcement Administration or successor agency,; or (E)] (ix) any
837 infused [beverages] beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as amended
838 by this act, or (x) any commercial extract, as defined in section 22-61l, as
839 amended by this act, provided such commercial extract is
840 manufactured, advertised, offered and sold in accordance with the
841 provisions of section 89 of this act.

842 Sec. 18. Subsection (e) of section 21a-243 of the 2026 supplement to
843 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
844 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

845 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall classify
846 [marijuana] cannabis as a controlled substance in schedule II under the
847 Connecticut controlled substance scheduling regulations, except that for
848 any [marijuana] cannabis product that has been approved by the federal
849 Food and Drug Administration or successor agency to have a medical
850 use and that is reclassified in any schedule of controlled substances or

851 unscheduled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or
852 successor agency, the commissioner shall adopt the schedule designated
853 by the Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency. In the
854 event that [marijuana] cannabis is reclassified as a controlled substance
855 in schedule III, IV or V of the federal Controlled Substances Act, or is
856 unscheduled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or
857 successor agency, the commissioner shall adopt the schedule designated
858 by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency.

859 Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 21a-246 of the general statutes is
860 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
861 *1, 2026*):

862 (a) No person within this state shall manufacture, wholesale,
863 repack, supply, compound, mix, cultivate or grow, or by other
864 process produce or prepare, controlled substances without first
865 obtaining a license to do so from the Commissioner of Consumer
866 Protection and no person within this state shall operate a laboratory for
867 the purpose of research or analysis using controlled substances without
868 first obtaining a license to do so from the Commissioner of Consumer
869 Protection, except that such activities by pharmacists or pharmacies in
870 the filling and dispensing of prescriptions or activities incident thereto,
871 or the dispensing or administering of controlled substances by dentists,
872 podiatrists, physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice
873 registered nurses or veterinarians, or other persons acting under their
874 supervision, in the treatment of patients shall not be subject to the
875 provisions of this section, and provided laboratories for instruction in
876 dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, pharmacology and
877 pharmacognosy in institutions duly licensed for such purposes in this
878 state shall not be subject to the provisions of this section except with
879 respect to narcotic drugs and schedule I and II controlled substances.
880 Upon application of any physician or physician assistant licensed
881 pursuant to chapter 370, or an advanced practice registered nurse
882 licensed pursuant to chapter 378, the Commissioner of Consumer
883 Protection shall without unnecessary delay, (1) license such physician to
884 possess and supply [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of glaucoma

885 or the side effects of chemotherapy, or (2) license such physician
886 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse to possess and supply
887 [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of the side effects of
888 chemotherapy. No person outside this state shall sell or supply
889 controlled substances within this state without first obtaining a license
890 to do so from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, provided no
891 such license shall be required of a manufacturer whose principal place
892 of business is located outside this state and who is registered with the
893 federal Drug Enforcement Administration or other federal agency, and
894 who files a copy of such registration with the appropriate licensing
895 authority under this chapter.

896 Sec. 20. Section 21a-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the
897 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

898 Any person may possess or have under his control a quantity of
899 [marijuana] cannabis less than or equal to that quantity supplied to him
900 pursuant to a prescription made in accordance with the provisions of
901 section 21a-249 by (1) a physician licensed under the provisions of
902 chapter 370 and further authorized by subsection (a) of section 21a-246,
903 as amended by this act, by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection
904 to possess and supply [marijuana] cannabis for the treatment of
905 glaucoma or the side effects of chemotherapy, or (2) a physician
906 assistant licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, or an advanced
907 practice registered nurse licensed under the provisions of chapter 378,
908 and further authorized by subsection (a) of section 21a-246, as amended
909 by this act, by said commissioner to possess and supply [marijuana]
910 cannabis for the treatment of the side effects of chemotherapy.

911 Sec. 21. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 21a-277 of the
912 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
913 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

916 Sec. 22. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-279 of the

917 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
918 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

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

924 Sec. 23. Subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 21a-279a of the
925 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
926 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

927 (j) (1) As used in this section, "cannabis" [.] has the same meaning as
928 provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act, and "cannabis
929 flower", "cannabis trim", "cannabis concentrate" and "cannabis product"
930 have the same meanings as provided in section 21a-420, as amended by
931 this act.

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

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

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

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

941 [(2)] (3) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided
942 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

943 [(3)] (4) "Cannabis testing laboratory" means a person who (A) is
944 located in this state, (B) is licensed by the department to analyze
945 [marijuana] cannabis, and (C) meets the licensure requirements

946 established in section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the
947 regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as
948 amended by this act;

949 [(4)] (5) "Cannabis testing laboratory employee" means a person who
950 is (A) employed at a cannabis testing laboratory, and (B) registered
951 pursuant to section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the regulations
952 adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as amended by
953 this act;

954 [(5)] (6) "Caregiver" means a person, other than the qualifying patient
955 and the qualifying patient's physician, physician assistant or advanced
956 practice registered nurse, who is eighteen years of age or older and has
957 agreed to undertake responsibility for managing the well-being of the
958 qualifying patient with respect to the palliative use of [marijuana]
959 cannabis, provided (A) in the case of a qualifying patient (i) under
960 eighteen years of age and not an emancipated minor, or (ii) otherwise
961 lacking legal capacity, such person shall be a parent, guardian or person
962 having legal custody of such qualifying patient, and (B) in the case of a
963 qualifying patient eighteen years of age or older or an emancipated
964 minor, the need for such person shall be evaluated by the qualifying
965 patient's physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
966 nurse and such need shall be documented in the written certification;

967 [(6)] (7) "Cultivation" includes planting, propagating, cultivating,
968 growing and harvesting;

969 [(7)] (8) "Debilitating medical condition" means (A) cancer, glaucoma,
970 positive status for human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune
971 deficiency syndrome, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, damage to
972 the nervous tissue of the spinal cord with objective neurological
973 indication of intractable spasticity, epilepsy or uncontrolled intractable
974 seizure disorder, cachexia, wasting syndrome, Crohn's disease,
975 posttraumatic stress disorder, irreversible spinal cord injury with
976 objective neurological indication of intractable spasticity, cerebral palsy,
977 cystic fibrosis or terminal illness requiring end-of-life care, except, if the
978 qualifying patient is under eighteen years of age, "debilitating medical

979 condition" means terminal illness requiring end-of-life care, irreversible
980 spinal cord injury with objective neurological indication of intractable
981 spasticity, cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, severe epilepsy or uncontrolled
982 intractable seizure disorder, or (B) any medical condition, medical
983 treatment or disease approved for qualifying patients by the
984 Department of Consumer Protection and posted online pursuant to
985 section 21a-408l, as amended by this act;

986 [(8)] (9) "Dispensary facility" means a place of business, for which the
987 department has issued a dispensary facility license pursuant to this
988 chapter, where [marijuana] cannabis may be dispensed, sold or
989 distributed in accordance with this chapter and any regulations adopted
990 thereunder to qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and
991 caregivers; [and for which the department has issued a dispensary
992 facility license pursuant to this chapter;]

993 [(9)] (10) "Employee" has the same meaning as provided in section
994 21a-420, as amended by this act;

995 [(10)] (11) "Institutional animal care and use committee" means a
996 committee that oversees an organization's animal program, facilities
997 and procedures to ensure compliance with federal policies, guidelines
998 and principles related to the care and use of animals in research;

999 [(11)] (12) "Institutional review board" means a specifically
1000 constituted review body established or designated by an organization
1001 to protect the rights and welfare of persons recruited to participate in
1002 biomedical, behavioral or social science research;

1003 [(12)] (13) "Licensed dispensary" or "dispensary" means an individual
1004 who is a licensed pharmacist employed by a dispensary facility or
1005 hybrid retailer;

1006 [(13) "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
1007 240;]

1008 (14) "Nurse" means a person who is licensed as a nurse under chapter
1009 378;

1010 (15) "Palliative use" (A) means the acquisition, distribution, transfer,
1011 possession, use or transportation of [marijuana] cannabis or
1012 paraphernalia relating to [marijuana] cannabis, including the transfer of
1013 [marijuana] cannabis and paraphernalia relating to [marijuana]
1014 cannabis from the qualifying patient's caregiver to the qualifying
1015 patient, to alleviate a qualifying patient's symptoms of a debilitating
1016 medical condition or the effects of such symptoms, [but] (B) includes the
1017 acquisition, distribution, transfer, possession or use of cannabis or
1018 paraphernalia relating to cannabis by a qualifying out-of-state patient,
1019 and (C) does not include any such use of [marijuana] cannabis by any
1020 person other than the qualifying patient or qualifying out-of-state
1021 patient;

1022 (16) "Paraphernalia" means drug paraphernalia, as defined in section
1023 21a-240, as amended by this act;

1024 (17) "Physician" means a person who is licensed as a physician under
1025 chapter 370;

1026 (18) "Physician assistant" means a person who is licensed as a
1027 physician assistant under chapter 370;

1028 (19) "Producer" means a person who is licensed as a producer
1029 pursuant to section 21a-408i, as amended by this act;

1030 (20) "Qualifying patient" means a person who (A) is a resident of
1031 Connecticut, (B) has been diagnosed by a physician, physician assistant
1032 or advanced practice registered nurse as having a debilitating medical
1033 condition, and (C) (i) is eighteen years of age or older, (ii) is an
1034 emancipated minor, or (iii) has written consent from a custodial parent,
1035 guardian or other person having legal custody of such person that
1036 indicates that such person has permission from such parent, guardian
1037 or other person for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis for a
1038 debilitating medical condition and that such parent, guardian or other
1039 person will (I) serve as a caregiver for the qualifying patient, and (II)
1040 control the acquisition and possession of [marijuana] cannabis and any
1041 related paraphernalia for palliative use on behalf of such person.

1042 "Qualifying patient" does not include an inmate confined in a
1043 correctional institution or facility under the supervision of the
1044 Department of Correction;

1045 (21) "Qualifying out-of-state patient" means a person who (A) is a
1046 resident of another state, and (B) holds a valid credential that entitles
1047 such person to engage in the palliative use of cannabis in such other
1048 state;

1049 ~~[(21)]~~ (22) "Research program" means a study approved by the
1050 Department of Consumer Protection in accordance with this chapter
1051 and undertaken to increase information or knowledge regarding the
1052 growth or processing of [marijuana] cannabis, or the medical attributes,
1053 dosage forms, administration or use of [marijuana] cannabis to treat or
1054 alleviate symptoms of any medical conditions or the effects of such
1055 symptoms;

1056 ~~[(22)]~~ (23) "Research program employee" means a person who (A) is
1057 registered as a research program employee under section 21a-408t, or
1058 (B) holds a temporary certificate of registration issued pursuant to
1059 section 21a-408t;

1060 ~~[(23)]~~ (24) "Research program subject" means a person registered as a
1061 research program subject pursuant to section 21a-408v, as amended by
1062 this act;

1063 ~~[(24) "Usable marijuana"]~~ (25) "Usable cannabis" means the dried
1064 leaves and flowers of the [marijuana] cannabis plant, and any mixtures
1065 or preparations of such leaves and flowers, that are appropriate for the
1066 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis, but does not include the seeds,
1067 stalks and roots of the [marijuana] cannabis plant; and

1068 ~~[(25)]~~ (26) "Written certification" means a written certification issued
1069 by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
1070 nurse pursuant to section 21a-408c, as amended by this act.

1071 Sec. 25. Section 21a-408a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1072 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1073 (a) A qualifying patient shall register with the Department of
1074 Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-408d, as amended by this
1075 act, prior to engaging in the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis. A
1076 qualifying patient who has a valid registration certificate from the
1077 Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
1078 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and complies with the
1079 requirements of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1080 this act, shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any
1081 manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty,
1082 or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being
1083 subject to any disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for
1084 the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis if:

1085 (1) The qualifying patient's physician, physician assistant or
1086 advanced practice registered nurse has issued a written certification to
1087 the qualifying patient for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis after
1088 the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse
1089 has prescribed, or determined it is not in the best interest of the patient
1090 to prescribe, prescription drugs to address the symptoms or effects for
1091 which the certification is being issued;

1092 (2) The combined amount of [marijuana] cannabis possessed by the
1093 qualifying patient and the caregiver for palliative use does not exceed
1094 five ounces;

1095 (3) The qualifying patient has not more than one caregiver at any
1096 time; and

1097 (4) Any cannabis plants grown by the qualifying patient in [his or]
1098 the qualifying patient's home [is] are in compliance with subsection (b)
1099 of section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and any applicable
1100 regulations.

1101 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section do not apply to:

1102 (1) Any palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis that endangers the
1103 health or well-being of a person other than the qualifying patient or the

1104 caregiver; or

1105 (2) The ingestion of [marijuana] cannabis (A) in a motor bus or a
1106 school bus or in any other moving vehicle, (B) in the workplace, (C) on
1107 any school grounds or any public or private school, dormitory, college
1108 or university property, unless such college or university is participating
1109 in a research program and such use is pursuant to the terms of the
1110 research program, (D) in any public place, or (E) in the presence of a
1111 person under the age of eighteen, unless such person is a qualifying
1112 patient or research program subject. For the purposes of this
1113 subdivision, (i) "presence" means within the direct line of sight of the
1114 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis or exposure to second-hand
1115 [marijuana] cannabis smoke, or both; (ii) "public place" means any area
1116 that is used or held out for use by the public whether owned or operated
1117 by public or private interests; (iii) "vehicle" means a vehicle, as defined
1118 in section 14-1; (iv) "motor bus" means a motor bus, as defined in section
1119 14-1; and (v) "school bus" means a school bus, as defined in section 14-
1120 1.

1121 (c) (1) A qualifying out-of-state patient who complies with the
1122 requirements established pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408h,
1123 as amended by this act, shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution,
1124 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to
1125 any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not
1126 limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by a professional
1127 licensing board, for the palliative use of cannabis if the amount of
1128 cannabis possessed by the qualifying out-of-state patient for palliative
1129 use does not exceed five ounces.

1130 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection do not apply
1131 to (A) any palliative use of cannabis described in subdivision (1) of
1132 subsection (b) of this section, or (B) any ingestion of cannabis described
1133 in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section.

1134 Sec. 26. Subsection (b) of section 21a-408b of the general statutes is
1135 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1136 *1, 2026*):

1137 (b) A caregiver who has a valid registration certificate from the
1138 Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
1139 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and complies with the
1140 requirements of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1141 this act, shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any
1142 manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty,
1143 or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being
1144 subject to any disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for
1145 the acquisition, distribution, possession or transportation of [marijuana]
1146 cannabis or paraphernalia related to [marijuana] cannabis on behalf of
1147 such caregiver's qualifying patient, provided the amount of any
1148 [marijuana] cannabis so acquired, distributed, possessed or transported,
1149 together with the combined amount of usable [marijuana] cannabis
1150 possessed by the qualifying patient and the caregiver, does not exceed
1151 five ounces. For the purposes of this subsection, "distribution" or
1152 "distributed" means the transfer of [marijuana] cannabis and
1153 paraphernalia related to [marijuana] cannabis from the caregiver to the
1154 qualifying patient.

1155 Sec. 27. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-408c of the 2026
1156 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
1157 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1158 (a) (1) A physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
1159 registered nurse may issue a written certification to a qualifying patient
1160 that authorizes the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis by the
1161 qualifying patient. Such written certification shall be in the form
1162 prescribed by the Department of Consumer Protection and shall include
1163 a statement signed and dated by the qualifying patient's physician,
1164 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in
1165 such physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered
1166 nurse's professional opinion, (A) the qualifying patient has a
1167 debilitating medical condition, and (B) the potential benefits of the
1168 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis would likely outweigh the health
1169 risks of such use to the qualifying patient.

1170 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (6) of this subsection, any
1171 written certification issued by a physician, physician assistant or
1172 advanced practice registered nurse pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
1173 subsection shall be valid for a period not to exceed one of the following
1174 durations, as determined by the physician, physician assistant or
1175 advanced practice registered nurse and beginning on the date on which
1176 such written certification is signed and dated by the physician,
1177 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse: (A) Six
1178 months; (B) one year; (C) eighteen months; or (D) two years.

1179 (3) Except as provided in subdivision (6) of this subsection, not later
1180 than ten calendar days after the expiration of the period determined by
1181 the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse
1182 under subdivision (2) of this subsection, or at any time before the
1183 expiration of such period should the qualifying patient no longer wish
1184 to possess [marijuana] cannabis for palliative use, the qualifying patient
1185 or the caregiver shall destroy all usable [marijuana] cannabis possessed
1186 by the qualifying patient and the caregiver for palliative use.

1187 (4) A physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
1188 nurse shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any
1189 manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty,
1190 or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being
1191 subject to any disciplinary action by the Connecticut Medical Examining
1192 Board, the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing or other
1193 professional licensing board, for providing a written certification under
1194 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-408a, as amended by this
1195 act, if:

1196 (A) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
1197 registered nurse has diagnosed the qualifying patient as having a
1198 debilitating medical condition;

1199 (B) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered
1200 nurse has explained the potential risks and benefits of the palliative use
1201 of [marijuana] cannabis to the qualifying patient and, if the qualifying
1202 patient lacks legal capacity, to a parent, guardian or person having legal

1203 custody of the qualifying patient, to the qualifying patient's caregiver or
1204 to a person legally authorized to make medical decisions on behalf of
1205 the qualifying patient;

1206 (C) The written certification issued by the physician, physician
1207 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse is based upon the
1208 physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered nurse's
1209 professional opinion after having completed a medically reasonable
1210 assessment of the qualifying patient's medical history and current
1211 medical condition made in the course of a bona fide health care
1212 professional-patient relationship; and

1213 (D) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
1214 registered nurse has no financial interest in a cannabis establishment,
1215 except for retailers and delivery services, as such terms are defined in
1216 section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

1217 (5) A physician assistant or nurse shall not be subject to arrest or
1218 prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1219 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1220 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1221 the Connecticut Medical Examining Board, Board of Examiners for
1222 Nursing or other professional licensing board, for administering
1223 [marijuana] cannabis to a qualifying patient or research program subject
1224 in a hospital or health care facility licensed by the Department of Public
1225 Health.

1226 (6) A licensed dispensary, acting in the course of the licensed
1227 dispensary's employment on the premises of the dispensary facility or
1228 hybrid retailer that employs such licensed dispensary, may grant a
1229 temporary extension of a written certification issued by a physician,
1230 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse pursuant to
1231 subdivision (1) of this subsection for a period not to exceed ninety
1232 consecutive days following expiration of such written certification.

1233 (b) (1) A licensed dispensary, acting in the course of the licensed
1234 dispensary's employment and on the premises of the dispensary facility

1235 or hybrid retailer that employs such licensed dispensary, may issue a
1236 temporary written certification to an individual that authorizes the
1237 individual to engage in the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis as a
1238 qualifying patient for a period not to exceed ninety consecutive days,
1239 provided such licensed dispensary has:

1240 (A) Reasonably determined, after reviewing such individual's
1241 medical history, that such individual is at least eighteen years of age and
1242 has a debilitating medical condition;

1243 (B) Conducted an in-person assessment of such individual at the
1244 dispensary facility or on the premises of the hybrid retailer that employs
1245 the licensed dispensary; and

1246 (C) Reviewed the electronic prescription drug monitoring program
1247 established pursuant to section 21a-254 and verified that no other
1248 licensed dispensary had prescribed or dispensed [marijuana] cannabis
1249 to such individual during the one-year period immediately preceding
1250 the date of such review.

1251 (2) Each temporary written certification issued pursuant to
1252 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be in a form prescribed by the
1253 Department of Consumer Protection and shall include a statement
1254 signed and dated by the licensed dispensary stating that, in such
1255 licensed dispensary's professional opinion, (A) the individual has
1256 provided sufficient proof that such individual has a debilitating medical
1257 condition, and (B) the potential benefits the individual would derive
1258 from the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis likely outweigh the
1259 health risks that such use would pose to such individual.

1260 (3) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification
1261 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, or the dispensary facility
1262 or hybrid retailer that employs such licensed dispensary, may impose a
1263 fee for such temporary written certification, which fee shall not exceed
1264 twenty-five dollars. Such licensed dispensary, dispensary facility or
1265 hybrid retailer shall not impose any other fee in connection with such
1266 temporary written certification.

1267 (4) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification
1268 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall maintain all patient
1269 assessment and eligibility documentation concerning such temporary
1270 written certification for a period of at least three years beginning on the
1271 date on which the licensed dispensary issued such temporary written
1272 certification. Such documentation shall be organized and maintained
1273 (A) in hard copy at the dispensary facility or hybrid retailer premises at
1274 which the licensed dispensary conducted an in-person assessment of the
1275 patient, or (B) electronically in a system readily accessible by the
1276 licensed dispensary.

1277 (5) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification
1278 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall ensure that all patient
1279 assessment and eligibility documentation maintained pursuant to
1280 subdivision (4) of this subsection is made readily available to the
1281 department, and shall submit any such documentation to the
1282 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, not
1283 later than forty-eight hours after the department requests such
1284 documentation.

1285 (6) A licensed dispensary shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution,
1286 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to
1287 any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not
1288 limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by the Commission
1289 of Pharmacy or any other professional licensing board, for providing a
1290 temporary written certification pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
1291 subsection if:

1292 (A) The licensed dispensary has reasonably determined, after
1293 reviewing the individual's medical history, that the individual is
1294 eighteen years of age or older and has a debilitating medical condition;
1295 and

1296 (B) The licensed dispensary has explained the potential risks and
1297 benefits of the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis to the individual
1298 and, if the individual lacks legal capacity, to a parent, guardian or
1299 person having legal custody of the individual or to a person legally

1300 authorized to make medical decisions on behalf of the individual.

1301 Sec. 28. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 21a-408d of the
1302 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1303 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1304 (a) Each qualifying patient who is issued a written certification for the
1305 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis under subdivision (1) of
1306 subsection (a) of section 21a-408a, as amended by this act, and the
1307 caregiver of such qualifying patient, shall register with the Department
1308 of Consumer Protection. Such registration shall be effective from the
1309 date the Department of Consumer Protection issues a certificate of
1310 registration until the expiration of the written certification issued by the
1311 physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.
1312 The qualifying patient and the caregiver shall provide sufficient
1313 identifying information, as determined by the department, to establish
1314 the personal identity of the qualifying patient and the caregiver. If the
1315 qualifying patient is under eighteen years of age and not an
1316 emancipated minor, the custodial parent, guardian or other person
1317 having legal custody of the qualifying patient shall also provide a letter
1318 from both the qualifying patient's care provider and a physician who is
1319 board certified in an area of medicine involved in the treatment of the
1320 debilitating condition for which the qualifying patient was certified that
1321 confirms that the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis is in the best
1322 interest of the qualifying patient. A physician may issue a written
1323 certification for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis by a
1324 qualifying patient who is under eighteen years of age, provided such
1325 written certification shall not be for [marijuana] cannabis in a dosage
1326 form that requires that the [marijuana] cannabis be smoked, inhaled or
1327 vaporized. The qualifying patient or the caregiver shall report any
1328 change in the identifying information to the department not later than
1329 five business days after such change. The department shall issue a
1330 registration certificate to the qualifying patient and to the caregiver.

1331 (b) Any qualifying patient who is eighteen years of age or older may
1332 cultivate up to three mature cannabis plants and three immature

1333 cannabis plants in the patient's primary residence at any given time,
1334 provided such plants are secure from access by any individual other
1335 than the patient or patient's caregiver and no more than twelve cannabis
1336 plants may be grown per household.

1337 (c) A dispensary shall not dispense any [marijuana] cannabis
1338 products in a smokable, inhalable or vaporizable form to (1) a qualifying
1339 patient who is under eighteen years of age or such qualifying patient's
1340 caregiver, or (2) a qualifying out-of-state patient who is under eighteen
1341 years of age.

1342 Sec. 29. Section 21a-408e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1343 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1344 No person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution solely for being in
1345 the presence or vicinity of the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis as
1346 permitted under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1347 this act.

1348 Sec. 30. Section 21a-408f of the general statutes is repealed and the
1349 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1350 Any [marijuana] cannabis, paraphernalia relating to [marijuana]
1351 cannabis, or other property seized by law enforcement officials from a
1352 qualifying patient, [or a] qualifying out-of-state patient or caregiver in
1353 connection with the claimed palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis
1354 under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act,
1355 shall be returned to the qualifying patient, [or the] qualifying out-of-
1356 state patient or caregiver immediately upon the determination by a
1357 court that the qualifying patient, [or the] qualifying out-of-state patient
1358 or caregiver is entitled to the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis
1359 under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act,
1360 as evidenced by a decision not to prosecute, a dismissal of charges or an
1361 acquittal. The provisions of this section do not apply to any qualifying
1362 patient, qualifying out-of-state patient or caregiver who fails to comply
1363 with the requirements for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis
1364 under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act.

1365 Sec. 31. Section 21a-408g of the general statutes is repealed and the
1366 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1367 (a) Any person who makes a fraudulent representation to a law
1368 enforcement official of any fact or circumstance relating to the palliative
1369 use of [marijuana] cannabis in order to avoid arrest or prosecution
1370 under chapter 420b or any other provision of the general statutes shall
1371 be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

1372 (b) Any person who makes a fraudulent representation to a law
1373 enforcement official of any fact or circumstance relating to the issuance,
1374 contents or validity of a written certification for the palliative use of
1375 [marijuana] cannabis, or a document purporting to be such a written
1376 certification, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

1377 Sec. 32. Section 21a-408h of the general statutes is repealed and the
1378 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1379 (a) No person may act as a dispensary or represent that such person
1380 is a licensed dispensary unless such person has obtained a license from
1381 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.

1382 (b) No person may act as a dispensary facility or represent that such
1383 person is a licensed dispensary facility unless such person has obtained
1384 a license from the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to
1385 this section.

1386 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall determine the
1387 number of dispensary facilities appropriate to meet the needs of
1388 qualifying patients in this state and shall adopt regulations, in
1389 accordance with chapter 54, to provide for the licensure and standards
1390 for dispensary facilities in this state and specify the maximum number
1391 of dispensary facilities that may be licensed in this state. On and after
1392 the effective date of such regulations, the commissioner may license any
1393 person who applies for a license in accordance with such regulations,
1394 provided the commissioner deems such applicant qualified to acquire,
1395 possess, distribute and dispense [marijuana] cannabis pursuant to

1396 sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act. At a
1397 minimum, such regulations shall:

1398 (1) Indicate the maximum number of dispensary facilities that may
1399 be licensed in this state;

1400 (2) Provide that no [marijuana] cannabis may be dispensed from,
1401 obtained from or transferred to a location outside of this state;

1402 (3) Provide for renewal of dispensary facility licenses at least every
1403 two years;

1404 (4) Describe areas in this state where dispensary facilities may not be
1405 located, after considering the criteria for the location of retail liquor
1406 permit premises set forth in subsection (a) of section 30-46;

1407 (5) Establish health, safety and security requirements for dispensary
1408 facilities, which may include, but need not be limited to: (A) The ability
1409 to maintain adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss of
1410 [marijuana] cannabis acquired or possessed by the dispensary facility,
1411 and (B) the ability to maintain the knowledge, understanding,
1412 judgment, procedures, security controls and ethics to ensure optimal
1413 safety and accuracy in the distributing, dispensing and use of palliative
1414 [marijuana] cannabis;

1415 (6) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,
1416 summary suspension and nonrenewal of dispensary facility licenses,
1417 provided such standards and procedures are consistent with the
1418 provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182; and

1419 (7) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards
1420 deemed necessary by the commissioner.

1421 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or chapter 420h
1422 limiting the dispensing, sale or distribution of cannabis by dispensary
1423 facilities to qualifying patients and caregivers, a dispensary facility may
1424 dispense, sell or distribute cannabis to qualifying out-of-state patients.
1425 The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations or

1426 amend regulations, as applicable, in accordance with chapter 54 to
1427 implement the provisions of this subsection.

1428 Sec. 33. Subsection (b) of section 21a-408i of the general statutes is
1429 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1430 *1, 2026*):

1431 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall determine the
1432 number of producers appropriate to meet the needs of qualifying
1433 patients in this state and shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
1434 chapter 54, to provide for the licensure, standards and locations for
1435 producers in this state and specify the maximum number of producers
1436 that may be licensed in this state at any time. On and after the effective
1437 date of such regulations, the commissioner may license any person who
1438 applies for a license in accordance with such regulations, provided (1)
1439 such person is organized for the purpose of cultivating [marijuana]
1440 cannabis for palliative use in this state, (2) the commissioner finds that
1441 such applicant has appropriate expertise in agriculture and that such
1442 applicant is qualified to cultivate [marijuana] cannabis and sell, deliver,
1443 transport or distribute [marijuana] cannabis solely within this state
1444 pursuant to sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this
1445 act, and (3) the number of producer licenses issued does not exceed the
1446 number appropriate to meet the needs of qualifying patients in this
1447 state, as determined by the commissioner pursuant to this subsection.
1448 At a minimum, such regulations shall:

1449 (A) Indicate the maximum number of producers that may be licensed
1450 in this state at any time, which number shall not be less than three nor
1451 more than ten producers;

1452 (B) Provide that no [marijuana] cannabis may be sold, delivered,
1453 transported or distributed by a producer from or to a location outside of
1454 this state;

1455 (C) Establish a nonrefundable application fee of not less than twenty-
1456 five thousand dollars for each application submitted for a producer
1457 license;

1458 (D) Establish a license fee and renewal fee for each licensed producer,
1459 provided the aggregate amount of such license and renewal fees shall
1460 not be less than the amount necessary to cover the direct and indirect
1461 cost of licensing and regulating producers pursuant to sections 21a-408
1462 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by this act;

1463 (E) Provide for renewal of such producer licenses at least every five
1464 years;

1465 (F) Provide that no producer may cultivate [marijuana] cannabis for
1466 palliative use outside of this state and designate permissible locations
1467 for licensed producers in this state;

1468 (G) Establish financial requirements for producers, under which (i)
1469 each applicant demonstrates the financial capacity to build and operate
1470 a [marijuana] cannabis production facility, and (ii) each licensed
1471 producer may be required to maintain an escrow account in a financial
1472 institution in this state in an amount of two million dollars;

1473 (H) Establish health, safety and security requirements for licensed
1474 producers, which shall include, but need not be limited to, a
1475 requirement that the applicant or licensed producer demonstrate: (i) The
1476 ability to maintain adequate control against the diversion, theft and loss
1477 of [marijuana] cannabis cultivated by the producer, and (ii) the ability
1478 to cultivate pharmaceutical grade [marijuana] cannabis for palliative
1479 use in a secure indoor facility;

1480 (I) Define "pharmaceutical grade [marijuana] cannabis for palliative
1481 use" for the purposes of this section;

1482 (J) Establish standards and procedures for revocation, suspension,
1483 summary suspension and nonrenewal of producer licenses, provided
1484 such standards and procedures are consistent with the provisions of
1485 subsection (c) of section 4-182; and

1486 (K) Establish other licensing, renewal and operational standards
1487 deemed necessary by the commissioner.

1488 Sec. 34. Section 21a-408j of the general statutes is repealed and the
1489 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1490 (a) No dispensary facility or employee of the dispensary facility may:
1491 (1) Acquire [marijuana] cannabis from a person other than a producer,
1492 [from a] cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer, food and
1493 beverage manufacturer, product packager [,] or transporter, as such
1494 terms are defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act; (2) transfer
1495 or transport [marijuana] cannabis to a person who is not (A) a qualifying
1496 patient registered under section 21a-408d, as amended by this act; (B) a
1497 caregiver of [such] a qualifying patient [; (C)] registered under section
1498 21a-408d, as amended by this act; (C) a qualifying out-of-state patient;
1499 (D) a hospice or other inpatient care facility licensed by the Department
1500 of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that has a protocol for the
1501 handling and distribution of [marijuana] cannabis that has been
1502 approved by the Department of Consumer Protection; [(D)] (E) a
1503 cannabis testing laboratory; [(E)] (F) an organization engaged in a
1504 research program; [(F)] (G) a delivery service, as defined in section 21a-
1505 420, as amended by this act; or [(G)] (H) a transporter, as defined in
1506 section 21a-420, as amended by this act; or (3) obtain or transport
1507 [marijuana] cannabis outside of this state in violation of state or federal
1508 law.

1509 (b) No dispensary or employee of the dispensary facility acting
1510 within the scope of his or her employment shall be subject to arrest or
1511 prosecution or penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1512 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1513 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1514 a professional licensing board, for acquiring, possessing, distributing or
1515 dispensing [marijuana] cannabis pursuant to sections 21a-408 to 21a-
1516 408m, inclusive, as amended by this act.

1517 Sec. 35. Section 21a-408k of the general statutes is repealed and the
1518 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1519 (a) No producer or employee of the producer may: (1) Sell, deliver,
1520 transport or distribute [marijuana] cannabis to a person who is not (A)

1521 a cannabis establishment, (B) a cannabis testing laboratory, or (C) an
1522 organization engaged in a research program, or (2) obtain or transport
1523 [marijuana] cannabis outside of this state in violation of state or federal
1524 law.

1525 (b) No licensed producer or employee of the producer acting within
1526 the scope of such employee's employment shall be subject to arrest or
1527 prosecution or penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1528 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1529 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1530 a professional licensing board, for cultivating [marijuana] cannabis or
1531 selling, delivering, transferring, transporting or distributing [marijuana]
1532 cannabis to a cannabis establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or
1533 research program.

1534 Sec. 36. Section 21a-408l of the general statutes is repealed and the
1535 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1536 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall establish a Board
1537 of Physicians consisting of eight physicians or surgeons who are
1538 knowledgeable about the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis and
1539 certified by the appropriate American board in the medical specialty in
1540 which they practice, at least one of whom shall be a board certified
1541 pediatrician appointed in consultation with the Connecticut Chapter of
1542 the American Academy of Pediatrics. Four of the members of the board
1543 first appointed shall serve for a term of three years and four of the
1544 members of the board first appointed shall serve for a term of four years.
1545 Thereafter, members of the board shall serve for a term of four years and
1546 shall be eligible for reappointment. Any member of the board may serve
1547 until a successor is appointed. The Commissioner of Consumer
1548 Protection shall serve as an ex-officio member of the board, and shall
1549 select a chairperson from among the members of the board.

1550 (b) A quorum of the Board of Physicians shall consist of four
1551 members.

1552 (c) The Board of Physicians shall:

1553 (1) Review and recommend to the Department of Consumer
1554 Protection for approval the debilitating medical conditions, medical
1555 treatments or diseases to be added to the list of debilitating medical
1556 conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis for
1557 qualifying patients eighteen years of age or older;

1558 (2) Review and recommend to the Department of Consumer
1559 Protection for approval any illnesses that are severely debilitating, as
1560 defined in 21 CFR 312.81(b), to be added to the list of debilitating
1561 medical conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1562 cannabis for qualifying patients under eighteen years of age, taking into
1563 account, among other things, the effect of the palliative use of
1564 [marijuana] cannabis on the brain development of such patients, which
1565 recommendations shall be accepted or rejected by the commissioner in
1566 his or her discretion;

1567 (3) Accept and review petitions to add medical conditions, medical
1568 treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating medical conditions that
1569 qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis;

1570 (4) Convene as necessary to conduct public hearings and to evaluate
1571 petitions, which shall be maintained as confidential pursuant to
1572 subsection (e) of this section, for the purpose of adding medical
1573 conditions, medical treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating
1574 medical conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1575 cannabis;

1576 (5) Review and recommend to the Department of Consumer
1577 Protection protocols for determining the amounts of [marijuana]
1578 cannabis that may be reasonably necessary to ensure uninterrupted
1579 availability for a period of one month for qualifying patients, including
1580 amounts for topical treatments; and

1581 (6) Perform other duties related to the palliative use of [marijuana]
1582 cannabis upon the request of the Commissioner of Consumer
1583 Protection.

1584 (d) The Board of Physicians may review the list of debilitating
1585 medical conditions that qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1586 cannabis and make recommendations to the joint standing committees
1587 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
1588 [general law] consumer protection and public health for the removal of
1589 a debilitating medical condition, medical treatment or disease from such
1590 list.

1591 (e) Any individually identifiable health information contained in a
1592 petition received under this section shall be confidential and shall not
1593 be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as
1594 defined in section 1-200.

1595 (f) [On and after October 1, 2021, conditions] Conditions added
1596 pursuant to this section to the list of debilitating medical conditions that
1597 qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis shall be posted by
1598 the commissioner on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet
1599 web site. Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
1600 inclusive, the list of debilitating medical conditions that qualify for the
1601 palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis shall be deemed approved and
1602 effective without further action as of the date such conditions are posted
1603 on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site.

1604 Sec. 37. Section 21a-408m of the general statutes is repealed and the
1605 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1606 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
1607 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to establish (1) a standard
1608 form for written certifications for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1609 cannabis issued by physicians, physician assistants and advanced
1610 practice registered nurses under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
1611 section 21a-408a, as amended by this act, and (2) procedures for
1612 registrations under section 21a-408d, as amended by this act. Such
1613 regulations, if any, shall be adopted after consultation with the Board of
1614 Physicians established in section 21a-408l, as amended by this act.

1615 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt or amend

1616 regulations, as applicable, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement
1617 the provisions of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408g, inclusive, as amended by
1618 this act, and section 21a-408l, as amended by this act. Notwithstanding
1619 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
1620 effectuate the purposes of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408g, inclusive, as
1621 amended by this act, and section 21a-408l, as amended by this act, and
1622 protect public health and safety, prior to adopting or amending such
1623 regulations the commissioner shall adopt policies and procedures to
1624 implement the provisions of sections 21a-408 to 21a-408g, inclusive, as
1625 amended by this act, and section 21a-408l, as amended by this act, that
1626 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
1627 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site, and
1628 submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for
1629 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the
1630 effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure
1631 shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such
1632 policies or procedures as a final regulation pursuant to section 4-172 or
1633 forty-eight months from October 1, 2021, if such policies or procedures
1634 have not been submitted to the legislative regulation review committee
1635 for consideration under section 4-170. Such policies and procedures and
1636 regulations shall include, but not be limited to, how the department
1637 shall:

1638 (1) Accept applications for the issuance and renewal of registration
1639 certificates for qualifying patients and caregivers;

1640 (2) Establish criteria for adding medical conditions, medical
1641 treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating medical conditions that
1642 qualify for the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis;

1643 (3) Establish a petition process under which members of the public
1644 may submit petitions [,] regarding the addition of medical conditions,
1645 medical treatments or diseases to the list of debilitating medical
1646 conditions;

1647 (4) Establish requirements for the growing of cannabis plants by a
1648 qualifying patient in his or her primary residence as authorized under

1649 section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, including requirements for
1650 securing such plants to prevent access by any individual other than the
1651 patient or the patient's caregiver, the location of such plants and any
1652 other requirements necessary to protect public health or safety;

1653 (5) Develop a distribution system for [marijuana] cannabis for
1654 palliative use that provides for:

1655 (A) [Marijuana] Cannabis production facilities within this state that
1656 are housed on secured grounds and operated by producers;

1657 (B) The transfer of [marijuana] cannabis between dispensary
1658 facilities; and

1659 (C) Distribution of [marijuana] cannabis for palliative use to
1660 qualifying patients or their caregivers by dispensary facilities, hybrid
1661 retailers and delivery services, as such terms are defined in section 21a-
1662 420, as amended by this act; and

1663 (6) Ensure an adequate supply and variety of [marijuana] cannabis to
1664 dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers to ensure uninterrupted
1665 availability for qualifying patients, based on historical [marijuana]
1666 cannabis purchase patterns by qualifying patients.

1667 Sec. 38. Section 21a-408o of the general statutes is repealed and the
1668 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1669 Nothing in sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, as amended by
1670 this act, or section 21a-243, as amended by this act, shall be construed to
1671 require health insurance coverage for the palliative use of [marijuana]
1672 cannabis.

1673 Sec. 39. Subsection (c) of section 21a-408p of the general statutes is
1674 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1675 *1, 2026*):

1676 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the palliative
1677 use of [marijuana] cannabis in violation of subsection (b) of section 21a-

1678 408a, as amended by this act.

1679 Sec. 40. Subsection (d) of section 21a-408r of the general statutes is
1680 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1681 *1, 2026*):

1682 (d) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt
1683 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to (1) provide for the
1684 licensure or registration of cannabis testing laboratories and cannabis
1685 testing laboratory employees, (2) establish standards and procedures for
1686 the revocation, suspension, summary suspension and nonrenewal of
1687 cannabis testing laboratory licenses and cannabis testing laboratory
1688 employee registrations, provided such standards and procedures are
1689 consistent with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-182, (3)
1690 establish a registration renewal fee for each registered cannabis testing
1691 laboratory employee, provided the aggregate amount of such fees shall
1692 not be less than the amount necessary to cover the direct and indirect
1693 cost of registering and regulating cannabis testing laboratory employees
1694 in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, (4) establish
1695 procedures by which cannabis testing laboratories shall accept
1696 [marijuana] cannabis samples from caregivers, qualifying patients and
1697 consumers for testing, and (5) establish other licensing, registration,
1698 renewal and operational standards deemed necessary by the
1699 commissioner. For the purposes of this subsection, "consumer" has the
1700 same meaning as provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

1701 Sec. 41. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 21a-408s of the
1702 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1703 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1704 (a) No cannabis testing laboratory or cannabis testing laboratory
1705 employee may (1) acquire [marijuana] cannabis from a person other
1706 than (A) a cannabis establishment or an organization engaged in a
1707 research program, or (B) a caregiver, a qualifying patient or a consumer,
1708 as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act, providing a
1709 [marijuana] cannabis sample under regulations adopted by the
1710 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (d) of

1711 section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, (2) deliver, transport or
1712 distribute [marijuana] cannabis to (A) a person who is not a cannabis
1713 establishment from which the [marijuana] cannabis was originally
1714 acquired by the cannabis testing laboratory or cannabis testing
1715 laboratory employee, or (B) an organization not engaged in a research
1716 program, or (3) obtain or transport [marijuana] cannabis outside of this
1717 state in violation of state or federal law.

1718 (b) (1) No cannabis testing laboratory employee acting within the
1719 scope of such cannabis testing laboratory employee's employment shall
1720 be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner, including,
1721 but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right
1722 or privilege, including, but not limited to, being subject to any
1723 disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for acquiring,
1724 possessing, delivering, transporting or distributing [marijuana]
1725 cannabis to a cannabis establishment or an organization engaged in an
1726 approved research program under the provisions of this chapter.

1727 (2) No cannabis testing laboratory shall be subject to prosecution,
1728 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to
1729 any civil penalty or denied any right or privilege, for acquiring,
1730 possessing, delivering, transporting or distributing [marijuana]
1731 cannabis to a cannabis establishment or an organization engaged in an
1732 approved research program under the provisions of this chapter.

1733 (c) A cannabis testing laboratory shall be independent from all other
1734 persons involved in the [marijuana] cannabis industry in Connecticut,
1735 which shall mean that no person with a direct or indirect financial,
1736 managerial or controlling interest in the cannabis testing laboratory
1737 shall have a direct or indirect financial, managerial or controlling
1738 interest in a cannabis establishment or any other entity that may benefit
1739 from the laboratory test results for a cannabis [or marijuana] sample or
1740 product.

1741 Sec. 42. Section 21a-408u of the general statutes is repealed and the
1742 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1743 (a) No research program or research program employee may (1)
1744 acquire [marijuana] cannabis from a person other than a cannabis
1745 establishment or cannabis testing laboratory, (2) deliver, transport or
1746 distribute [marijuana] cannabis to a person who is not (A) a cannabis
1747 establishment, (B) a cannabis testing laboratory, or (C) a research
1748 program subject, (3) distribute or administer [marijuana] cannabis to an
1749 animal unless such animal is an animal research subject, or (4) obtain or
1750 transport [marijuana] cannabis outside of this state in violation of state
1751 or federal law.

1752 (b) No research program employee acting within the scope of such
1753 research program employee's employment shall be subject to arrest or
1754 prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,
1755 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
1756 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by
1757 a professional licensing board, for acquiring, possessing, delivering,
1758 transporting or distributing [marijuana] cannabis to a cannabis
1759 establishment or cannabis testing laboratory, or a research program
1760 subject or distributing or administering [marijuana] cannabis to an
1761 animal research subject under the provisions of this chapter.

1762 Sec. 43. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 21a-408v of the general
1763 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1764 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1765 (b) A research program subject who has a valid registration certificate
1766 from the Department of Consumer Protection and is acting within the
1767 scope of his or her involvement in an approved research program shall
1768 not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner,
1769 including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty or denied
1770 any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being subject to any
1771 disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for the use of
1772 [marijuana] cannabis.

1773 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section do not apply to:

1774 (1) Any use of [marijuana] cannabis that endangers the health or well-

1775 being of a person other than the research program subject or a research
1776 program employee; or

1777 (2) The ingestion of [marijuana] cannabis (A) in a motor bus or a
1778 school bus or in any other moving vehicle, (B) in the workplace, (C) on
1779 any school grounds or any public or private school, dormitory, college
1780 or university property unless such college or university is participating
1781 in a research program and such use is pursuant to the terms of the
1782 research program, (D) in any public place, or (E) in the presence of a
1783 person under eighteen years of age unless such person is a qualifying
1784 patient or research program subject. For purposes of this subdivision, (i)
1785 "presence" means within the direct line of sight of the palliative use of
1786 [marijuana] cannabis or exposure to second-hand [marijuana] cannabis
1787 smoke, or both; (ii) "public place" means any area that is used or held
1788 out for use by the public, whether owned or operated by public or
1789 private interests; (iii) "vehicle" means a vehicle, as defined in section 14-
1790 1; (iv) "motor bus" means a motor bus, as defined in section 14-1; and (v)
1791 "school bus" means a school bus, as defined in section 14-1.

1792 Sec. 44. Section 21a-408w of the general statutes is repealed and the
1793 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1794 (a) Each cannabis establishment shall submit [marijuana] cannabis
1795 samples to a cannabis testing laboratory for testing as set forth in
1796 subsection (b) of this section.

1797 (b) (1) A cannabis testing laboratory shall test each [marijuana]
1798 cannabis sample submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section (A)
1799 for microbiological contaminants, mycotoxins, heavy metals and
1800 pesticide chemical residue, and (B) for purposes of conducting an active
1801 ingredient analysis, if applicable.

1802 (2) Microbiological contaminant testing conducted pursuant to
1803 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall include, but
1804 not be limited to, microbiological contaminant testing for *Aspergillus*
1805 species as set forth by the Department of Consumer Protection and
1806 posted on the department's Internet web site.

1807 (c) When conducting microbiological testing as set forth in subsection
1808 (b) of this section, the [marijuana] cannabis sample shall be tested by
1809 using (1) a molecular method that (A) includes quantitative polymerase
1810 chain reaction, (B) is certified for identifying microbiological DNA, and
1811 (C) is approved by (i) the Association of Official Analytical
1812 Collaboration International, or (ii) a comparable national or
1813 international standards organization designated by the Commissioner
1814 of Consumer Protection, or (2) an alternative testing method approved
1815 by the Department of Consumer Protection and posted on the
1816 department's Internet web site.

1817 (d) If a [marijuana] cannabis sample does not pass the testing set forth
1818 in subsection (b) of this section, the cannabis establishment that
1819 submitted such failing [marijuana] cannabis sample to the cannabis
1820 testing laboratory shall:

1821 (1) Repeat testing as set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section
1822 on the [marijuana] cannabis batch from which such [marijuana]
1823 cannabis sample was taken, in a form and manner approved by the
1824 Department of Consumer Protection. If all repeated testing yields
1825 satisfactory results, the [marijuana] cannabis batch from which the
1826 [marijuana] cannabis samples were taken shall be released for sale;

1827 (2) If such cannabis establishment submits to the Commissioner of
1828 Consumer Protection a remediation plan that is sufficient to ensure
1829 public health and safety, and the commissioner approves such
1830 remediation plan, remediate the [marijuana] cannabis batch from which
1831 such [marijuana] cannabis sample was taken and repeat all testing as set
1832 forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section on such remediated
1833 [marijuana] cannabis batch, in a form and manner approved by the
1834 Department of Consumer Protection. If all repeated testing yields
1835 satisfactory results, the [marijuana] cannabis batch from which the
1836 [marijuana] cannabis samples were taken shall be released for sale; or

1837 (3) If such cannabis establishment does not comply with subdivision
1838 (1) or (2) of this subsection, or if any subsequent laboratory testing does
1839 not yield satisfactory results for the testing set forth in subsections (a)

1840 and (b) of this section, dispose of the entire [marijuana] cannabis batch
1841 from which the [marijuana] cannabis sample was taken in accordance
1842 with procedures established by the Commissioner of Consumer
1843 Protection, as published on the Department of Consumer Protection's
1844 Internet web site.

1845 (e) For purposes of the testing set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of
1846 this section, the quantity and number of [marijuana] cannabis samples
1847 taken shall be sufficient to ensure representative sampling of the
1848 corresponding [marijuana] cannabis batch size.

1849 Sec. 45. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 21a-409 of the general
1850 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1851 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

1852 (b) Hemp or manufacturer hemp products purchased by producers
1853 from third parties shall be tracked as a separate batch throughout the
1854 manufacturing process in order to document the disposition of such
1855 hemp or manufacturer hemp products. Hemp or manufacturer hemp
1856 products obtained, manufactured, marketed, cultivated or stored by a
1857 producer shall be deemed [marijuana] cannabis and shall comply with
1858 the requirements for [marijuana] cannabis contained in the applicable
1859 provisions of the general statutes and any regulations adopted pursuant
1860 to such provisions. Producers shall retain a copy of the certificate of
1861 analysis for purchased hemp or manufacturer hemp products and
1862 invoice and transport documents that evidence the quantity purchased
1863 and date received.

1864 (c) (1) No hemp or producer hemp products shall be sold or
1865 distributed within a dispensary facility that is licensed pursuant to this
1866 chapter.

1867 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, manufacturer
1868 hemp products may be sold within a dispensary facility that is licensed
1869 pursuant to this chapter, provided such manufacturer hemp products
1870 are:

- 1871 (A) Stored separately from [marijuana] cannabis;
- 1872 (B) Separated, by a physical separation, from [marijuana] cannabis in
1873 any display area;
- 1874 (C) Displayed with signage approved by the department;
- 1875 (D) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation
1876 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
1877 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
1878 may be located outside of this state;
- 1879 (E) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (i) a manufacturer
1880 hemp product, (ii) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
1881 [or marijuana,] and (iii) not cannabis; [or marijuana;] and
- 1882 (F) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
1883 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters.
- 1884 Sec. 46. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-410 of the general
1885 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1886 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):
- 1887 (a) For purposes of this section:
- 1888 (1) "Material change" means: (A) The addition of a dispensary facility
1889 backer or producer backer, (B) a change in the ownership interest of an
1890 existing dispensary facility backer or producer backer, (C) the merger,
1891 consolidation or other affiliation of a medical [marijuana] cannabis
1892 business with another person, (D) the acquisition of all or part of a
1893 medical [marijuana] cannabis business by another person, and (E) the
1894 transfer of assets or security interests from a medical [marijuana]
1895 cannabis business to another person;
- 1896 (2) ["Medical marijuana business"] "Medical cannabis business"
1897 means a medical [marijuana] cannabis dispensary facility or production
1898 facility, licensed pursuant to this chapter and the regulations adopted
1899 under this chapter;

1900 (3) "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership, corporation,
1901 company, association, trust or other business or tribal entity; and

1902 (4) "Transfer" means to sell, transfer, lease, exchange, option, convey,
1903 give or otherwise dispose of or transfer control over, including, but not
1904 limited to, transfer by way of merger or joint venture not in the ordinary
1905 course of business.

1906 (b) No person shall, directly or indirectly, enter into a transaction that
1907 results in a material change to a medical [marijuana] cannabis business,
1908 unless all persons involved in the transaction file a written notification
1909 with the Attorney General pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and
1910 the waiting period described in subsection (d) of this section has
1911 expired.

1912 Sec. 47. Section 21a-420 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
1913 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
1914 *October 1, 2026*):

1915 As used in RERACA, unless the context otherwise requires:

1916 (1) "Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis
1917 Act" or "RERACA" means this section, sections 2-56j, 7-294kk, 7-294ll,
1918 12-330ll to 12-330nn, inclusive, as amended by this act, 14-227p, 21a-
1919 278b, 21a-278c, 21a-279c, 21a-279d, 21a-408w, as amended by this act,
1920 21a-420a to 21a-420j, inclusive, 21a-420l to 21a-421u, inclusive, as
1921 amended by this act, 21a-421aa to 21a-421ff, inclusive, as amended by
1922 this act, 21a-421aaa to 21a-421iii, inclusive, 21a-422 to 21a-422c,
1923 inclusive, 21a-422e to 21a-422g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-
1924 422j to 21a-422s, inclusive, 21a-422u, 22-61n, as amended by this act, 23-
1925 4b, 47a-9a, 53-247a, as amended by this act, 53a-213a, as amended by
1926 this act, 53a-213b, as amended by this act, 54-33p, 54-56q, 54-56r, 54-125k
1927 and 54-142u, sections 23, 60, 63 to 65, inclusive, 124, 144 and 165 of public
1928 act 21-1, as amended by this act, of the June special session, and the
1929 amendments in public act 21-1, as amended by this act, of the June
1930 special session to sections 7-148, as amended by this act, 10-221, 12-30a,
1931 12-35b, 12-412, as amended by this act, 12-650, as amended by this act,

1932 12-704d, as amended by this act, 14-44k, 14-111e, 14-227a to 14-227c,
1933 inclusive, as amended by this act, 14-227j, 15-140q, 15-140r, as amended
1934 by this act, 18-100h, 19a-342, as amended by this act, 19a-342a, as
1935 amended by this act, 21a-267, 21a-277, as amended by this act, 21a-279,
1936 as amended by this act, 21a-279a, as amended by this act, 21a-408 to 21a-
1937 408f, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-408h to 21a-408p, inclusive,
1938 as amended by this act, 21a-408r to 21a-408v, inclusive, as amended by
1939 this act, 30-89a, 31-40q, as amended by this act, 32-39, 46b-120, 51-164n,
1940 53-394, 53a-39c, 54-1m, 54-33g, 54-41b, 54-56e, 54-56g, 54-56i, 54-56k, 54-
1941 56n, 54-63d, 54-66a and 54-142e, [and] section 22 of public act 25-101 and
1942 sections 48 to 51, inclusive, of this act;

1943 (2) "Backer" means any individual with a direct or indirect financial
1944 interest in a cannabis establishment. "Backer" does not include (A) a
1945 bank, bank and trust company, bank holding company, Connecticut
1946 bank, Connecticut credit union, federal bank, federal branch, federal
1947 credit union, financial institution, foreign bank, holding company, out-
1948 of-state bank, out-of-state credit union, out-of-state trust company,
1949 savings and loan association, savings bank or savings and loan holding
1950 company, as such terms are defined in section 36a-2, or a wholly-owned
1951 subsidiary thereof, that provides nonequity financing to a cannabis
1952 establishment and does not directly participate in the control,
1953 management or operation of the cannabis establishment, or (B) an
1954 individual with an investment interest in a cannabis establishment if (i)
1955 the interest held by such individual and such individual's spouse,
1956 parent or child, in the aggregate, does not exceed five per cent of the
1957 total ownership or interest rights in such cannabis establishment, and
1958 (ii) such individual does not participate directly or indirectly in the
1959 control, management or operation of the cannabis establishment;

1960 (3) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
1961 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

1962 (4) "Cannabis establishment" means a producer, dispensary facility,
1963 cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage
1964 manufacturer, product manufacturer, product packager, delivery

1965 service or transporter;

1966 (5) "Cannabis flower" means the flower, including abnormal and
1967 immature flowers, of a plant of the genus cannabis that has been
1968 harvested, dried, cured, chopped or ground, and prior to any processing
1969 whereby the flower material is transformed into a cannabis product.
1970 "Cannabis flower" does not include (A) the leaves or stem of such plant,
1971 or (B) hemp, as defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

1972 (6) "Cannabis testing laboratory" means a laboratory that (A) is
1973 located in this state, (B) is licensed by the department to analyze
1974 cannabis, and (C) meets the licensure requirements established in
1975 section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the regulations adopted
1976 pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as amended by this act;

1977 (7) "Cannabis testing laboratory employee" means an individual who
1978 is (A) employed at a cannabis testing laboratory, and (B) registered
1979 pursuant to section 21a-408r, as amended by this act, and the regulations
1980 adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 21a-408r, as amended by
1981 this act;

1982 (8) "Cannabis trim" means all parts, including abnormal or immature
1983 parts, of a plant of the genus cannabis, other than cannabis flower, that
1984 have been harvested, dried and cured, and prior to any processing,
1985 excluding chopping or grinding, whereby the plant material is
1986 transformed into a cannabis product. "Cannabis trim" does not include
1987 hemp, as defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

1988 (9) "Cannabis product" means cannabis, intended for use or
1989 consumption, that is in the form of (A) a cannabis concentrate, or (B) a
1990 product that contains cannabis and at least one other cannabis or
1991 noncannabis ingredient or component, excluding cannabis flower;

1992 (10) "Cannabis concentrate" means any form of concentration,
1993 including, but not limited to, extracts, oils, tinctures, shatter and waxes,
1994 that is extracted from cannabis;

1995 (11) "Cannabis-type substances" [have the same meaning as

1996 "marijuana"] means cannabis, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended
1997 by this act;

1998 (12) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
1999 Protection and includes any designee of the commissioner;

2000 (13) "Consumer" means an individual who is twenty-one years of age
2001 or older;

2002 (14) "Control" means the power to direct, or cause the direction of, the
2003 management and policies of a cannabis establishment, regardless of
2004 whether such power is possessed directly or indirectly;

2005 (15) "Cultivation" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
2006 408, as amended by this act;

2007 (16) "Cultivator" means a person that is licensed to engage in the
2008 cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an
2009 establishment with not less than fifteen thousand square feet of grow
2010 space;

2011 (17) "Delivery service" means a person that is licensed to deliver
2012 cannabis from (A) micro-cultivators, retailers and hybrid retailers to
2013 consumers and research program subjects, and (B) hybrid retailers and
2014 dispensary facilities to qualifying patients, caregivers and research
2015 program subjects, as defined in section 21a-408, as amended by this act,
2016 or to hospices or other inpatient care facilities licensed by the
2017 Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that have a
2018 protocol for the handling and distribution of cannabis that has been
2019 approved by the department, or a combination thereof;

2020 (18) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

2021 (19) "Dispensary facility" means a place of business, for which the
2022 department has issued a dispensary facility license pursuant to chapter
2023 420f, where cannabis may be dispensed, sold or distributed in
2024 accordance with chapter 420f and any regulations adopted pursuant to
2025 said chapter, to qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and

2026 caregivers; [, and to which the department has issued a dispensary
2027 facility license pursuant to chapter 420f and any regulations adopted
2028 pursuant to said chapter;]

2029 (20) "Disproportionately impacted area" means (A) for the period
2030 beginning July 1, 2021, and ending July 31, 2023, a United States census
2031 tract in the state that has, as determined by the Social Equity Council
2032 under subdivision (1) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, (i) a historical
2033 conviction rate for drug-related offenses greater than one-tenth, or (ii)
2034 an unemployment rate greater than ten per cent, and (B) on and after
2035 August 1, 2023, a United States census tract in this state that has been
2036 identified by the Social Equity Council pursuant to subdivision (2) of
2037 subsection (i) of section 21a-420d;

2038 (21) "Disqualifying conviction" means a conviction within the last ten
2039 years which has not been the subject of an absolute pardon under the
2040 provisions of section 54-130a, or an equivalent pardon process under the
2041 laws of another state or the federal government, for an offense under (A)
2042 section 53a-276, 53a-277 or 53a-278, (B) section 53a-291, 53a-292 or 53a-
2043 293, (C) section 53a-215, (D) section 53a-138 or 53a-139, (E) section 53a-
2044 142a, (F) sections 53a-147 to 53a-162, inclusive, (G) sections 53a-125c to
2045 53a-125f, inclusive, (H) section 53a-129b, 53a-129c or 53a-129d, (I)
2046 subsection (b) of section 12-737, (J) section 53a-48 or 53a-49, if the offense
2047 which is attempted or is an object of the conspiracy is an offense under
2048 the statutes listed in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of this
2049 subdivision, or (K) the law of any other state or of the federal
2050 government, if the offense on which such conviction is based is defined
2051 by elements that substantially include the elements of an offense under
2052 the statutes listed in subparagraphs (A) to (J), inclusive, of this
2053 subdivision;

2054 (22) "Dispensary technician" means an individual who has had an
2055 active pharmacy technician or dispensary technician registration in this
2056 state within the past five years, is affiliated with a dispensary facility or
2057 hybrid retailer and is registered with the department in accordance with
2058 chapter 420f and any regulations adopted pursuant to said chapter;

2059 (23) "Edible cannabis product" means a cannabis product intended
2060 for humans to eat or drink;

2061 (24) "Employee" means any person who is not a backer, but is a
2062 member of the board of a company with an ownership interest in a
2063 cannabis establishment, and any person employed by a cannabis
2064 establishment or who otherwise has access to such establishment or the
2065 vehicles used to transport cannabis, including, but not limited to, an
2066 independent contractor who has routine access to the premises of such
2067 establishment or to the cannabis handled by such establishment;

2068 (25) "Equity" and "equitable" means efforts, regulations, policies,
2069 programs, standards, processes and any other functions of government
2070 or principles of law and governance intended to (A) identify and
2071 remedy past and present patterns of discrimination and disparities of
2072 race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, (B) ensure that such
2073 patterns of discrimination and disparities, whether intentional or
2074 unintentional, are neither reinforced nor perpetuated, and (C) prevent
2075 the emergence and persistence of foreseeable future patterns of
2076 discrimination or disparities of race, ethnicity, gender and sexual
2077 orientation;

2078 (26) "Equity joint venture" means a business entity that is controlled,
2079 and at least fifty per cent owned, by an individual or individuals, or such
2080 applicant is an individual, who meets the criteria of subparagraphs (A)
2081 and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (53) of this section;

2082 (27) "Extract" means the preparation, compounding, conversion or
2083 processing of cannabis, either directly or indirectly by extraction or
2084 independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of
2085 extraction and chemical synthesis to produce a cannabis concentrate;

2086 (28) "Financial interest" means any right to, ownership, an investment
2087 or a compensation arrangement with another person, directly, through
2088 business, investment or family. "Financial interest" does not include
2089 ownership of investment securities in a publicly-held corporation that
2090 is traded on a national exchange or over-the-counter market, provided

2091 the investment securities held by such person and such person's spouse,
2092 parent or child, in the aggregate, do not exceed one-half of one per cent
2093 of the total number of shares issued by the corporation;

2094 (29) "Food and beverage manufacturer" means a person that is
2095 licensed to own and operate a place of business that acquires cannabis
2096 and creates food and beverages;

2097 (30) "Grow space" means the portion of a premises owned and
2098 controlled by a producer, cultivator or micro-cultivator that is utilized
2099 for the cultivation, growing or propagation of the cannabis plant, and
2100 contains cannabis plants in an active stage of growth, measured starting
2101 from the outermost wall of the room containing cannabis plants and
2102 continuing around the outside of the room. "Grow space" does not
2103 include space used to cure, process, store harvested cannabis or
2104 manufacture cannabis once the cannabis has been harvested;

2105 (31) "Historical conviction count for drug-related offenses" means, for
2106 a given area, the number of convictions of residents of such area (A) for
2107 violations of sections 21a-267, 21a-277, as amended by this act, 21a-278,
2108 21a-279, as amended by this act, and 21a-279a, as amended by this act,
2109 and (B) who were arrested for such violations between January 1, 1982,
2110 and December 31, 2020, inclusive, where such arrest was recorded in
2111 databases maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and
2112 Public Protection;

2113 (32) "Historical conviction rate for drug-related offenses" means, for
2114 a given area, the historical conviction count for drug-related offenses
2115 divided by the population of such area, as determined by the five-year
2116 estimates of the most recent American Community Survey conducted
2117 by the United States Census Bureau;

2118 (33) "Hybrid retailer" means a person that is licensed to purchase
2119 cannabis and sell cannabis and medical [marijuana] cannabis products;

2120 (34) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
2121 21a-425, as amended by this act;

2122 (35) "Key employee" means an employee with the following
2123 management position or an equivalent title within a cannabis
2124 establishment: (A) President or chief officer, who is the top ranking
2125 individual at the cannabis establishment and is responsible for all staff
2126 and overall direction of business operations; (B) financial manager, who
2127 is the individual who reports to the president or chief officer and who is
2128 responsible for oversight of the financial operations of the cannabis
2129 establishment, which financial operations include one or more of the
2130 following: (i) Revenue and expense management; (ii) distributions; (iii)
2131 tax compliance; (iv) budget development; and (v) budget management
2132 and implementation; or (C) compliance manager, who is the individual
2133 who reports to the president or chief officer and who is generally
2134 responsible for ensuring the cannabis establishment complies with all
2135 laws, regulations and requirements related to the operation of the
2136 cannabis establishment;

2137 (36) "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between a
2138 cannabis establishment and a bona fide labor organization under section
2139 21a-421d, as amended by this act, pursuant to which the owners and
2140 management of the cannabis establishment agree not to lock out
2141 employees and that prohibits the bona fide labor organization from
2142 engaging in picketing, work stoppages or boycotts against the cannabis
2143 establishment;

2144 (37) "Manufacture" means to add or incorporate cannabis into other
2145 products or ingredients or create a cannabis product;

2146 (38) ["Medical marijuana product"] "Medical cannabis product"
2147 means cannabis that may be exclusively sold to qualifying patients,
2148 qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers by dispensary facilities
2149 and hybrid retailers and which are designated by the commissioner as
2150 reserved for sale to qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients
2151 and caregivers and published on the department's Internet web site;

2152 (39) "Micro-cultivator" means a person licensed to engage in the
2153 cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an
2154 establishment containing not less than two thousand square feet and not

2155 more than ten thousand square feet of grow space, prior to any
2156 expansion authorized by the commissioner;

2157 (40) "Municipality" means any town, city or borough, consolidated
2158 town and city or consolidated town and borough;

2159 (41) "Paraphernalia" means drug paraphernalia, as defined in section
2160 21a-240, as amended by this act;

2161 (42) "Person" means an individual, partnership, limited liability
2162 company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, estate,
2163 receiver, trustee, assignee, referee or any other legal entity and any other
2164 person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether
2165 appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination thereof;

2166 (43) "Personal data" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-
2167 515;

2168 [(43)] (44) "Producer" means a person that is licensed as a producer
2169 pursuant to section 21a-408i, as amended by this act, and any
2170 regulations adopted pursuant to said section;

2171 [(44)] (45) "Product manufacturer" means a person that is licensed to
2172 obtain cannabis, extract and manufacture products;

2173 [(45)] (46) "Product packager" means a person that is licensed to
2174 package and label cannabis;

2175 [(46)] (47) "Qualifying patient" has the same meaning as provided in
2176 section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2177 (48) "Qualifying out-of-state patient" has the same meaning as
2178 provided in section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2179 [(47)] (49) "Research program" has the same meaning as provided in
2180 section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

2181 [(48)] (50) "Retailer" means a person, excluding a dispensary facility
2182 and hybrid retailer, that is licensed to purchase cannabis from

2183 producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product manufacturers and
2184 food and beverage manufacturers and to sell cannabis to consumers and
2185 research programs;

2186 [(49)] (51) "Sale" or "sell" has the same meaning as provided in section
2187 21a-240, as amended by this act;

2188 [(50)] (52) "Social Equity Council" or "council" means the council
2189 established under section 21a-420d, as amended by this act;

2190 [(51)] (53) "Social equity applicant" means a person that has applied
2191 for a license for a cannabis establishment, where such applicant is
2192 controlled, and at least sixty-five per cent owned, by an individual or
2193 individuals, or such applicant is an individual, who:

2194 (A) Had an average household income of less than three hundred per
2195 cent of the state median household income over the three tax years
2196 immediately preceding such individual's application; and

2197 (B) (i) Was a resident of a disproportionately impacted area for not
2198 less than five of the ten years immediately preceding the date of such
2199 application; or

2200 (ii) Was a resident of a disproportionately impacted area for not less
2201 than nine years prior to attaining the age of eighteen;

2202 [(52)] (54) "THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
2203 240, as amended by this act;

2204 [(53)] (55) "Third-party lottery operator" means a person, or a
2205 constituent unit of the state system of higher education, that conducts
2206 lotteries pursuant to section 21a-420g, identifies the cannabis
2207 establishment license applications for consideration without
2208 performing any review of the applications that are identified for
2209 consideration, and that has no direct or indirect oversight of or
2210 investment in a cannabis establishment or a cannabis establishment
2211 applicant;

2212 [(54)] (56) "Transfer" means to transfer, change, give or otherwise
2213 dispose of control over or interest in;

2214 [(55)] (57) "Transport" means to physically move from one place to
2215 another;

2216 [(56)] (58) "Transporter" means a person licensed to transport
2217 cannabis between cannabis establishments, cannabis testing
2218 laboratories and research programs; and

2219 [(57)] (59) "Unemployment rate" means, in a given area, the number
2220 of people sixteen years of age or older who are in the civilian labor force
2221 and unemployed divided by the number of people sixteen years of age
2222 or older who are in the civilian labor force.

2223 Sec. 48. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) There is established a
2224 cannabis regulatory working group to (1) study regulations adopted or
2225 proposed, and policies and procedures issued or proposed, by the
2226 Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Social Equity Council
2227 concerning cannabis, (2) recommend the adoption or amendment of
2228 regulations concerning cannabis, (3) recommend the issuance or
2229 amendment of policies and procedures concerning cannabis, and (4)
2230 propose legislation concerning cannabis.

2231 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

2232 (1) One appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing
2233 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2234 relating to consumer protection;

2235 (2) One appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing
2236 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2237 relating to consumer protection;

2238 (3) One appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing
2239 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2240 relating to consumer protection; and

2241 (4) One appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing
2242 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2243 relating to consumer protection.

2244 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subsection
2245 (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

2246 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
2247 later than October 31, 2026. Any vacancy shall be filled by the
2248 appointing authority.

2249 (e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
2250 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection
2251 shall select the chairpersons of the working group from among the
2252 members of the working group. The chairpersons of the working group
2253 shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be
2254 held not later than December 1, 2026.

2255 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
2256 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer
2257 protection shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

2258 (g) Not later than January 1, 2027, and periodically thereafter as the
2259 working group deems appropriate, the working group shall submit a
2260 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
2261 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2262 relating to consumer protection, in accordance with the provisions of
2263 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

2264 Sec. 49. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) No retailer, hybrid retailer
2265 or dispensary facility shall borrow money or receive credit, directly or
2266 indirectly, in any form for a period in excess of thirty days from any
2267 cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer.

2268 (b) Any cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer that does not receive
2269 payment in full from any retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility
2270 prior to the expiration date of the thirty-day period beginning on the
2271 date on which such cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer extended

2272 credit, directly or indirectly, to such retailer, hybrid retailer or
2273 dispensary facility shall submit a written notice of obligation to the
2274 Department of Consumer Protection in a form and manner prescribed
2275 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, and give a copy of such
2276 written notice of obligation to such retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary
2277 facility, not later than five days following the expiration date of such
2278 thirty-day credit period. Such written notice of obligation shall, at a
2279 minimum, state (1) the amount due, (2) the date credit was extended, (3)
2280 the expiration date of the thirty-day credit period, and (4) that the
2281 retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility is in violation of subsection
2282 (a) of this section.

2283 (c) Not later than five days after a retailer, hybrid retailer or
2284 dispensary facility receives a written notice of obligation given under
2285 subsection (b) of this section, the retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary
2286 facility shall, if such retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility
2287 disputes the accuracy of such written notice of obligation, submit a
2288 written response to such written notice of obligation to the Department
2289 of Consumer Protection in a form and manner prescribed by the
2290 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, and give a copy of such written
2291 response to the cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer that gave such
2292 written notice of obligation to such retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary
2293 facility under subsection (b) of this section. Such written response shall,
2294 at a minimum, state (1) such retailer's, hybrid retailer's or dispensary
2295 facility's basis for disputing such written notice of obligation, and (2) the
2296 amount, if any, that such retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility
2297 admits is owed for longer than thirty days. The copy of such written
2298 response given to the cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer shall be
2299 accompanied by a payment in the amount, if any, such retailer, hybrid
2300 retailer or dispensary facility admits is owed for longer than thirty days.
2301 Such payment shall be made and received without prejudice to the
2302 rights of either party in any civil action.

2303 (d) (1) Not later than thirty days after the Department of Consumer
2304 Protection receives a written response submitted under subsection (c) of
2305 this section, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the

2306 commissioner's designee, shall conduct an informal hearing with the
2307 parties being given equal opportunity to appear and be heard. If after
2308 such hearing, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee
2309 determines that the written notice of obligation given under subsection
2310 (b) of this section is accurate, the commissioner or such designee shall
2311 forthwith issue an order directing the cultivator, micro-cultivator or
2312 producer to promptly give all cultivators, micro-cultivators and
2313 producers a written notice of delinquency, which notice shall be issued
2314 in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner and, at a
2315 minimum, state (A) the identity of the delinquent retailer, hybrid
2316 retailer or dispensary facility, (B) the amount due, and (C) the expiration
2317 date of the thirty-day credit period described in subsection (b) of this
2318 section.

2319 (2) If the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, determines
2320 that a written notice of obligation given under subsection (b) of this
2321 section is inaccurate, the commissioner or such designee shall forthwith
2322 issue an order prohibiting the cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer
2323 from giving a written notice of delinquency under subdivision (1) of this
2324 subsection.

2325 (3) The party for whom the determination by the commissioner, or
2326 the commissioner's designee, under this subsection is adverse shall
2327 promptly pay to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by
2328 the commissioner, payment for a portion of the cost of the proceedings
2329 that resulted in such determination, which payment shall be in an
2330 amount determined by the commissioner or such designee, provided
2331 such amount shall be at least fifty dollars.

2332 (4) If the department does not receive a written response under
2333 subsection (c) of this section during the five-day period set forth in said
2334 subsection, the retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility that failed
2335 to timely submit such written response to the department shall be
2336 deemed to have admitted the truth of the written notice of obligation.
2337 Not later than three days after the expiration date of such five-day
2338 period, the cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer that submitted such

2339 written notice of obligation shall give all cultivators, micro-cultivators
2340 and producers a written notice of delinquency in the manner set forth
2341 in subdivision (1) of this subsection. A written notice of delinquency
2342 given under this subdivision shall have the same effect as a written
2343 notice of delinquency given pursuant to an order issued by the
2344 commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, pursuant to subdivision
2345 (1) of this subsection.

2346 (e) No cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer that receives a written
2347 notice of delinquency given under subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection
2348 (d) of this section shall extend credit by the sale of cannabis or otherwise
2349 to the delinquent retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility until after
2350 the cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer has received a written notice
2351 of satisfaction under subsection (g) of this section from the cultivator,
2352 micro-cultivator or producer that gave such written notice of
2353 delinquency.

2354 (f) The Department of Consumer Protection may suspend or revoke
2355 the license of (1) any cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer that (A) in
2356 bad faith, gives an incorrect written notice of obligation under
2357 subsection (b) of this section, or (B) gives an unauthorized written notice
2358 of delinquency under subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (d) of this
2359 section, or (2) any retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility that, in
2360 bad faith, gives an incorrect written response under subsection (c) of this
2361 section.

2362 (g) Any cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer that gives a written
2363 notice of delinquency under subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (d) of
2364 this section and subsequently receives full payment for the credit
2365 extended shall, not later than three days after receiving such full
2366 payment, submit to the Department of Consumer Protection in a form
2367 and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection a
2368 written notice of satisfaction, and give a copy of such written notice of
2369 satisfaction to all cultivators, micro-cultivators and producers to which
2370 such cultivator, micro-cultivator or producer gave a written notice of
2371 delinquency under subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (d) of this section.

2372 The prohibition against extending credit to the retailer, hybrid retailer
2373 or dispensary facility that was the subject of such written notice of
2374 delinquency shall be void upon such cultivator's, micro-cultivator's or
2375 producer's receipt of full payment as set forth in this subsection.

2376 Sec. 50. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) The Commissioner of
2377 Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
2378 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to allow sales of
2379 additional palliative use cannabis products, including, but not limited
2380 to, cannabis topicals, tablets, capsules, products intended for sublingual
2381 absorption and ethanol-free tinctures, to consumers at retailer and
2382 hybrid retailer establishments.

2383 Sec. 51. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding any
2384 provision of chapter 420f or 420h of the general statutes, no cannabis
2385 establishment licensed to deliver or transport cannabis shall be required
2386 to staff any cannabis delivery or transport vehicle with more than one
2387 employee in order to deliver or transport cannabis to another cannabis
2388 establishment, a cannabis testing laboratory or a research program
2389 location.

2390 Sec. 52. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420c of the 2026 supplement to
2391 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2392 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2393 (b) Except as provided in RERACA and chapter 420b or 420f, (1) no
2394 person, other than a retailer, hybrid retailer, micro-cultivator or delivery
2395 service, or an employee thereof in the course of such employee's
2396 employment, may sell or offer any cannabis or cannabis product to a
2397 consumer, [and] (2) no person, other than a hybrid retailer, dispensary
2398 facility or a delivery service, or an employee thereof in the course of such
2399 employee's employment, may sell or offer any cannabis or cannabis
2400 product to a qualifying patient or caregiver, and (3) no person, other
2401 than a hybrid retailer or dispensary facility, or an employee thereof in
2402 the course of such employee's employment, may sell or offer any
2403 cannabis or cannabis product to a qualifying out-of-state patient.

2404 Sec. 53. Subsection (k) of section 21a-420d of the 2026 supplement to
2405 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2406 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2407 (k) The Social Equity Council shall develop criteria for evaluating the
2408 ownership and control of any equity joint venture created under section
2409 21a-420j, 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-420u, as amended by
2410 this act, 21a-420aa, as amended by this act, [21a-420bbb] 21a-420bb, as
2411 amended by this act, or [21a-420ccc] 21a-420cc and shall review and
2412 approve or deny in writing such equity joint venture prior to such equity
2413 joint venture being licensed under section 21a-420j, 21a-420m, as
2414 amended by this act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, 21a-420aa, as
2415 amended by this act, [21a-420bbb] 21a-420bb, as amended by this act, or
2416 [21a-420ccc] 21a-420cc. The council shall not approve any equity joint
2417 venture applicant which shares with an equity joint venture any
2418 individual owner who meets the criteria established in subparagraphs
2419 (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (53) of section 21a-420, as amended by
2420 this act, other than an individual owner in their capacity as a backer
2421 licensed under section 21a-420o.

2422 Sec. 54. Section 21a-420h of the 2026 supplement to the general
2423 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2424 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2425 (a) During the period of provisional licensure and for three years
2426 following the issuance of a final license, no cannabis establishment
2427 license issued to a social equity applicant who the Social Equity Council
2428 has determined meets the criteria of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
2429 subdivision (53) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act, shall be sold,
2430 and no change shall be made in the ownership or control of such license,
2431 unless:

2432 (1) The council has approved such sale or change in the manner set
2433 forth in subsection (b) of this section; and

2434 (2) (A) Such sale or change is made to another social equity applicant
2435 who the council has determined meets the criteria of subparagraphs (A)

2436 and (B) of subdivision (53) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act, or
2437 (B) the backer of the cannabis establishment has died or has been
2438 diagnosed with a condition, including, but not limited to, a physical
2439 illness or loss of skill or deterioration due to the aging process, an
2440 emotional disorder or a mental illness, that would interfere with the
2441 backer's ability to operate.

2442 (b) (1) Prior to any sale or change in ownership or control authorized
2443 under subsection (a) of this section, the social equity applicant who the
2444 Social Equity Council has determined meets the criteria of
2445 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (53) of section 21a-420, as
2446 amended by this act, and who is, or the cannabis establishment that is,
2447 seeking to sell the cannabis establishment license, or make a change in
2448 the ownership or control of such license, shall submit to the council, in
2449 a form and manner prescribed by the council:

2450 (A) An application to make such sale or change; and

2451 (B) All documents the council, in the council's discretion, deems
2452 necessary to determine whether such sale or change is authorized under
2453 subsection (a) of this section, including, but not limited to, all operating
2454 agreements and transfer, sale or conveyance documents the council
2455 deems necessary for such purpose.

2456 (2) Not later than ninety days after the council receives the
2457 application and documents required under subdivision (1) of this
2458 subsection, the council shall complete its review of such application and
2459 documents and, on the basis of such review and in a form and manner
2460 prescribed by the council, issue a decision approving or denying such
2461 application and send notice of such decision to the social equity
2462 applicant or cannabis establishment.

2463 (3) If the council approves any sale or change in ownership or control
2464 authorized under subsection (a) of this section, and such sale or change
2465 in ownership or control is made to anyone other than another social
2466 equity applicant who the council has determined meets the criteria of
2467 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (53) of section 21a-420, as

2468 amended by this act, the cannabis establishment shall be treated as a
2469 cannabis establishment without social equity status beginning on the
2470 date of such approval and such cannabis establishment shall no longer
2471 be eligible to pay a reduced license renewal fee.

2472 (c) Following expiration of the three-year period after issuance of a
2473 final license to a social equity applicant who the Social Equity Council
2474 has determined meets the criteria of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
2475 subdivision (53) of section 21a-420, as amended by this act, such license
2476 shall not be sold, and no change shall be made in the ownership or
2477 control of such license, unless the cannabis establishment notifies the
2478 council, in a form and manner prescribed by the council, at least ninety
2479 days before such sale or change. The council may send notice to the
2480 cannabis establishment requiring that such cannabis establishment
2481 disclose to the council, in a form and manner prescribed by the council,
2482 any documents the council requires in order to ensure that such
2483 cannabis establishment and such proposed sale or change complies with
2484 the provisions of RERACA and any regulations adopted pursuant
2485 thereto. The cannabis establishment shall disclose such documents to
2486 the council not later than three days after the council sends such notice
2487 to the cannabis establishment.

2488 (d) The Social Equity Council shall adopt regulations, in accordance
2489 with the provisions of chapter 54, to [prevent the sale or change in
2490 ownership or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a
2491 social equity applicant to someone other than another qualifying social
2492 equity applicant during the period of provisional licensure, and for
2493 three years following the issuance of a final license, unless the backer of
2494 such licensee has died or has a condition, including, but not limited to,
2495 a physical illness or loss of skill or deterioration due to the aging process,
2496 emotional disorder or mental illness that would interfere with the
2497 backer's ability to operate. If the council approves any sale or change in
2498 ownership or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a
2499 social equity applicant during the three-year period following issuance
2500 of a final license, and such sale or change in ownership or control is
2501 made to anyone other than another qualifying social equity applicant,

2502 the cannabis establishment licensee shall be treated as a cannabis
2503 establishment licensee without social equity status beginning on the
2504 date of such approval and such cannabis licensee shall no longer be
2505 eligible to pay a reduced license renewal fee] implement the provisions
2506 of this section. Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-
2507 172, inclusive, in order to effectuate this section, prior to adopting such
2508 regulations and not later than October 1, 2021, the council shall issue
2509 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section that
2510 shall have the force and effect of law. The council shall post all policies
2511 and procedures on its Internet web site and submit such policies and
2512 procedures to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
2513 having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection and the
2514 Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least
2515 fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any
2516 such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of
2517 either the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final regulation under
2518 section 4-172 or sixty-three months from July 1, 2021. Any violation of
2519 such policies and procedures or any violation of such regulations related
2520 to the sale or change in ownership may be referred by the Social Equity
2521 Council to the department for administrative enforcement action, which
2522 may result in a fine of not more than ten million dollars or action against
2523 the establishment's license.

2524 Sec. 55. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420l of the general statutes is
2525 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2526 *1, 2026*):

2527 (b) To obtain approval from the commissioner to engage in expanded
2528 activity as described in subsection (a) of this section, a producer shall
2529 submit (1) a complete license expansion application on a form
2530 prescribed by the commissioner, (2) a medical cannabis preservation
2531 plan, to ensure against supply shortages of medical [marijuana]
2532 cannabis products, which shall be approved or denied at the
2533 commissioner's discretion, (3) payment of a conversion fee of three
2534 million dollars, provided, if the producer participates in at least two
2535 approved equity joint ventures as described in section 21a-420m, as

2536 amended by this act, such fee shall be one million five hundred
2537 thousand dollars, (4) a workforce development plan in accordance with
2538 requirements developed by the Social Equity Council, that has been
2539 reviewed and approved by the Social Equity Council in accordance with
2540 section 21a-420d, as amended by this act, and (5) (A) a contribution of
2541 five hundred thousand dollars to the Social Equity Council for the
2542 program established by the council in accordance with subsection (l) of
2543 section 21a-420d, or (B) evidence of an agreement with a social equity
2544 partner pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

2545 Sec. 56. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420m of the 2026 supplement to
2546 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2547 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2548 (b) The equity joint venture shall be in any cannabis establishment
2549 licensed business, other than a cultivator license, provided such equity
2550 joint venture is at least fifty per cent owned and controlled by an
2551 individual or individuals who meet, or the equity joint venture
2552 applicant is an individual who meets, the criteria established in
2553 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (53) of section 21a-420,
2554 as amended by this act.

2555 Sec. 57. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420n of the 2026 supplement to
2556 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2557 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2558 (d) A cultivator may sell, transfer or transport its cannabis to a
2559 cannabis establishment, research program or cannabis testing
2560 laboratory utilizing its own employees or a transporter. A cultivator
2561 shall not sell, transfer or deliver to consumers, qualifying patients,
2562 qualifying out-of-state patients or caregivers, directly or through a
2563 delivery service.

2564 Sec. 58. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 21a-420p of the 2026
2565 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
2566 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2567 (f) (1) A micro-cultivator may sell cannabis seedlings cultivated at its
2568 micro-cultivator establishment directly to consumers, excluding
2569 qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers,
2570 solely through delivery by either utilizing a delivery service or its own
2571 employees, subject to the requirements of subsection (c) of section 21a-
2572 420c. No cannabis establishment other than a micro-cultivator shall sell
2573 cannabis seedlings to consumers, and no cannabis establishment other
2574 than a delivery service or a micro-cultivator utilizing its own employees
2575 shall deliver cannabis seedlings cultivated and sold by a micro-
2576 cultivator to consumers.

2577 (2) No micro-cultivator shall sell a cannabis seedling to a consumer
2578 unless:

2579 (A) The micro-cultivator cultivated the cannabis seedling in this state
2580 from seed or clone;

2581 (B) The cannabis seedling (i) has a standing height of not more than
2582 six inches measured from the base of the stem to the tallest point of the
2583 plant, (ii) does not contain any bud or flower, and (iii) has been tested
2584 for pesticides and heavy metals in accordance with the laboratory
2585 testing standards established in the policies and procedures issued, and
2586 final regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-
2587 421j, as amended by this act; and

2588 (C) A label or informational tag is affixed to the cannabis seedling
2589 disclosing the following in legible English, black lettering, Times New
2590 Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background and in
2591 uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a capital
2592 letter "K":

2593 (i) The name of the micro-cultivator;

2594 (ii) A product description for the cannabis seedling;

2595 (iii) One of the following chemotypes anticipated after flowering: (I)
2596 "High THC, Low CBD"; (II) "Low THC, High CBD"; or (III) "50/50 THC
2597 and CBD";

2598 (iv) The results of the testing required under subparagraph (B)(iii) of
2599 this subdivision;

2600 (v) Directions for optimal care of the cannabis seedling;

2601 (vi) Unobscured symbols, in a size of not less than one-half inch by
2602 one-half inch and in a format approved by the commissioner, which
2603 symbols shall indicate that the cannabis seedling contains THC and is
2604 not legal or safe for individuals younger than twenty-one years of age;
2605 and

2606 (vii) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
2607 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
2608 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
2609 the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act.

2610 (3) Notwithstanding section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, no
2611 cannabis seedling shall be required to be sold in child-resistant
2612 packaging.

2613 (4) No micro-cultivator shall knowingly sell more than three cannabis
2614 seedlings to a consumer in any six-month period.

2615 (5) No micro-cultivator shall accept any returned cannabis seedling.

2616 (g) (1) A micro-cultivator that has obtained a final license from the
2617 department pursuant to this section and maintains an exclusively
2618 indoor grow facility may submit an application to the department, in a
2619 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, for a retailer or
2620 hybrid retailer endorsement to such final license under this subsection.
2621 Such endorsement, if issued, shall authorize the micro-cultivator to
2622 operate a retailer or hybrid retailer pursuant to this subsection. An
2623 applicant micro-cultivator shall submit a complete application for an
2624 endorsement under this subsection, along with the endorsement
2625 application fee, to the department not later than one year after the date
2626 on which the applicant micro-cultivator obtained a final micro-
2627 cultivator license from the department pursuant to this section or June
2628 30, 2026, whichever is later. The department shall not accept an

2629 application submitted pursuant to this subsection after such time period
2630 has expired. The amount of the application fee for an endorsement
2631 under this subsection shall be the same as the fee imposed to receive a
2632 final retailer license or a final hybrid retailer license set forth in
2633 subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420e. All application fees for an
2634 initial endorsement under this subsection shall be deposited in the
2635 consumer protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.
2636 The annual renewal fee for an endorsement issued under this subsection
2637 shall be the same as the renewal fee for a final retailer license or a final
2638 hybrid retailer license set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-
2639 420e.

2640 (2) The department shall issue an endorsement to a micro-cultivator
2641 pursuant to this subsection if the micro-cultivator:

2642 (A) Submits a timely and complete endorsement application to the
2643 department, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner;

2644 (B) Attests that the retailer or hybrid retailer created pursuant to the
2645 endorsement shall be operated in compliance with all requirements
2646 established in this chapter for a licensed retailer or a licensed hybrid
2647 retailer; and

2648 (C) Acknowledges and attests that such micro-cultivator shall not
2649 engage in any outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

2650 (3) Each micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
2651 subsection shall have twenty-four months from the date such
2652 endorsement is issued to (A) satisfy the requirements established in
2653 section 21a-420g for a retailer or hybrid retailer that has been issued a
2654 final license, and (B) seek and obtain a written statement from the
2655 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner,
2656 confirming that such micro-cultivator satisfies such requirements and is
2657 authorized to engage in the activities of a retailer or hybrid retailer.

2658 (4) An endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall expire
2659 and shall not be eligible for reapplication or renewal if the micro-

2660 cultivator (A) fails to satisfy the requirements established in subdivision
2661 (3) of this subsection, or (B) allows such endorsement to lapse.

2662 (5) The facility of a retailer or hybrid retailer established pursuant to
2663 an endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection shall be located (A)
2664 on the same premises as the micro-cultivator, or (B) on a tract of land or
2665 parcel that abuts such premises or is located within one hundred feet of
2666 such premises measured from the point on such tract of land or parcel
2667 that is closest to such premises.

2668 (6) Upon receipt of a written statement from the department as set
2669 forth in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the
2670 micro-cultivator shall:

2671 (A) (i) In the case of a retailer endorsement, be authorized to sell
2672 cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-cultivator to consumers, or (ii)
2673 in the case of a hybrid retailer endorsement, be authorized to sell (I)
2674 cannabis cultivated indoors by the micro-cultivator to consumers, and
2675 (II) medical [marijuana] cannabis products to qualifying patients,
2676 qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers;

2677 (B) Acknowledge and agree that such micro-cultivator is not eligible
2678 to expand to a cultivator license, as provided in this section;

2679 (C) Maintain the retailer's or hybrid-retailer's activities and facility in
2680 accordance with the requirements established in this chapter, chapter
2681 420f and the regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued
2682 pursuant to said chapters, as applicable; and

2683 (D) Acknowledge and agree that in the event that an administrative
2684 agency or court of competent jurisdiction issues a suspension,
2685 revocation, cease and desist order or other order halting the micro-
2686 cultivator's operations, the micro-cultivator shall cease all public retailer
2687 or hybrid-retailer activities associated with the retailer or hybrid retailer
2688 endorsement issued pursuant to this subsection.

2689 (7) A micro-cultivator that is issued an endorsement under this
2690 subsection may (A) in the case of a retailer endorsement, sell cannabis

2691 cultivated by the micro-cultivator directly to consumers by utilizing a
2692 delivery service or its own employees, subject to the provisions of
2693 subsection (c) of section 21a-420c, provided such micro-cultivator shall
2694 exclusively sell cannabis cultivated by such micro-cultivator, and (B) in
2695 the case of a hybrid retailer endorsement, (i) sell medical [marijuana]
2696 cannabis products directly to qualifying patients and caregivers by
2697 utilizing a delivery service or its own employees, subject to the
2698 provisions of subsection (c) of section 21a-420c, (ii) sell medical cannabis
2699 products directly to qualifying out-of-state patients by utilizing its own
2700 employees, and (iii) sell cannabis cultivated by such micro-cultivator
2701 directly to consumers, by utilizing a delivery service or its own
2702 employees, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 21a-
2703 420c.

2704 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a micro-cultivator
2705 with an active endorsement issued under this subsection shall not
2706 exceed twenty-five thousand square feet of grow space and shall not be
2707 eligible to convert to a cultivator unless the micro-cultivator
2708 permanently surrenders such endorsement and ceases all retailer and
2709 hybrid retailer activities at the cannabis establishment.

2710 (9) An endorsement issued under this subsection shall not impact any
2711 right a micro-cultivator may have to create an equity joint venture.

2712 Sec. 59. Section 21a-420q of the 2026 supplement to the general
2713 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2714 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2715 The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
2716 provisions of chapter 54, to establish the maximum grow space
2717 permitted by a cultivator and micro-cultivator. In adopting such
2718 regulations, the commissioner shall seek to ensure an adequate supply
2719 of cannabis for the market. Notwithstanding the requirements of
2720 sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to effectuate this section, prior
2721 to adopting such regulations, the commissioner shall issue policies and
2722 procedures to implement the provisions of this section that shall have
2723 the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all policies and

2724 procedures on the department's Internet web site and submit such
2725 policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of the General
2726 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection
2727 and the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at
2728 least fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure.
2729 Any such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the
2730 earlier of either the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final
2731 regulation under section 4-172 or sixty-three months from July 1, 2021.

2732 Sec. 60. Section 21a-420r of the 2026 supplement to the general
2733 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2734 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2735 (a) On and after July 1, 2021, the department may issue or renew a
2736 license for a person to be a retailer. No person may act as a retailer or
2737 represent that such person is a retailer unless such person has obtained
2738 a license from the department pursuant to this section.

2739 (b) A retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-cultivator,
2740 producer, product packager, food and beverage manufacturer, product
2741 manufacturer or transporter or an undeliverable return from a delivery
2742 service. A retailer may sell, transport or transfer cannabis or cannabis
2743 products to a cannabis establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or
2744 research program. A retailer may sell cannabis to a consumer or research
2745 program. A retailer may not conduct sales of medical [marijuana]
2746 cannabis products, except as provided in regulations adopted pursuant
2747 to section 50 of this act, nor offer discounts or other inducements to
2748 qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients or caregivers. A
2749 retailer shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost to a consumer as part
2750 of a commercial transaction.

2751 (c) Retailers shall maintain a secure location, in a manner approved
2752 by the commissioner, at the licensee's premises where cannabis that is
2753 unable to be delivered by an employee or delivery service may be
2754 returned to the retailer. Such secure cannabis return location shall meet
2755 specifications set forth by the commissioner and published on the
2756 department's Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by

2757 the department.

2758 (d) A retailer may deliver cannabis through a delivery service or by
2759 utilizing its own employees, subject to the provisions of subsection (c)
2760 of section 21a-420c.

2761 (e) Manufacturer hemp products, as defined in section 22-61l, as
2762 amended by this act, may be sold within a retailer facility, provided such
2763 manufacturer hemp products are:

2764 (1) Stored separately from cannabis and cannabis products;

2765 (2) Separated, by a physical separation, from cannabis and cannabis
2766 products in any display area;

2767 (3) Displayed with signage approved by the department;

2768 (4) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation
2769 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
2770 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
2771 may be located outside of this state;

2772 (5) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (A) a manufacturer
2773 hemp product, (B) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
2774 and (C) not cannabis or a cannabis product; and

2775 (6) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
2776 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters.

2777 (f) No retailer shall retain any personal data the retailer obtains from
2778 a consumer for the purposes of age verification for longer than twenty-
2779 four hours without the consumer's express written consent.

2780 Sec. 61. Section 21a-420s of the 2026 supplement to the general
2781 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2782 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2783 (a) The department may issue or renew a license for a hybrid retailer.
2784 No person may act as a hybrid retailer or represent that such person is

2785 a hybrid retailer unless such person has obtained a license from the
2786 department pursuant to this section.

2787 (b) A hybrid retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-
2788 cultivator, producer, product packager, food and beverage
2789 manufacturer, product manufacturer or transporter. In addition to the
2790 activities authorized under section 21a-420t, as amended by this act, a
2791 hybrid retailer may sell, transport or transfer cannabis to a cannabis
2792 establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or research program. A
2793 hybrid retailer may sell cannabis products to a consumer or research
2794 program. A hybrid retailer shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost
2795 to a consumer, qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient or
2796 caregiver as part of a commercial transaction.

2797 (c) In addition to conducting general retail sales, a hybrid retailer may
2798 sell cannabis and medical [marijuana] cannabis products to qualifying
2799 patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers. Any cannabis
2800 or medical [marijuana] cannabis products sold to qualifying patients,
2801 qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers shall be [dispensed by a
2802 licensed pharmacist and shall be] recorded in the electronic prescription
2803 drug monitoring program, established pursuant to section 21a-254, in
2804 real-time or immediately upon completion of the transaction, unless not
2805 reasonably feasible for a specific transaction, but in no case longer than
2806 one hour after completion of the transaction. Only a licensed
2807 pharmacist, [or] dispensary technician or other registered employee of
2808 the hybrid retailer under the direction of a licensed pharmacist may
2809 upload [or access data in the prescription drug monitoring] data to such
2810 program, except such upload may be accomplished by way of an
2811 automated upload from the hybrid retailer's point-of-sale system. A
2812 licensed pharmacist shall conduct a weekly audit of the data uploaded
2813 to such program pursuant to this subsection. All other authorized
2814 activities of the hybrid retailer, including, but not limited to, all such
2815 activities performed in connection with the sale, handling or
2816 management of cannabis or medical cannabis products, may be
2817 performed by a licensed pharmacist, dispensary technician or other
2818 registered employee of the hybrid retailer.

2819 (d) (1) A hybrid retailer shall [maintain] ensure that a licensed
2820 pharmacist [on premises for at least eight consecutive hours per
2821 calendar week] is available when the hybrid retail location is open to the
2822 public or to qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and
2823 caregivers. [At all times while a hybrid retailer location is open to the
2824 public and a licensed pharmacist is not physically present on premises
2825 and available for qualifying patient and caregiver consultations, the]
2826 The hybrid retailer shall ensure that a licensed pharmacist is readily
2827 available to [(A)] provide telehealth consultations for qualifying
2828 patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers [, and (B)
2829 conduct remote order entry verification in accordance with regulations
2830 adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 20-576, which remote
2831 order entry verification shall only be conducted by a licensed
2832 pharmacist in compliance with all remote order entry verification
2833 requirements established in regulations adopted by the commissioner
2834 pursuant to section 20-576] for at least thirty-five hours per week.

2835 (2) A hybrid retailer that offers telehealth consultations with a
2836 licensed pharmacist shall (A) [employ such pharmacist for at least
2837 twenty hours per calendar week, (B)] maintain technology that is
2838 capable of facilitating such telehealth consultations, and [(C)] (B) make
2839 such telehealth consultations readily available and accessible to
2840 qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers,
2841 including, but not limited to, by telephone from a remote location
2842 outside of the hybrid retailer location, [and from the private
2843 consultation space required under subsection (e) of this section.]

2844 (3) Each hybrid retailer that offers consultations with a licensed
2845 pharmacist either in-person or through telehealth shall conspicuously
2846 post and maintain a sign at the main entrance of the hybrid retailer
2847 location, which sign shall (A) be at least twelve inches in height and
2848 eighteen inches in width, (B) incorporate lettering in a size and style that
2849 is clear and legible, and (C) state the name of the licensed pharmacist
2850 who is available for qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient
2851 and caregiver consultations either in-person or through telehealth.

2852 (4) Each hybrid retailer that offers consultations with a licensed
2853 pharmacist either in-person or through telehealth shall conspicuously
2854 post and maintain a sign at each register or comparable point of sale
2855 within the hybrid retailer location, and on any Internet web site
2856 maintained by such hybrid retailer, which sign shall (A) be at least eight
2857 inches in height and ten inches in width, (B) incorporate lettering in a
2858 size and style that is clear and legible, and (C) state "Pharmacist
2859 available for consultation" in a clear and legible manner.

2860 [(5) Each licensed pharmacist who consults with qualifying patients
2861 or caregivers shall annually complete not less than five contact hours of
2862 continuing professional education, as set forth in section 20-600, related
2863 to the cannabis industry, the pharmacy laws of this state or the
2864 treatment of debilitating medical conditions, as defined in section 21a-
2865 408. Such contact hours shall be included in, and not be in addition to,
2866 the fifteen contact hours required under section 20-600.]

2867 (5) No registered employee of a hybrid retailer shall sell any cannabis
2868 or medical cannabis product to a qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-
2869 state patient or caregiver, unless such registered employee has
2870 completed at least one hour of training concerning the privacy
2871 requirements established in the Health Insurance Portability and
2872 Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-191, and the regulations adopted
2873 thereunder, as said act and such regulations may be amended from time
2874 to time.

2875 (e) [The hybrid retailer location shall include a private consultation
2876 space for pharmacists to meet with qualifying patients and caregivers.]
2877 Each hybrid retailer shall conspicuously display, on the exterior of the
2878 hybrid retailer location, a symbol that denotes the sale of medical
2879 [marijuana] cannabis products, which symbol shall be in a form and
2880 manner prescribed by the commissioner and posted on the department's
2881 Internet web site. Additionally, the hybrid retailer premises shall
2882 accommodate an expedited method of entry that allows for priority
2883 entrance into the premises for qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-
2884 state patients and caregivers.

2885 (f) Hybrid retailers shall maintain a secure location, in a manner
2886 approved by the commissioner, at the licensee's premises where
2887 cannabis that is unable to be delivered may be returned to the hybrid
2888 retailer. Such secure cannabis return location shall meet specifications
2889 set forth by the commissioner and published on the department's
2890 Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by the department.

2891 (g) Cannabis [dispensed] sold to a qualifying patient or caregiver that
2892 is unable to be delivered and is returned by the delivery service to the
2893 hybrid retailer shall be returned to the licensee inventory system and
2894 removed from the prescription drug monitoring program not later than
2895 forty-eight hours after receipt of the cannabis from the delivery service.

2896 (h) A hybrid retailer may not convert its license to a retailer license.
2897 To obtain a retailer license, a hybrid retailer shall apply through the
2898 lottery application process. A hybrid retailer may convert to a
2899 dispensary facility, provided the hybrid retailer complies with all
2900 applicable provisions of chapter 420f and has received written approval
2901 from the department.

2902 (i) A retailer may apply to the department to convert its license to a
2903 hybrid retailer license, without applying through the lottery application
2904 system. To convert a retailer license to a hybrid retailer license, a retailer
2905 shall submit a complete application to the department, in a form and
2906 manner prescribed by the commissioner. Prior to issuing a hybrid
2907 retailer license pursuant to this section, the department shall conduct an
2908 inspection of the converting retailer establishment. Upon a satisfactory
2909 inspection, the department shall deactivate the converting retailer
2910 license and issue a new hybrid retailer license to the applicant.

2911 (j) Manufacturer hemp products, as defined in section 22-61l, as
2912 amended by this act, may be sold within a hybrid retailer facility,
2913 provided such manufacturer hemp products are:

2914 (1) Stored separately from cannabis and cannabis products;

2915 (2) Separated, by a physical separation, from cannabis and cannabis

2916 products in any display area;

2917 (3) Displayed with signage approved by the department;

2918 (4) Tested by a laboratory that meets the standards for accreditation
2919 and testing, and sampling methods, set forth for an independent testing
2920 laboratory in section 22-61m, as amended by this act, which laboratory
2921 may be located outside of this state;

2922 (5) Clearly labeled to distinguish the product as (A) a manufacturer
2923 hemp product, (B) subject to different testing standards than cannabis,
2924 and (C) not cannabis or a cannabis product;

2925 (6) Sold in accordance with this chapter, chapter 424 and any
2926 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapters; and

2927 (7) Derived from hemp grown by a United States Department of
2928 Agriculture hemp producer licensee under an approved state or tribal
2929 hemp production plan.

2930 (k) No hybrid retailer shall retain any personal data the hybrid
2931 retailer obtains from a consumer, qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-
2932 state patient or caregiver for the purposes of age verification for longer
2933 than twenty-four hours without the consumer's, qualifying patient's,
2934 qualifying out-of-state patient's or caregiver's express written consent.

2935 Sec. 62. Subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of section 21a-420t of the 2026
2936 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
2937 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2938 (a) A dispensary facility may apply to the department, on a form and
2939 in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, to convert its license to a
2940 hybrid retailer license [on or after September 1, 2021,] without applying
2941 through the lottery application system. The license conversion
2942 application shall require a dispensary facility to submit to, and obtain
2943 approval from the department for, a detailed medical preservation plan
2944 for how [it] the dispensary facility will prioritize sales and access to
2945 medical [marijuana] cannabis products for qualifying patients,

2946 including, but not limited to, managing customer traffic flow,
2947 preventing supply shortages, providing delivery services and ensuring
2948 appropriate staffing levels.

2949 (b) [After October 1, 2021, qualifying] Qualifying patients shall not be
2950 required to designate a dispensary facility or hybrid retailer as [its] their
2951 exclusive location to purchase cannabis or medical [marijuana] cannabis
2952 products, nor shall the department require any future change of
2953 designated dispensary facility applications. [If all dispensary facilities
2954 demonstrate to the department's satisfaction that they are adhering to
2955 the real-time upload requirements set forth in subsection (c) of this
2956 section prior to October 1, 2021, the commissioner may eliminate the
2957 requirement for designated dispensary facilities prior to said date.]

2958 (c) [On and after September 1, 2021, dispensary] Dispensary facilities
2959 and hybrid retailers shall [be required to] perform real-time uploads to
2960 the prescription drug monitoring program. Any cannabis or medical
2961 [marijuana] cannabis products sold to qualifying patients, qualifying
2962 out-of-state patients or caregivers shall be dispensed by a licensed
2963 pharmacist and shall be recorded into the prescription drug monitoring
2964 program, established pursuant to section 21a-254, in real-time or
2965 immediately upon completion of the transaction, unless not reasonably
2966 feasible for a specific transaction, but in no case longer than one hour
2967 after completion of the transaction.

2968 (d) A dispensary facility or hybrid retailer may apply to the
2969 department, in a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner,
2970 to provide delivery services through a delivery service or utilizing its
2971 own employees, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 21a-
2972 420c, to qualifying patients, caregivers, research program subjects, as
2973 defined in section 21a-408, as amended by this act, and hospice and
2974 other inpatient care facilities licensed by the Department of Public
2975 Health pursuant to chapter 368v that have a protocol for the handling
2976 and distribution of cannabis that has been approved by the Department
2977 of Consumer Protection. A dispensary facility or hybrid retailer may
2978 deliver cannabis or medical [marijuana] cannabis products only from its

2979 own inventory to qualifying patients and caregivers. If such application
2980 is approved by the commissioner, the dispensary facility or hybrid
2981 retailer may commence delivery services. [on and after January 1, 2022,
2982 provided the commissioner may authorize dispensary facilities or
2983 hybrid retailers to commence delivery services prior to January 1, 2022,
2984 upon forty-five days advance written notice, published on the
2985 department's Internet web site.]

2986 Sec. 63. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420u of the 2026 supplement to
2987 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2988 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2989 (b) Any equity joint venture created under this section shall be
2990 created for the development of a cannabis establishment, other than a
2991 cultivator, provided such equity joint venture is at least fifty per cent
2992 owned and controlled by an individual or individuals who meet, or the
2993 equity joint venture applicant is an individual who meets, the criteria
2994 established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(51)] (53) of
2995 section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

2996 Sec. 64. Subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of section 21a-420z of the 2026
2997 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
2998 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

2999 (c) A delivery service may (1) deliver cannabis from a micro-
3000 cultivator, retailer, or hybrid retailer directly to a consumer, and (2)
3001 deliver cannabis and medical [marijuana] cannabis products from a
3002 hybrid retailer or dispensary facility directly to a qualifying patient,
3003 caregiver, or hospice or other inpatient care facility licensed by the
3004 Department of Public Health pursuant to chapter 368v that has
3005 protocols for the handling and distribution of cannabis that have been
3006 approved by the Department of Consumer Protection. A delivery
3007 service may not store or maintain control of cannabis or medical
3008 [marijuana] cannabis products for more than twenty-four hours
3009 between the point when a consumer, qualifying patient, caregiver or
3010 facility places an order, until the time that the cannabis or medical
3011 [marijuana] cannabis product is delivered to such consumer, qualifying

3012 patient, caregiver or facility.

3013 (d) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a
3014 transporter may deliver cannabis between cannabis establishments,
3015 research programs and cannabis testing laboratories and shall not store
3016 or maintain control of cannabis for more than twenty-four hours from
3017 the time the transporter obtains the cannabis from a cannabis
3018 establishment, research program or cannabis testing laboratory until the
3019 time such cannabis is delivered to the destination.

3020 (2) (A) A transporter may expand the transporter's authorized
3021 activities to store, maintain and handle cannabis in accordance with the
3022 provisions of this subsection, provided such transporter:

3023 (i) Possesses each unit of cannabis for a period not to exceed thirty
3024 days beginning on the date on which the transporter receives such
3025 cannabis;

3026 (ii) Complies with all security requirements established pursuant to
3027 section 21a-421l and the policies, procedures and regulations adopted
3028 pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this act;

3029 (iii) Attests that such transporter shall not open or remove any
3030 cannabis from individual child-resistant packaging, provided nothing
3031 in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit a transporter from
3032 consolidating or separating bulk packaged cannabis for the purposes of
3033 commercial distribution;

3034 (iv) Attests that such transporter shall comply with all requirements
3035 set forth in section 21a-421n, as amended by this act, and all policies,
3036 procedures and regulations adopted pursuant to section 21a-421j, as
3037 amended by this act, for the electronic tracking system concerning the
3038 receipt, storage, repackaging and distribution of cannabis;

3039 (v) Pays to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
3040 commissioner, a one-time expansion authorization payment of five
3041 thousand dollars, to be deposited in the consumer protection
3042 enforcement account established in section 21a-8a;

3043 (vi) Notifies the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the
3044 commissioner, at least thirty days before the date on which the
3045 transporter intends to commence the storage of cannabis for a period
3046 exceeding twenty-four hours; and

3047 (vii) Receives written confirmation from the department that the
3048 transporter meets the security requirements described in subparagraph
3049 (A)(ii) of this subdivision.

3050 (B) The department shall take all reasonable efforts to schedule an
3051 inspection of the cannabis establishment facility not later than sixty days
3052 after the department receives an application for transporter expansion
3053 pursuant to this subdivision. Upon completion of such inspection, the
3054 department shall promptly provide to the transporter (i) written
3055 confirmation of compliance with the security requirements set forth in
3056 subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision, or (ii) notice of noncompliance
3057 with the security requirements set forth in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this
3058 subdivision.

3059 (C) A transporter that expands the transporter's authorized activities
3060 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) comply with all
3061 provisions of this chapter, and all regulations, policies and procedures
3062 prescribed pursuant to this chapter, concerning product packagers, and
3063 (ii) not open or remove any cannabis from individual child-resistant
3064 packaging, provided nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to
3065 prohibit a transporter from consolidating or separating bulk packaged
3066 cannabis for the purposes of commercial distribution on a scale that is
3067 greater than commercial distribution on an individual and final
3068 packaging basis.

3069 (D) In the event of a conflict between any provision of this chapter, or
3070 any regulation, policy or procedure prescribed pursuant to this chapter,
3071 concerning transporters and any such provision, regulation, policy or
3072 procedure concerning product packagers, the provision, regulation,
3073 policy or procedure imposing the more stringent public health and
3074 safety standard shall prevail.

3075 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
3076 chapter 54, to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
3077 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
3078 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
3079 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
3080 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section that
3081 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
3082 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site, and
3083 submit such policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of
3084 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
3085 consumer protection and the Secretary of the State for posting on the
3086 eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of
3087 any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer
3088 be effective upon the earlier of either adoption of such policy or
3089 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or sixty-three
3090 months from July 1, 2021. The commissioner shall issue policies and
3091 procedures, and thereafter adopt final regulations, requiring that: (1)
3092 The delivery service and transporter meet certain security requirements
3093 related to the storage, handling and transport of cannabis, the vehicles
3094 employed, the conduct of employees and agents, and the
3095 documentation that shall be maintained by the delivery service,
3096 transporter and its drivers; (2) a delivery service that delivers cannabis
3097 to consumers maintain an online interface that verifies the age of
3098 consumers ordering cannabis for delivery and meets certain
3099 specifications and data security standards; and (3) a delivery service that
3100 delivers cannabis to consumers, qualifying patients or caregivers, and
3101 all employees and agents of such licensee, to verify the identity of the
3102 qualifying patient, caregiver or consumer and the age of the consumer
3103 upon delivery of cannabis to the end consumer, qualifying patient or
3104 caregiver, in a manner acceptable to the commissioner. The individual
3105 placing the cannabis order shall be the individual accepting delivery of
3106 the cannabis except, in the case of a qualifying patient, the individual
3107 accepting the delivery may be the caregiver of such qualifying patient.

3108 Sec. 65. Subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of
3109 section 21a-420aa of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is

3110 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3111 *1, 2026*):

3112 (A) Such change in ownership or control is allowed under (i) section
3113 21a-420g or 21a-420h, as amended by this act, and (ii) any regulation
3114 adopted, or policy or procedure issued, pursuant to section 21a-420g or
3115 21a-420h, as amended by this act; and

3116 Sec. 66. Subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of
3117 section 21a-420bb of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
3118 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3119 *1, 2026*):

3120 (A) Such change in ownership or control is allowed under (i) section
3121 21a-420g or 21a-420h, as amended by this act, and (ii) any regulation
3122 adopted, or policy or procedure issued, pursuant to section 21a-420g or
3123 21a-420h, as amended by this act; and

3124 Sec. 67. Subsection (f) of section 21a-421d of the general statutes is
3125 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3126 *1, 2026*):

3127 (f) A producer, cultivator or micro-cultivator may sell, transport or
3128 transfer cannabis to a product packager, food or beverage manufacturer,
3129 product manufacturer, dispensary facility or hybrid retailer for the sale
3130 of products to [qualified] qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state
3131 patients or caregivers, as applicable, which products shall be labeled
3132 "For Medical Use Only".

3133 Sec. 68. Section 21a-421j of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
3134 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3135 *October 1, 2026*):

3136 (a) As used in this section: [, "total THC"]

3137 (1) "Other cannabis plant material" (A) means cannabis trim and all
3138 parts of any plant or species of the genus cannabis, or any infra specific
3139 taxon thereof, excluding a growing plant, and the seeds thereof, and (B)

3140 does not include cannabis flower or hemp, as defined in section 22-61l,
3141 as amended by this act; and

3142 (2) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240,
3143 as amended by this act.

3144 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
3145 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding
3146 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to
3147 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and
3148 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue
3149 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of RERACA that
3150 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all
3151 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site and
3152 submit such policies and procedures to the joint standing committee of
3153 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
3154 consumer protection and the Secretary of the State for posting on the
3155 eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of
3156 any policy or procedure. The commissioner shall also provide such
3157 policies and procedures, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner,
3158 to each licensee. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer be
3159 effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or
3160 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or sixty-three
3161 months from June 22, 2021. The commissioner shall issue policies and
3162 procedures and thereafter final regulations that include, but are not
3163 limited to, the following:

3164 (1) Setting appropriate dosage, potency, concentration and serving
3165 size limits and delineation requirements for cannabis, provided (A) a
3166 standardized serving of an edible cannabis product, [or beverage,] other
3167 than a medical [marijuana] cannabis product, shall contain not more
3168 than the greater of (i) five milligrams of THC, or (ii) six milligrams of
3169 THC, if the increase over the quantity specified in subparagraph (A)(i)
3170 of this subdivision is due to the margin of error inherent in laboratory
3171 testing, and (B) there shall be no dosage, potency or concentration limit
3172 for (i) cannabis concentrates, or (ii) cannabis flower or other cannabis

3173 plant material.

3174 (2) Requiring that each single standardized serving of cannabis
3175 product in a multiple-serving edible product or beverage is physically
3176 demarked in a way that enables a reasonable person to determine how
3177 much of the product constitutes a single serving and a maximum
3178 amount of THC per multiple-serving edible cannabis product or
3179 beverage.

3180 (3) Requiring that, if it is impracticable to clearly demark every
3181 standardized serving of cannabis product or to make each standardized
3182 serving easily separable in an edible cannabis product or beverage, the
3183 product, other than cannabis concentrate, [or medical marijuana]
3184 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material or a medical cannabis
3185 product, shall contain not more than the greater of (A) five milligrams
3186 of THC per unit of sale, or (B) six milligrams of THC per unit of sale, if
3187 the increase over the quantity specified in subparagraph (A) of this
3188 subdivision is due to the margin of error inherent in laboratory testing.

3189 (4) Establishing, in consultation with the Department of Mental
3190 Health and Addiction Services, consumer health materials that shall be
3191 posted or distributed, as specified by the commissioner, by cannabis
3192 establishments to maximize dissemination to cannabis consumers.
3193 Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts,
3194 signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed
3195 health materials.

3196 (5) Imposing labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis sold
3197 by a cannabis establishment that include, but are not limited to, the
3198 following:

3199 (A) Inclusion of universal symbols to indicate that cannabis, or a
3200 cannabis product, contains THC and is not legal or safe for individuals
3201 younger than twenty-one years of age, and prescribe how such product
3202 and product packaging shall utilize and exhibit such symbols.

3203 (B) A disclosure concerning the length of time it typically takes for

3204 the cannabis to affect an individual, including that certain forms of
3205 cannabis take longer to have an effect.

3206 (C) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is
3207 considered the equivalent to.

3208 (D) A list of ingredients and additives for cannabis.

3209 (E) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
3210 21a-420p, as amended by this act, child-resistant, tamper-resistant and
3211 light-resistant packaging. For the purposes of this subparagraph,
3212 packaging shall be deemed to be (i) child-resistant if the packaging
3213 satisfies the standard for special packaging established in 16 CFR
3214 1700.1(b)(4), as amended from time to time, (ii) tamper-resistant if the
3215 packaging has at least one barrier to, or indicator of, entry that would
3216 preclude the contents of such packaging from being accessed or
3217 adulterated without indicating to a reasonable person that such
3218 packaging has been breached, and (iii) light-resistant if the packaging is
3219 entirely and uniformly opaque and protects the entirety of the contents
3220 of such packaging from the effects of light.

3221 (F) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of section
3222 21a-420p, as amended by this act, (i) packaging for cannabis intended
3223 for multiple servings to be resealable in such a manner so as to render
3224 such packaging continuously child-resistant, as described in
3225 subparagraph (E)(i) of this subdivision, and preserve the integrity of the
3226 contents of such packaging, and (ii) if packaging for cannabis intended
3227 for multiple servings contains any edible cannabis product, for each
3228 single standardized serving to be easily discernible and (I) individually
3229 wrapped, or (II) physically demarked and delineated as required under
3230 this subsection.

3231 (G) Impervious packaging that protects the contents of such
3232 packaging from contamination and exposure to any toxic or harmful
3233 substance, including, but not limited to, any glue or other adhesive or
3234 substance that is incorporated in such packaging.

3235 (H) Product tracking information sufficient to determine where and
3236 when the cannabis was grown and manufactured such that a product
3237 recall could be effectuated.

3238 (I) A net weight statement.

3239 (J) A recommended use by or expiration date.

3240 (K) Standard and uniform packaging and labeling, including, but not
3241 limited to, requirements (i) regarding branding or logos, (ii) that all
3242 packaging be opaque, and (iii) that amounts and concentrations of THC
3243 and cannabidiol, per serving and per package, be clearly marked on the
3244 packaging or label of any cannabis product sold.

3245 (L) For any cannabis flower, other cannabis plant material or cannabis
3246 concentrate cannabis product that contains a total THC percentage
3247 greater than thirty per cent, a warning that such cannabis flower, other
3248 cannabis plant material or cannabis concentrate cannabis product is a
3249 high-potency product and may increase the risk of psychosis.

3250 (M) Chemotypes, which shall be displayed as (i) "High THC, Low
3251 CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is greater than five to one and the
3252 total THC percentage is at least fifteen per cent, (ii) "Moderate THC,
3253 Moderate CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is at least one to five but
3254 not greater than five to one and the total THC percentage is greater than
3255 five per cent but less than fifteen per cent, (iii) "Low THC, High CBD"
3256 where the ratio of THC to CBD is less than one to five and the total THC
3257 percentage is not greater than five per cent, or (iv) the chemotype
3258 described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph that most closely
3259 fits the cannabis or cannabis product, as determined by mathematical
3260 analysis of the ratio of THC to CBD, where such cannabis or cannabis
3261 product does not fit a chemotype described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of
3262 this subparagraph.

3263 (N) A requirement that, prior to being sold and transferred to a
3264 consumer, qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient or
3265 caregiver, cannabis packaging be clearly labeled, whether printed

3266 directly on such packaging or affixed by way of a separate label, other
3267 than an extended content label, with:

3268 (i) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking
3269 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under
3270 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by
3271 the commissioner pursuant to this section; and

3272 (ii) The following information concerning the cannabis contained in
3273 such packaging, which shall be in legible English, black lettering, Times
3274 New Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background
3275 and in uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a
3276 capital letter "K", which information shall also be available on the
3277 Internet web site of the cannabis establishment that sells and transfers
3278 such cannabis:

3279 (I) The name of such cannabis, as registered with the department
3280 under the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted,
3281 by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

3282 (II) The expiration date, which shall not account for any refrigeration
3283 after such cannabis is sold and transferred to the consumer, qualifying
3284 patient, qualifying out-of-state patient or caregiver.

3285 (III) The net weight or volume, expressed in metric and imperial
3286 units.

3287 (IV) The standardized serving size, expressed in customary units, and
3288 the number of servings included in such packaging, if applicable.

3289 (V) Directions for use and storage.

3290 (VI) Each active ingredient comprising at least one per cent of such
3291 cannabis, including cannabinoids, isomers, esters, ethers and salts and
3292 salts of isomers, esters and ethers, and all quantities thereof expressed
3293 in metric units and as a percentage of volume.

3294 (VII) A list of all known allergens, as identified by the federal Food

3295 and Drug Administration, contained in such cannabis, or the denotation
3296 "no known FDA identified allergens" if such cannabis does not contain
3297 any allergen identified by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

3298 (VIII) The following warning statement within, and outlined by, a red
3299 box:

3300 "This product is not FDA-approved, may be intoxicating, cause long-
3301 term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side
3302 effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence
3303 of cannabis. Keep away from children."

3304 (IX) At least one of the following warning statements, rotated
3305 quarterly on an alternating basis:

3306 "Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to
3307 mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression,
3308 stunted brain development and impaired memory."

3309 "Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be
3310 harmful."

3311 "Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit-
3312 forming and addictive."

3313 "Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may
3314 result in adverse effects requiring medical attention."

3315 (X) All information necessary to comply with labeling requirements
3316 imposed under the laws of this state and federal law, including, but not
3317 limited to, sections 21a-91 to 21a-120, inclusive, and 21a-151 to 21a-159,
3318 inclusive, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq.,
3319 as amended from time to time, and the federal Fair Packaging and
3320 Labeling Act, 15 USC 1451 et seq., as amended from time to time, for
3321 similar products that do not contain cannabis.

3322 (XI) Such additional warning labels for certain cannabis products as
3323 the commissioner may require and post on the department's Internet

3324 web site.

3325 (6) Establishing laboratory testing standards, provided such
3326 laboratory testing standards shall not require any cannabis flower or
3327 other cannabis plant material to undergo stability testing after such
3328 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material is in its final packaging.

3329 (7) Establishing consumer disclosures concerning mold and yeast in
3330 cannabis. [and]

3331 (8) Establishing permitted remediation practices, which practices
3332 shall include, but need not be limited to, remediation of cannabis flower
3333 or other cannabis plant material by way of one or more exposures to
3334 ionizing radiation for any cannabis flower or other cannabis plant
3335 material that fails any laboratory testing due to microbial
3336 contamination, provided a label is affixed to the packaging containing
3337 the remediated cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material
3338 disclosing that such cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material has
3339 undergone remediation by way of exposure to ionizing radiation.

3340 [(7)] (9) Restricting forms of cannabis products and cannabis product
3341 delivery systems to ensure consumer safety and deter public health
3342 concerns.

3343 [(8)] (10) Prohibiting certain manufacturing methods, or inclusion of
3344 additives to cannabis products, including, but not limited to, (A) added
3345 flavoring, terpenes or other additives unless approved by the
3346 department, or (B) any form of nicotine or other additive containing
3347 nicotine.

3348 [(9)] (11) Prohibiting cannabis product types that appeal to children,
3349 including, but not limited to, facsimiles of foods, beverages and other
3350 items that appeal to children.

3351 [(10)] (12) Establishing physical and cyber security requirements
3352 related to build out, monitoring and protocols for cannabis
3353 establishments as a requirement for licensure.

3354 [(11)] (13) Placing temporary limits on the sale of cannabis in the
3355 adult-use market, if deemed appropriate and necessary by the
3356 commissioner, in response to a shortage of cannabis for qualifying
3357 patients.

3358 [(12)] (14) Requiring retailers and hybrid retailers to make best efforts
3359 to provide access to (A) low-dose THC products, including products
3360 that have one milligram and two and a half milligrams of THC per dose,
3361 and (B) high-dose CBD products.

3362 [(13)] (15) Requiring producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators,
3363 product manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers to
3364 register brand names for cannabis, in accordance with the policies and
3365 procedures and subject to the fee set forth in, regulations adopted under
3366 chapter 420f.

3367 [(14)] (16) Prohibiting a cannabis establishment from selling, other
3368 than the sale of medical [marijuana] cannabis products between
3369 cannabis establishments and the sale of cannabis to qualifying patients,
3370 qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers, [(A) cannabis flower or
3371 other cannabis plant material with a total THC concentration greater
3372 than thirty-five per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B)] any cannabis
3373 product [other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant material] with
3374 a total THC concentration greater than seventy per cent on a dry-weight
3375 basis, except that the provisions of [subparagraph (B) of] this
3376 subdivision shall not apply to the sale of cannabis concentrates,
3377 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material or prefilled cartridges
3378 for use in an electronic cannabis delivery system, as defined in section
3379 19a-342a, as amended by this act. [and the department may adjust the
3380 percentages set forth in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision in
3381 regulations adopted pursuant to this section for purposes of public
3382 health or to address market access or shortage. As used in this
3383 subdivision, "cannabis plant material" means material from the cannabis
3384 plant, as defined in section 21a-279a.]

3385 [(15)] (17) Requiring dispensary facilities, hybrid retailers and
3386 retailers to display the following types of cannabis in a form and manner

3387 prescribed by the department and in an area physically and visually
3388 separated from other cannabis for sale at such establishment: (A)
3389 Cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC
3390 concentration greater than thirty per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B)
3391 any cannabis product other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant
3392 material with a total THC concentration greater than sixty per cent on a
3393 dry-weight basis, excluding prefilled cartridges for use in an electronic
3394 cannabis delivery system. [As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant
3395 material" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (j) of section
3396 21a-279a.]

3397 [(16)] (18) Requiring any dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer
3398 that sells any form of cannabis that exceeds the THC concentrations set
3399 forth in subdivision [(15)] (17) of this subsection to include the words
3400 "Warning - High THC" next to each such form of cannabis on such
3401 cannabis establishment's menus and advertisements.

3402 [(17)] (19) Prescribing signage to be displayed at a dispensary facility,
3403 hybrid retailer or retailer informing consumers, qualifying patients,
3404 qualifying out-of-state patients and caregivers of health risks associated
3405 with cannabis in excess of the THC concentrations set forth in
3406 subdivision [(15)] (17) of this subsection.

3407 [(18)] (20) Permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

3408 [(19)] (21) Prohibiting packaging that is (A) visually similar to any
3409 commercially similar product that does not contain cannabis, or (B) used
3410 for any good that is marketed to individuals reasonably expected to be
3411 younger than twenty-one years of age.

3412 [(20)] (22) Allowing packaging to include a picture of the cannabis
3413 product and contain [a] the branding and logo of one cannabis
3414 establishment, [which logo may be comprised of not more than three
3415 colors and provided neither black nor white shall be considered one of
3416 such three colors.]

3417 [(21) Requiring packaging to (A) be entirely and uniformly one color,

3418 and (B) not incorporate any information, print, embossing, debossing,
3419 graphic or hidden feature, other than any permitted or required label.]

3420 [(22)] (23) Requiring that packaging and labeling, [for an edible
3421 cannabis product,] excluding the warning labels required under this
3422 subsection and [a] the picture, [of the cannabis product] branding and
3423 logo described in subdivision [(20)] (22) of this subsection, [but
3424 including, but not limited to, the logo of the cannabis establishment,]
3425 shall [only] be comprised of not more than three colors, provided
3426 neither black [and] nor white [or a combination thereof] shall be
3427 considered one of such three colors.

3428 [(23)] (24) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
3429 subdivision, requiring that delivery device cartridges be labeled, in a
3430 clearly legible manner and in as large a font as the size of the device
3431 reasonably allows, with only the following information (i) the name of
3432 the cannabis establishment where the cannabis is grown or
3433 manufactured, (ii) the cannabis brand, (iii) the total THC and total CBD
3434 content contained within the delivery device cartridge, (iv) the
3435 expiration date, and (v) the unique identifier generated by a cannabis
3436 analytic tracking system maintained by the department and used to
3437 track cannabis under the policies and procedures issued, and final
3438 regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

3439 (B) A cannabis establishment may emboss, deboss or similarly print
3440 the name of the cannabis establishment's business entity [,] and one logo
3441 [with not more than three colors,] on a delivery device cartridge.

3442 [(24)] (25) Prescribing signage to be prominently displayed at
3443 dispensary facilities, retailers and hybrid retailers disclosing (A)
3444 possible health risks related to mold, and (B) the use and possible health
3445 risks related to the use of mold remediation techniques.

3446 Sec. 69. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421k of the 2026 supplement to
3447 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3448 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3449 (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,
3450 inclusive, in order to effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect
3451 public health and safety, prior to adopting such regulations the
3452 commissioner shall implement policies and procedures to implement
3453 the provisions of RERACA that shall have the force and effect of law.
3454 The commissioner shall post all such policies and procedures on the
3455 department's Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures
3456 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
3457 cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection and the Secretary
3458 of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days
3459 prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure. Any such policies
3460 and procedures shall no longer be effective upon the earlier of either
3461 adoption of such policies and procedures as a final regulation under
3462 section 4-172 or sixty-three months from June 22, 2021.

3463 Sec. 70. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-421n of the general
3464 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3465 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3466 (a) Each cannabis establishment, licensed pursuant to chapter 420f or
3467 the provisions of RERACA shall maintain a record of all cannabis
3468 grown, manufactured, wasted and distributed between cannabis
3469 establishments and to consumers, qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-
3470 state patients and caregivers in a form and manner prescribed by the
3471 commissioner. The commissioner shall require each cannabis
3472 establishment to use an electronic tracking system to monitor the
3473 production, harvesting, storage, manufacturing, packaging and
3474 labeling, processing, transport, transfer and sale of cannabis from the
3475 point of cannabis cultivation inception through the point when the final
3476 product is sold to a consumer, qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state
3477 patient, caregiver, research program or otherwise disposed of in
3478 accordance with chapter 420f or the provisions of RERACA, and the
3479 policies and procedures or regulations issued pursuant to RERACA.
3480 Cannabis establishments shall be required to utilize such electronic
3481 tracking system and enter the data points required by the commissioner
3482 to ensure cannabis is safe, secure and properly labeled for consumer,

3483 [or] qualifying patient or qualifying out-of-state patient use. The
3484 commissioner may contract with one or more vendors for the purpose
3485 of electronically collecting such cannabis information.

3486 (b) The electronic tracking system shall not collect information about
3487 any individual consumer, qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state
3488 patient or caregiver purchasing cannabis.

3489 Sec. 71. Subsection (e) of section 21a-421o of the general statutes is
3490 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3491 *1, 2026*):

3492 (e) Except as otherwise provided in RERACA, all records maintained
3493 or kept on file related to RERACA by the department or the Social
3494 Equity Council shall be public records for purposes of the Freedom of
3495 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200. In addition to the
3496 nondisclosure provisions contained in sections 1-210, 21a-408d, as
3497 amended by this act, 21a-408l, as amended by this act, 21a-408v, as
3498 amended by this act, 21a-420g, 21a-421n, as amended by this act, and
3499 21a-421p, [and 21a-422k,] any information related to (1) the physical
3500 security plans of a cannabis establishment or the criminal background
3501 of individual applicants that is obtained by the department through the
3502 licensing process, (2) the supply and distribution of cannabis by
3503 cannabis establishments, and (3) [qualified] qualifying patient,
3504 qualifying out-of-state patient and caregiver information, shall be
3505 confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of
3506 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200.

3507 Sec. 72. Section 21a-421q of the general statutes is repealed and the
3508 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3509 (a) Qualifying patients and caregivers registered pursuant to chapter
3510 420f, and qualifying out-of-state patients, shall be permitted to purchase
3511 cannabis of higher potency, varied dosage form, and in a larger per
3512 transaction or per day amount than are generally available for retail
3513 purchase, as determined by the commissioner. Such determination, if
3514 any, shall be published on the Department of Consumer Protection's

3515 Internet web site or included in regulations adopted by the department.

3516 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the sale or
3517 delivery of drug paraphernalia to a qualifying patient, qualifying out-
3518 of-state patient or caregiver or person licensed pursuant to the
3519 provisions of RERACA or chapter 420f, shall not be considered a
3520 violation of the provisions of RERACA.

3521 Sec. 73. Section 21a-421r of the general statutes is repealed and the
3522 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3523 A licensed pharmacist working as an employee at a dispensary
3524 facility or hybrid retailer shall transmit dispensing information, in a
3525 manner prescribed by the commissioner, on any cannabis sold to a
3526 qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient or caregiver in real-
3527 time or immediately upon completion of the transaction, unless not
3528 reasonably feasible for a specific transaction, but in no case longer than
3529 one hour after completion of the transaction.

3530 Sec. 74. Section 21a-421s of the general statutes is repealed and the
3531 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3532 (a) For the purposes of this section, [:(1) "Container" (A)] "container"
3533 (1) means an object that is offered, intended for sale or sold to a
3534 consumer and directly contains an infused beverage, [or legacy infused
3535 beverage,] and [(B)] (2) does not include an object or packaging that
3536 indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for transportation purposes, an
3537 infused beverage. [or legacy infused beverage; and

3538 (2) "Legacy infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in
3539 section 21a-425.]

3540 (b) A fee of one dollar shall be assessed by a dispensary facility,
3541 hybrid retailer or retailer on each infused beverage container [and
3542 legacy infused beverage container] sold by such cannabis establishment.
3543 Such fee shall not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income
3544 pursuant to any provision of the general statutes.

3545 (c) On [October 1, 2024, and every six months thereafter] the first days
3546 of October and April, annually, each dispensary facility, hybrid retailer
3547 or retailer shall remit payment to the department for each infused
3548 beverage container [and legacy infused beverage container] sold during
3549 the preceding six-month period. The funds received by the department
3550 from infused beverage sales [and legacy infused beverage sales] shall be
3551 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established
3552 in section 21a-8a for the purposes of (1) protecting public health and
3553 safety, (2) educating consumers and licensees, and (3) ensuring
3554 compliance with cannabis and liquor control laws.

3555 Sec. 75. Subsection (c) of section 21a-421aa of the general statutes is
3556 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3557 *1, 2026*):

3558 (c) A retailer or hybrid retailer shall not knowingly sell to a consumer
3559 more than one ounce of cannabis or the equivalent amount of cannabis
3560 products or combination of cannabis and cannabis products, as set forth
3561 in subsection (i) of section 21a-279a, per day, except that a hybrid retailer
3562 or dispensary facility may sell up to five ounces of cannabis or the
3563 equivalent amount of cannabis products or combination of cannabis and
3564 cannabis products to a qualifying patient or caregiver, or a qualifying
3565 out-of-state patient, per day. Notwithstanding the requirements of
3566 sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, to avoid cannabis supply shortages or
3567 address a public health and safety concern, the commissioner may set
3568 temporary lower per-transaction limits, which shall be published on the
3569 department's Internet web site. Such limits shall become ineffective
3570 upon the commissioner's determination that a supply shortage or public
3571 health and safety concern no longer exists.

3572 Sec. 76. Subdivision (15) of subsection (b) of section 21a-421bb of the
3573 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
3574 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3575 (15) Engage in advertising or marketing that includes a discounted
3576 price or other promotional offering as an inducement to purchase any
3577 cannabis or cannabis product that is not a medical [marijuana] cannabis

3578 product, except a discounted price or promotional offering may be
3579 offered, as an inducement to purchase cannabis, (A) within a dispensary
3580 facility, retailer or hybrid retailer, (B) through a delivery service, or (C)
3581 on an Internet web site maintained by or for a dispensary facility,
3582 retailer or hybrid retailer where cannabis or cannabis products may be
3583 lawfully ordered.

3584 Sec. 77. Section 21a-421ddd of the general statutes is repealed and the
3585 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3586 Any person twenty-three years of age or older who sells, delivers or
3587 gives cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by
3588 this act, to any person under twenty-one years of age, and who knew or
3589 should have known that such person was under twenty-one years of
3590 age, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

3591 Sec. 78. Subsection (a) of section 21a-422g of the general statutes is
3592 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3593 *1, 2026*):

3594 (a) Upon the petition of not less than ten per cent of the electors of
3595 any municipality, lodged with the town clerk at least sixty days before
3596 the date of any regular election, as defined in section 9-1, the selectmen
3597 of the municipality shall warn the electors of such municipality that, at
3598 such regular election, a vote shall be taken to determine: (1) Whether or
3599 not the recreational sale of [marijuana] cannabis shall be permitted in
3600 such municipality, or (2) whether the sale of [marijuana] cannabis shall
3601 be permitted in such municipality in one or more of the classes of license
3602 of cannabis establishments. The ballot label designations in a vote upon
3603 the question of cannabis establishment license shall be "Shall the sale of
3604 recreational [marijuana] cannabis be allowed in (Name of
3605 municipality)?" or "Shall the sale of cannabis under (Specified license or
3606 Licenses) be allowed in (Name of municipality)?" or "Shall the sale of
3607 recreational [marijuana] cannabis be prohibited (No Licenses) in
3608 (Name of municipality)?" and shall be provided in accordance with the
3609 provisions of section 9-250. No elector shall vote for more than one
3610 designation. Such vote shall be taken in the manner prescribed in section

3611 9-369 and shall become effective on the first Monday of the month next
3612 succeeding such election and shall remain in force until a new vote is
3613 taken; provided such vote may be taken at a special election called for
3614 the purpose in conformity with the provisions of section 9-164 and
3615 provided at least one year shall have elapsed since the previous vote
3616 was taken. The provisions of chapter 145 concerning absentee voting at
3617 referenda shall apply to all votes taken upon the question of cannabis
3618 establishment license. Any class of cannabis establishments already
3619 allowed in a municipality shall not be affected by any vote.

3620 Sec. 79. Subsection (g) of section 21a-422k of the general statutes is
3621 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3622 *1, 2026*):

3623 (g) [Any] All information [or] and documentary material filed with
3624 the Attorney General pursuant to this section shall [not be subject to
3625 disclosure under] be public records for purposes of the Freedom of
3626 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and [no such information
3627 or documentary material may be made public, except as may be relevant
3628 to any administrative or judicial action or proceeding. Such information
3629 or documentary material shall be returned to the person furnishing such
3630 information or documentary material upon the termination of the
3631 Attorney General's review or final determination of any action or
3632 proceeding commenced thereunder] shall be retained by the Attorney
3633 General in accordance with the state's record retention schedule. The
3634 Attorney General may redact such records only to the extent that
3635 redaction is necessary and authorized under subdivision (2) or (5) of
3636 subsection (b) of section 1-210, except the identity of any person,
3637 including, but not limited to, any backer or owner of an equity interest,
3638 involved in any transaction that results in, or will result in, a material
3639 change to a cannabis establishment shall not be redacted by the Attorney
3640 General.

3641 Sec. 80. Subsection (a) of section 21a-422l of the general statutes is
3642 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3643 *1, 2026*):

3644 (a) As used in this section, "cannabis" has the same meaning as
3645 provided in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act, and
3646 "electronic cannabis delivery system" and "vapor product" have the
3647 same meanings as provided in section 19a-342a, as amended by this act.
3648 No hotel, motel or similar lodging shall prohibit the legal possession or
3649 consumption of cannabis in any nonpublic area of such hotel, motel or
3650 similar lodging.

3651 Sec. 81. Section 21a-422m of the general statutes is repealed and the
3652 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3653 As used in this section, "hospital" has the same meaning as provided
3654 in section 19a-490 and "cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in
3655 section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act. No hospital shall be
3656 required to allow a patient to use cannabis while at such hospital. A
3657 hospital may have a policy that sets forth restrictions patients shall
3658 follow regarding cannabis use.

3659 Sec. 82. Section 21a-425 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
3660 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3661 *October 1, 2026*):

3662 For the purposes of this section, sections 21a-425a, as amended by this
3663 act, 21a-425b, as amended by this act, 21a-425e, as amended by this act,
3664 and 21a-425f, as amended by this act:

3665 (1) "Alcoholic beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
3666 30-1, as amended by this act;

3667 (2) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
3668 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

3669 (3) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in
3670 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3671 (4) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section
3672 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3673 (5) "Cannabis testing laboratory" has the same meaning as provided
3674 in section 21a-408, as amended by this act;

3675 (6) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
3676 Protection;

3677 (7) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,
3678 as amended by this act;

3679 (8) "Container" (A) means an object that is offered, intended for sale
3680 or sold to a consumer and directly contains an infused beverage or high-
3681 THC beverage, and (B) does not include an object or packaging that
3682 indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for transportation purposes, an
3683 infused beverage or high-THC beverage;

3684 (9) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,
3685 as amended by this act;

3686 (10) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

3687 (11) "Dispensary facility" has the same meaning as provided in
3688 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3689 (12) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
3690 provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3691 (13) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-611, as
3692 amended by this act;

3693 (14) "Hemp producer" means producer, as defined in section 22-611,
3694 as amended by this act;

3695 (15) "Hemp products" has the same meaning as provided in section
3696 22-611, as amended by this act;

3697 (16) "High-THC beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an
3698 alcoholic beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, (C)
3699 contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, total
3700 THC that is greater than [three] ten milligrams per container, and (D)

3701 contains THC solely derived from hemp (i) grown by a United States
3702 Department of Agriculture hemp producer licensee under an approved
3703 state or tribal hemp production plan, and (ii) with a total THC
3704 concentration of not more than three-tenths per cent on a dry-weight
3705 basis or by volume, as applicable;

3706 (17) "Hybrid retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section
3707 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3708 (18) "Infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an alcoholic
3709 beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, and (C) contains, or
3710 is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, total THC that is
3711 not greater than [three] (i) five milligrams per container if the beverage
3712 is sold or offered for sale on premises operating under a package store
3713 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
3714 act, or (ii) ten milligrams per container if the beverage is sold or offered
3715 for sale at a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer;

3716 (19) "Infused beverage manufacturer" means a person licensed by the
3717 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-425a, as
3718 amended by this act;

3719 (20) "Infused beverage wholesaler" (A) means a person that has been
3720 issued an infused beverage wholesaler license under section 21a-425e, as
3721 amended by this act, and (B) does not include the holder of a
3722 wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section
3723 30-17;

3724 [(21) "Legacy infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an
3725 alcoholic beverage, (B) is intended for human consumption, (C)
3726 contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for sale as containing, THC,
3727 and (D) as of June 30, 2024, is in compliance with (i) the provisions of
3728 RERACA, and (ii) the policies and procedures issued by the
3729 Commissioner of Consumer Protection to implement, and any
3730 regulations adopted pursuant to, RERACA;]

3731 [(22)] (21) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in

3732 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3733 [(23)] (22) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as
3734 provided in section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

3735 [(24)] (23) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3736 420, as amended by this act;

3737 [(25)] (24) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section
3738 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3739 [(26)] (25) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided
3740 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3741 [(27)] (26) "RERACA" has the same meaning as provided in section
3742 21a-420, as amended by this act;

3743 [(28)] (27) "Retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3744 420, as amended by this act;

3745 [(29)] (28) "THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
3746 240, as amended by this act; and

3747 [(30)] (29) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section
3748 21a-240, as amended by this act.

3749 Sec. 83. Section 21a-425a of the 2026 supplement to the general
3750 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3751 (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3752 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 22-61m, as amended
3753 by this act, and 22-61n, as amended by this act, and except as provided
3754 in subsection (c) of this section, no person shall [, on or after October 1,
3755 2024,] manufacture any infused beverage that is intended to be sold or
3756 offered for sale in this state unless such person has received an infused
3757 beverage manufacturer license issued by the Commissioner of
3758 Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.

3759 (b) A person seeking an infused beverage manufacturer license under

3760 this section shall submit to the Department of Consumer Protection, in
3761 a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
3762 Protection, an application accompanied by an application fee in the
3763 amount of five thousand dollars. Each license issued pursuant to this
3764 section shall be valid for a period of one year, and shall be renewable for
3765 additional one-year periods upon submission of a renewal application
3766 in the manner, and payment of a renewal fee in the amount, set forth for
3767 an initial application under this subsection. All fees collected under this
3768 subsection shall be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement
3769 account established in section 21a-8a.

3770 (c) (1) A cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer
3771 or product manufacturer, or a producer that has received expanded
3772 authorization to engage in the adult use cannabis market under the
3773 producer's license issued pursuant to section 21a-408i, as amended by
3774 this act, may [, beginning on October 1, 2024,] manufacture infused
3775 beverages in this state that are intended to be sold or offered for sale in
3776 this state if such cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage
3777 manufacturer, product manufacturer or producer submits to the
3778 Department of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed
3779 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, a written request to
3780 manufacture such infused beverages, and the commissioner approves
3781 such written request.

3782 (2) A cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer,
3783 product manufacturer or producer that receives approval from the
3784 Commissioner of Consumer Protection under subdivision (1) of this
3785 subsection shall be subject to all provisions of this section, and all
3786 regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued pursuant to
3787 subsection (k) of this section, applicable to infused beverage
3788 manufacturers, except no such cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and
3789 beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer or producer shall be
3790 subject to the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

3791 (d) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage
3792 manufacturer shall obtain any hemp product for the purpose of

3793 manufacturing any infused beverage that is intended to be sold or
3794 offered for sale in this state unless such hemp product is in the form of
3795 hemp oil, and no such infused beverage manufacturer shall use any
3796 hemp product other than hemp oil to manufacture any such infused
3797 beverage.

3798 (2) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage
3799 manufacturer shall obtain any hemp oil for the purpose of
3800 manufacturing any infused beverage that is intended to be sold or
3801 offered for sale in this state unless such hemp oil:

3802 (A) Is derived from hemp;

3803 (B) (i) Was extracted from hemp grown by (I) a hemp producer, as
3804 evidenced by a certificate of authenticity issued by the hemp producer,
3805 or (II) a licensed hemp grower regulated by a state, territory or federally
3806 recognized Indian tribe, and in accordance with a state or tribal plan
3807 approved by the United States Department of Agriculture, as evidenced
3808 by a certificate of authenticity issued by such licensed hemp grower, or
3809 (ii) was extracted (I) by a person who is actively credentialed by a state
3810 or federally recognized Indian tribe to extract hemp, and (II) in a facility
3811 that is credentialed by a state or federally recognized Indian tribe; and

3812 (C) Was extracted from hemp by using (i) a Class 3 residual solvent
3813 within the meaning of the most recent United States Pharmacopeia,
3814 Chapter 467, as amended from time to time, (ii) a solvent generally
3815 recognized as safe pursuant to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic
3816 Act, or (iii) a solvent approved by the Department of Consumer
3817 Protection and posted on the department's Internet web site.

3818 (3) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] Each infused beverage
3819 manufacturer that manufactures any infused beverage that is intended
3820 to be sold or offered for sale in this state shall:

3821 (A) Not manufacture any such infused beverage with total THC that
3822 exceeds [three] (i) five milligrams per container if the beverage is to be
3823 sold or offered for sale on premises operating under a package store

3824 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
3825 act, or (ii) ten milligrams per container if the beverage is to be sold or
3826 offered for sale at a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer;

3827 (B) Manufacture such infused beverage by using equipment that is
3828 exclusively used to manufacture an infused beverage or prepared in
3829 accordance with good manufacturing practices as set forth in 21 CFR
3830 Parts 110 and 111, as amended from time to time, as applicable; and

3831 (C) Ensure that all hemp oil such infused beverage manufacturer
3832 possesses to manufacture such infused beverage is (i) stored in a secure,
3833 locked location separate from any cannabis, (ii) clearly and
3834 conspicuously labeled as hemp oil solely for use in manufacturing an
3835 infused beverage, and (iii) solely used for the purpose of manufacturing
3836 an infused beverage.

3837 (e) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage that is
3838 sold or offered for sale in this state shall include (A) any additive that (i)
3839 is psychotropic, or (ii) could increase the potency, toxicity or addictive
3840 properties of the infused beverage, including, but not limited to, caffeine
3841 other than caffeine naturally occurring in chocolate, coffee or tea, or (B)
3842 total THC that exceeds [three] (i) five milligrams per container if the
3843 beverage is sold or offered for sale on premises operating under a
3844 package store permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as
3845 amended by this act, or (ii) ten milligrams per container if the beverage
3846 is sold or offered for sale at a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or
3847 retailer.

3848 (2) (A) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] Each lot of an infused
3849 beverage in final form shall be tested by a cannabis testing laboratory or
3850 a similarly qualified laboratory that is located in, and licensed by,
3851 another state. A statistically significant number of samples shall be
3852 collected from such lot and submitted to the [cannabis testing]
3853 laboratory for final product testing. [in a manner approved by the
3854 Department of Consumer Protection.] Such sampling and final product
3855 testing shall be conducted by using a representative sample of such lot
3856 and by collecting a minimum number of sample increments relative to

3857 the size of such lot.

3858 (B) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage shall be
3859 sold or offered for sale in this state unless the infused beverage meets (i)
3860 the laboratory testing standards for cannabis established in, and any
3861 regulations, policies and procedures adopted or issued pursuant to,
3862 section 21a-421j, as amended by this act, or (ii) such other testing
3863 standards as may be approved by the Department of Consumer
3864 Protection and posted on the department's Internet web site.

3865 (3) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage sold or
3866 offered for sale in this state shall be packaged, labeled or advertised in
3867 any manner that is likely to mislead an individual by incorporating any
3868 statement, brand, design, representation, picture, illustration or other
3869 depiction that:

3870 (A) Bears a reasonable resemblance to trademarked or characteristic
3871 packaging of (i) cannabis offered for sale (I) in this state by a cannabis
3872 establishment licensed in this state, or (II) on tribal land by a tribal-
3873 credentialed cannabis entity, or (ii) a commercially available product
3874 other than a cannabis product; or

3875 (B) Appeals to individuals who are younger than twenty-one years of
3876 age by, among other things, (i) making use of any spokesperson or
3877 celebrity who appeals to such individuals, (ii) depicting any individual
3878 who is younger than twenty-five years of age consuming cannabis or an
3879 infused beverage, (iii) including any object, such as a toy, character or
3880 cartoon character, which suggests the presence of any individual who is
3881 younger than twenty-one years of age, or (iv) making use of any other
3882 method that is designed to appeal to any individual who is younger
3883 than twenty-one years of age.

3884 (4) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] Each infused beverage
3885 container sold or offered for sale in this state shall prominently display
3886 a symbol [, in a size of not less than one-half inch by one-half inch and
3887 in a format approved by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,
3888 that indicates that such infused beverage is not legal or safe for

3889 individuals younger than twenty-one years of age] that satisfies ASTM
3890 International standard D8441.

3891 (f) (1) No infused beverage manufacturer shall sell an infused
3892 beverage to any person in this state other than (A) a dispensary facility,
3893 (B) a hybrid retailer, (C) a retailer, (D) the holder of a wholesaler permit
3894 or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17, or (E) an
3895 infused beverage wholesaler.

3896 (2) A dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer, before selling an
3897 infused beverage to a consumer in this state, a wholesaler permittee
3898 under section 30-17, before selling an infused beverage to a package
3899 store permittee under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
3900 act, or an infused beverage wholesaler, before selling an infused
3901 beverage to a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or retailer or a package
3902 store permittee under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
3903 act, shall, based on a representative sample of the infused beverage
3904 containers included in the shipment that includes such infused
3905 beverage, (A) verify that the infused beverages included in such
3906 shipment satisfy the requirements established in subdivision (3) of
3907 subsection (e) of this section and any regulations adopted, and policies
3908 and procedures issued, pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, and
3909 (B) for the purpose of preserving public health and safety, verify that the
3910 infused beverages included in such shipment were manufactured in
3911 accordance with requirements that are substantially similar to the
3912 requirements established in subsections (d) and (e) of this section and
3913 any regulations adopted, and policies and procedures issued, pursuant
3914 to subsection (k) of this section if such infused beverages were
3915 manufactured (i) in a facility located in, and regulated by, another state,
3916 and (ii) by a person who is regulated as a food or nonalcoholic beverage
3917 manufacturer.

3918 (g) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No cannabis establishment or
3919 infused beverage manufacturer, or agent or employee of a cannabis
3920 establishment or infused beverage manufacturer, shall gift or transfer
3921 any infused beverage to a consumer, at no cost to the consumer, as part

3922 of a commercial transaction.

3923 (h) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, the] The Commissioner of
3924 Consumer Protection may request that an infused beverage
3925 manufacturer submit to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a
3926 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, documentation
3927 sufficient to demonstrate that the infused beverage manufacturer is in
3928 compliance with the provisions of this section. The infused beverage
3929 manufacturer shall promptly provide such documentation to the
3930 department.

3931 (i) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, each] Each infused beverage
3932 manufacturer shall be subject to the investigation and enforcement
3933 provisions set forth in section 21a-421p.

3934 (j) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, if] If the Commissioner of
3935 Consumer Protection determines, after consulting with the Attorney
3936 General, that the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, P.L. 115-334, as
3937 amended from time to time, has been amended in a manner that
3938 conflicts with any provision of this section, the commissioner shall
3939 prepare and submit a report, in coordination with the Attorney General
3940 and in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint
3941 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
3942 matters relating to consumer protection. Such report shall, at a
3943 minimum, set forth the scope of such conflict and recommendations to
3944 resolve such conflict. The commissioner shall submit such report: (1)
3945 Not later than thirty days after the United States Department of
3946 Agriculture announces such amendment, if the General Assembly is in
3947 session; or (2) not later than sixty days after the United States
3948 Department of Agriculture announces such amendment, if the General
3949 Assembly is not in session.

3950 (k) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
3951 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
3952 implement the provisions of this section. Notwithstanding the
3953 requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, the commissioner
3954 shall, prior to adopting such regulations and in order to effectuate the

3955 provisions of this section, issue policies and procedures to implement
3956 the provisions of this section that shall have the force and effect of law.
3957 The commissioner shall post all policies and procedures on the
3958 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site, and submit
3959 such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for posting on
3960 the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date
3961 of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer
3962 be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or
3963 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or forty-eight
3964 months from July 1, 2024, if such regulations have not been submitted
3965 to the legislative regulation review committee for consideration under
3966 section 4-170.

3967 (l) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, and following] Following a hearing
3968 conducted in accordance with chapter 54, the Commissioner of
3969 Consumer Protection may impose an administrative civil penalty, not
3970 to exceed five thousand dollars per violation, and suspend, revoke or
3971 place conditions upon any infused beverage manufacturer that violates
3972 any provision of this section or any regulation adopted pursuant to
3973 subsection (k) of this section. All administrative civil penalties collected
3974 under this subsection shall be deposited in the consumer protection
3975 enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.

3976 (m) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, the] The Commissioner of
3977 Consumer Protection may, pursuant to section 4-182, summarily
3978 suspend any credential the commissioner or Department of Consumer
3979 Protection has issued to any person who violates any provision of this
3980 section.

3981 (n) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be deemed an
3982 unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-
3983 110b.

3984 Sec. 84. Section 21a-425b of the general statutes is repealed and the
3985 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3986 (a) (1) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage shall

3987 be sold, offered for sale or distributed in this state unless:

3988 (A) The infused beverage is sold or offered for sale (i) on premises
3989 operating under a package store permit issued pursuant to subsection
3990 (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this act, or (ii) at a dispensary facility,
3991 hybrid retailer or retailer;

3992 (B) If the infused beverage is sold at a dispensary facility, hybrid
3993 retailer or retailer, the infused beverage is stored and displayed
3994 separately from any cannabis, in the same manner provided for
3995 manufacturer hemp products, in accordance with section 21a-409, as
3996 amended by this act, 21a-420s or 21a-420r, as amended by this act,
3997 respectively; and

3998 (C) The infused beverage meets the standards set forth for
3999 manufacturer hemp products in subsections (v) and (x) of section 22-
4000 61m.

4001 (2) [Beginning on July 1, 2024, no] No infused beverage shall be sold,
4002 or offered for sale, at retail to any individual in this state by way of any
4003 indirect means, including, but not limited to, by way of mail or any
4004 telephonic or other electronic means.

4005 (b) No infused beverage shall be sold to any individual who is
4006 younger than twenty-one years of age. No owner, agent or employee of
4007 a package store permitted under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as
4008 amended by this act, or of a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer or
4009 retailer, shall sell any infused beverage to an individual without first
4010 verifying the individual's age with a valid government-issued driver's
4011 license or identity card to establish that such individual is twenty-one
4012 years of age or older.

4013 (c) [Beginning on October 1, 2024, no] No person shall sell, or offer
4014 for sale, any infused beverage in any container containing less than
4015 twelve fluid ounces, or any packaging comprised of more than four
4016 containers.

4017 [(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c),

4018 inclusive, of this section, a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, retailer or
4019 package store that has received a waiver from the Commissioner of
4020 Consumer Protection under section 21a-425d may, during the period
4021 beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, sell legacy
4022 infused beverages in accordance with such waiver and the requirements
4023 set forth in section 21a-425d.]

4024 [(e)] (d) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be
4025 deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of
4026 section 42-110b.

4027 Sec. 85. Subsection (f) of section 21a-425e of the 2026 supplement to
4028 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4029 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4030 (f) Each infused beverage wholesaler shall assess a fee of one dollar
4031 on each infused beverage container sold to the holder of a package store
4032 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
4033 act, or to a retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility. Such fee shall
4034 not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income pursuant to any
4035 provision of the general statutes. [Beginning on October 1, 2025, and
4036 every six months thereafter] On the first days of October and April,
4037 annually, each infused beverage wholesaler shall remit payment to the
4038 Department of Consumer Protection for each infused beverage
4039 container sold during the preceding six-month period. The funds
4040 received by the department from infused beverage sales shall be
4041 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established
4042 in section 21a-8a for the purposes of (1) protecting public health and
4043 safety, (2) educating consumers and licensees, and (3) ensuring
4044 compliance with cannabis and liquor control laws.

4045 Sec. 86. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-425f of the 2026
4046 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
4047 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4048 (a) [On and after January 1, 2026, no] No person shall manufacture a
4049 high-THC beverage in this state unless such person is an infused

4050 beverage manufacturer that has received a high-THC beverage
4051 endorsement issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection
4052 pursuant to this section. A high-THC beverage endorsement shall
4053 authorize the infused beverage manufacturer to manufacture high-THC
4054 beverages for sale exclusively outside of this state. No infused beverage
4055 manufacturer shall advertise, offer or sell any high-THC beverage in this
4056 state or offer or sell any high-THC beverage directly to any individual.
4057 An infused beverage manufacturer shall verify that purchasers of high-
4058 THC beverages intend to engage in the commercial resale of such
4059 beverages exclusively outside of this state.

4060 (b) [Beginning on January 1, 2026, an] An infused beverage
4061 manufacturer seeking a high-THC beverage endorsement under this
4062 section shall submit an application to the Department of Consumer
4063 Protection in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of
4064 Consumer Protection.

4065 Sec. 87. Subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 21a-426 of the 2026
4066 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
4067 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4068 (7) "Moderate-THC hemp product" (A) means a manufacturer hemp
4069 product that has a total THC, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended
4070 by this act, concentration of not less than one-half of one milligram, and
4071 not more than five milligrams, on a per-container basis, and (B) does not
4072 include [(i)] an infused beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as
4073 amended by this act; [or (ii) a legacy infused beverage, as defined in
4074 section 21a-425;] and

4075 Sec. 88. Section 22-61l of the general statutes is repealed and the
4076 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4077 (a) For the purpose of this section and section 22-61m, as amended by
4078 this act, the following terms have the same meaning as provided in 7
4079 CFR 990.1, as amended from time to time: "Acceptable hemp THC level",
4080 "Agricultural marketing service", "Audit", "Cannabis", "Conviction",
4081 "Corrective action plan", "Culpable mental state greater than

4082 negligence", "Decarboxylated", "Decarboxylation", "Disposal", "Dry
4083 weight basis", "Gas chromatography", "Geospatial location", "Handle",
4084 "Liquid chromatography", "Immature plants", "Information sharing
4085 system", "Measurement of uncertainty", "Negligence",
4086 "Phytocannabinoid", "Postdecarboxylation", "Remediation", "Reverse
4087 distributor" and "Total THC". In addition, for the purpose of this section,
4088 [and] section 22-61m, as amended by this act, and section 89 of this act:

4089 (1) "Cannabidiol" or "CBD" means the nonpsychotropic compound by
4090 the same name;

4091 (2) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240,
4092 as amended by this act;

4093 [(2)] (3) "Certificate of analysis" means a certificate from a laboratory
4094 describing the results of the laboratory's testing of a sample;

4095 [(3)] (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture, or
4096 the commissioner's designated agent;

4097 (5) "Commercial extract" means an oil or concentrate that (A) is
4098 extracted directly and exclusively from raw hemp plant material, (B)
4099 contains a total THC, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this
4100 act, concentration of more than 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis, and
4101 (C) is extracted by (i) adding heat, (ii) decarboxylation, (iii) adding (I) a
4102 Class 3 organic solvent within the meaning of the most recent United
4103 States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 467, as amended from time to time, or (II)
4104 another solvent approved by the Commissioner of Consumer
4105 Protection, (iv) ethanol extraction, (v) carbon dioxide extraction, (vi) a
4106 solventless extraction method, including, but not limited to, the use of
4107 ice water, rosin pressing, dry sifting or steam distillation, or (vii) an
4108 extraction process not set forth in subparagraphs (C)(i) to (C)(vi),
4109 inclusive, of this subdivision, provided such extraction process has been
4110 approved by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection;

4111 (6) "Commercial extractor" means a person licensed or authorized
4112 pursuant to section 89 of this act to manufacture, advertise, offer and

4113 sell commercial extracts to infused beverage manufacturers, as defined
4114 in section 21a-425, as amended by this act, and manufacturers,
4115 producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, food and beverage
4116 manufacturers and product manufacturers, as such terms are defined in
4117 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

4118 [(4)] (7) "Cultivate" means to plant, grow, harvest, handle and store a
4119 plant or crop;

4120 [(5)] (8) "Federal act" means the United States Agricultural Marketing
4121 Act of 1946, 7 USC 1639o et seq., as amended from time to time;

4122 [(6)] (9) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture;

4123 [(7)] (10) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in the federal
4124 act;

4125 [(8)] (11) "Hemp products" means all manufacturer hemp products
4126 and producer hemp products;

4127 [(9)] (12) "Independent testing laboratory" means a facility:

4128 (A) For which no person who has any direct or indirect financial or
4129 managerial interest in the laboratory and also has any direct or indirect
4130 interest in a facility that:

4131 (i) Produces, distributes, manufactures or sells hemp or hemp
4132 products, or [marijuana] cannabis in any state or territory of the United
4133 States; or

4134 (ii) Cultivates, processes, distributes, dispenses or sells [marijuana]
4135 cannabis; and

4136 (B) That is accredited as a laboratory in compliance with section 21a-
4137 408-59 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies;

4138 [(10)] (13) "Laboratory" means a laboratory that meets the
4139 requirements of 7 CFR 990.3 and that is accredited as a testing laboratory
4140 to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 17025 by a third-

4141 party accrediting body such as the American Association for Laboratory
4142 Accreditation or the Assured Calibration and Laboratory Accreditation
4143 Select Services;

4144 [(11)] (14) "Law enforcement agency" means the Connecticut State
4145 Police, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the
4146 Department of Agriculture, the Department of Consumer Protection
4147 Drug Control Division or any other federal, state or local law
4148 enforcement agency or drug suppression unit;

4149 [(12)] (15) "Licensee" means an individual or entity that possesses a
4150 license to produce or manufacture hemp or hemp products in this state;

4151 [(13)] (16) "Manufacture" means the conversion of the hemp plant into
4152 a by-product or an extract by means of (A) adding heat, [solvents or] (B)
4153 decarboxylation, (C) adding (i) a Class 3 organic solvent within the
4154 meaning of the most recent United States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 467,
4155 as amended from time to time, or (ii) another solvent approved by the
4156 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, (D) ethanol extraction, (E)
4157 carbon dioxide extraction, (F) a solventless extraction method,
4158 including, but not limited to, the use of ice water, rosin pressing, dry
4159 sifting or steam distillation, or (G) any method of extraction that
4160 modifies the original composition of the plant for the purpose of
4161 creating a manufacturer hemp product for commercial or research
4162 purposes;

4163 [(14)] (17) "Manufacturer" means a person in the state licensed by the
4164 Commissioner of Consumer Protection to manufacture, handle, store
4165 and market manufacturer hemp products pursuant to the provisions of
4166 section 22-61m, as amended by this act, and any regulation adopted
4167 pursuant to section 22-61m, as amended by this act;

4168 [(15)] "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
4169 240;]

4170 [(16)] (18) "Market" or "marketing" means promoting, distributing or
4171 selling a hemp product within the state, in another state or outside of

4172 the United States and includes efforts to advertise and gather
4173 information about the needs or preferences of potential consumers or
4174 suppliers;

4175 [(17)] (19) "On-site manager" means the individual designated by the
4176 producer license applicant or producer responsible for on-site
4177 management and operations of a licensed producer;

4178 [(18)] (20) "Pesticide" has the same meaning as "pesticide chemical" as
4179 provided in section 21a-92;

4180 [(19)] (21) "Lot" means a contiguous area in a field, greenhouse or
4181 indoor growing structure containing the same variety or strain of hemp
4182 throughout the area;

4183 [(20)] (22) "Post-harvest sample" means a representative sample of the
4184 form of hemp taken from the harvested hemp from a particular lot's
4185 harvest that is collected in accordance with the procedures established
4186 by the commissioner;

4187 [(21)] (23) "Pre-harvest sample" means a composite, representative
4188 portion from plants in a hemp lot, that is collected in accordance with
4189 the procedures established by the commissioner;

4190 [(22)] (24) "Produce" means to cultivate hemp or create any producer
4191 hemp product;

4192 [(23)] (25) "State plan" means a state plan, as described in the federal
4193 act and as authorized pursuant to this section;

4194 [(24)] (26) "THC" means delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol;

4195 [(25)] (27) "Controlled Substances Act" or "CSA" means the
4196 Controlled Substances Act as codified in 21 USC 801 et seq.;

4197 [(26)] (28) "Criminal history report" means the fingerprint-based state
4198 and national criminal history record information obtained in accordance
4199 with section 29-17a;

4200 [(27)] (29) "Drug Enforcement Administration" or "DEA" means the
4201 United States Drug Enforcement Administration;

4202 [(28)] (30) "Farm service agency" or "FSA" means an agency of the
4203 United States Department of Agriculture;

4204 [(29)] (31) "Key participant" means a sole proprietor, a partner in
4205 partnership or a person with executive managerial control in an entity,
4206 including persons such as a chief executive officer, chief operating
4207 officer and chief financial officer;

4208 [(30)] (32) "Manufacturer hemp product" (A) means a commodity
4209 manufactured from the hemp plant, for commercial or research
4210 purposes, that (i) is intended for human ingestion, inhalation,
4211 absorption or other internal consumption, [that] and (ii) contains a THC
4212 concentration of not more than 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis or per
4213 volume or weight of such manufacturer hemp product, and (B) does not
4214 include an infused beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as amended
4215 by this act;

4216 [(31)] (33) "Producer" means an individual or entity licensed by the
4217 commissioner to produce and market producer hemp products
4218 pursuant to the federal act, the state plan, the provisions of this section
4219 and the regulations adopted pursuant to this section;

4220 [(32)] (34) "Producer hemp product" means any of the following
4221 produced in this state: Raw hemp product, fiber-based hemp product or
4222 animal hemp food product, and each of which contains a THC
4223 concentration of not more than 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis or per
4224 volume or weight of such producer hemp product;

4225 [(33)] (35) "USDA" means the United States Department of
4226 Agriculture;

4227 [(34)] (36) "Entity" means a corporation, joint stock company,
4228 association, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited
4229 liability company, irrevocable trust, estate, charitable organization or
4230 other similar organization, including any such organization

4231 participating in the hemp production as a partner in a general
4232 partnership, a participant in a joint venture or a participant in a similar
4233 organization; and

4234 [(35)] (37) "Homogenize" means to blend hemp into a mixture that
4235 has a uniform quality and content throughout such mixture.

4236 (b) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and operate an
4237 agricultural pilot program, as defined in 7 USC 5940, as amended from
4238 time to time, for hemp research to enable the department, and its
4239 licensees, to study methods of producing and marketing hemp. All
4240 producer licensees licensed pursuant to this section shall be participants
4241 in the state agricultural pilot program for hemp research. Until such
4242 time as said commissioner adopts regulations, in accordance with the
4243 provisions of chapter 54, the Department of Agriculture shall utilize
4244 procedures and guidance policies that the commissioner deems to be
4245 consistent with the provisions of 7 USC 5940, as amended from time to
4246 time, provided such procedures and guidance policies shall, at a
4247 minimum, require: (1) The commissioner to certify and register any site
4248 used to grow hemp, (2) any person who produces hemp to produce
4249 plants that meet the definition of hemp and verify such, (3) the
4250 maintenance of records by any person who grows hemp and the
4251 availability of inspection of such records by the commissioner, and (4)
4252 verification of compliance with the definition of hemp by a laboratory,
4253 at the expense of any licensee. The provisions of this section shall take
4254 precedence over any such procedure or guidance policy. Participants in
4255 the state agricultural pilot program for hemp research shall be licensed
4256 in accordance with the provisions of this section. Such pilot program
4257 shall operate until the earlier of the date of a fully approved state plan
4258 under the federal act, as described in this section, or the date of repeal
4259 of the federal law permitting the state's agricultural pilot program for
4260 hemp research.

4261 (c) (1) The commissioner shall prepare a state plan in accordance with
4262 the federal act and 7 CFR 990.3, for approval by the Governor, in
4263 consultation with the office of the Chief State's Attorney and the

4264 Attorney General. The state plan, once approved by the Governor and
4265 the Attorney General, shall be submitted by the commissioner to the
4266 United States Secretary of Agriculture for such secretary's approval. The
4267 commissioner shall have the authority to amend the state plan, in
4268 consultation with the Governor, the Attorney General and the office of
4269 the Chief State's Attorney, as necessary to comply with the federal act.

4270 (2) The commissioner shall operate the state plan, which shall
4271 include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

4272 (A) The sampling of hemp shall comply, at a minimum, with 7 CFR
4273 990.3 and be performed by an authorized sampling agent;

4274 (B) The testing of hemp shall comply, at a minimum, with 7 CFR
4275 990.3;

4276 (C) The control, remediation and disposal of noncompliant cannabis
4277 plants shall comply with 7 CFR 990.27 and 7 CFR 990.3;

4278 (D) The department shall comply with all recordkeeping and
4279 reporting requirements in the federal act, and 7 CFR 990.1 to 7 CFR
4280 990.71, inclusive;

4281 (E) The department shall comply with enforcement procedures in 7
4282 CFR 990.6;

4283 (F) The department shall conduct annual inspections of, at a
4284 minimum, a random sample of producers to verify that hemp is not
4285 produced in violation of the federal act, the state plan and the provisions
4286 of this section, and shall enforce any violation as provided for in the
4287 federal act and as defined in 7 CFR 990.6;

4288 (G) Producers shall report their required license, lot and hemp crop
4289 acreage information to FSA, in accordance with the requirements in 7
4290 CFR 990.7; and

4291 (H) Producers shall report to the commissioner the total acreage of
4292 hemp planted, harvested and, if applicable, disposed of or remediated,

4293 and such other information as the commissioner may require.

4294 (3) All sampling and testing of hemp shall be done using protocols
4295 that are at least as statistically valid as the USDA's published protocols
4296 for sampling and testing of hemp, which protocols shall be posted on
4297 the department's Internet web site. During a scheduled sample
4298 collection, the producer, or an authorized representative of the
4299 producer, shall be present at the lot. A producer shall not harvest the
4300 cannabis crop prior to the taking of samples. Samples of hemp plant
4301 material from one lot shall not be commingled with hemp plant material
4302 from other lots. Lots tested and not certified by a laboratory at or below
4303 the acceptable hemp THC level shall be handled, remediated and
4304 disposed of in accordance with the federal act, the provisions of this
4305 section and the state plan, as applicable.

4306 (4) The commissioner shall collect, maintain and provide to the
4307 USDA, on a timely basis, and not less than once per month, license status
4308 of each hemp producer, contact information for each hemp producer
4309 licensed in the state, including lot legal descriptions and locations, and
4310 any changes to such information. The commissioner shall also report to
4311 the USDA, on a timely basis, and not less than once per month, all
4312 required hemp test results and disposal information for all
4313 nonconforming hemp plants and plant material. Such information shall
4314 not include state and federal fingerprint-based records pursuant to
4315 section 29-17a.

4316 (d) The commissioner shall have the authority to enforce the federal
4317 act, as amended from time to time, the state plan, this section and any
4318 regulations adopted in accordance with the federal act and chapter 54
4319 for hemp production in the state. The commissioner shall have the
4320 authority to enforce the applicable standards for producer hemp
4321 products. The commissioner may consult, collaborate and enter into
4322 cooperative agreements with any federal or state agency, municipality
4323 or political subdivision of the state concerning application of the
4324 provisions of the federal act and the regulations adopted pursuant to the
4325 federal act, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this

4326 section.

4327 (e) Any person who produces hemp shall: (1) Be licensed by the
4328 commissioner; (2) comply with the federal act, the state plan, the
4329 provisions of this section and any regulation adopted pursuant to this
4330 section; and (3) transport hemp and hemp samples in a manner and with
4331 such documentation as required by the commissioner.

4332 (f) Any person who sells hemp products shall not be required to be
4333 licensed provided such person only engages in: (1) The retail or
4334 wholesale sale of hemp or hemp products in which no further
4335 producing or manufacturing of the hemp products occurs and the hemp
4336 products are acquired from a person authorized under the laws of this
4337 state or another state, territory or possession of the United States or
4338 another sovereign entity to possess and sell such hemp products; (2) the
4339 acquisition of hemp or hemp products for the sole purpose of product
4340 distribution for resale; or (3) the retail sale of hemp products that are
4341 otherwise authorized under federal or state law.

4342 (g) Any applicant for a license pursuant to this section shall meet each
4343 of the following requirements, as applicable:

4344 (1) Each applicant, whether an individual or an entity, shall submit
4345 an application for a license that consists, at a minimum, of the following:
4346 (A) The name, telephone number, electronic mail address, business
4347 address and address of any individual who is the applicant, the full
4348 name of any entity that is the applicant, including any applicable
4349 principal business location and the full name, title and electronic mail
4350 address of each key participant; (B) the name and address of each lot for
4351 the hemp cultivation or producing location; (C) the geospatial location
4352 of each lot by means of global positioning system coordinates and legal
4353 description of each lot used for the hemp cultivation; (D) the acreage
4354 size of each lot where the hemp will be cultivated; (E) written consent
4355 allowing the commissioner to conduct both scheduled and random
4356 inspections of and around the premises on which the hemp is to be
4357 cultivated, harvested, stored and produced; (F) the applicant's employer
4358 identification number or the applicant's Social Security number if an

4359 employer identification number is not available; and (G) any other
4360 information as may be required by the commissioner;

4361 (2) Each individual who is an applicant and each key participant of
4362 any entity applying for a producer license, or renewal thereof, shall
4363 submit to state and national fingerprint-based criminal history records
4364 checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, at such individual's
4365 own expense;

4366 (3) No individual, including any key participant of any entity, who
4367 has been convicted of any state or federal felony, related to a controlled
4368 substance, shall be eligible to obtain or hold a producer license for ten
4369 years from the date of the conviction, provided such restriction shall not
4370 apply to any individual who lawfully grew hemp with a license,
4371 registration or authorization under any state pilot program authorized
4372 by section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 before December 20, 2018.
4373 Any individual or entity that materially falsifies any information in an
4374 application pursuant to this section shall be ineligible to obtain a
4375 producer license; and

4376 (4) Each individual or entity who is required by this section to obtain
4377 a producer license shall pay for all costs of sampling, testing, retesting
4378 and resampling any samples at a laboratory for the purpose of
4379 determining the THC concentration level of any cannabis under their
4380 control, or in their possession. Each individual or entity who is required
4381 by this section to obtain a producer license shall pay for all costs of
4382 disposal of all noncompliant cannabis plants under their control, or in
4383 their possession.

4384 (h) Any producer license issued by the commissioner shall expire on
4385 the third following December thirty-first and may be renewed during
4386 the preceding month of October. Such licenses shall not be transferable.

4387 (i) The following fees shall apply for each producer license and
4388 inspection:

4389 (1) A nonrefundable license application fee of fifty dollars, provided

4390 any constituent unit of higher education, state agency or department
4391 shall be exempt from such application fee if such production is for
4392 research purposes;

4393 (2) A nonrefundable triennial producer license fee of four hundred
4394 fifty dollars for up to one acre of planned hemp plantings and thirty
4395 dollars per each additional acre of planned hemp plantings rounded to
4396 the nearest acre, except no license fee charged shall exceed three
4397 thousand dollars, provided any constituent unit of higher education,
4398 state agency or department shall be exempt from such license fee if such
4399 production is for research purposes; and

4400 (3) In the event that resampling by the commissioner is required due
4401 to a test result that shows a violation of any provision of this section or
4402 any regulation adopted pursuant to this section, the licensee shall pay
4403 an inspection fee of fifty dollars. Such fee shall be paid prior to the
4404 inspection and collection of the sample to be used for resampling.

4405 (j) After receipt and review of an application for producer licensure,
4406 the commissioner may grant a triennial license upon a finding that the
4407 applicant meets the applicable requirements. Each producer licensee
4408 shall notify the commissioner of any changes to their application
4409 information, not later than fifteen days after such change. While the
4410 pilot program is in effect, the commissioner may grant a conditional
4411 approval of a producer license, pending receipt of the criminal history
4412 records check required by this section. The commissioner shall assign
4413 each producer with a license or authorization identifier in a format
4414 consistent with 7 CFR 990.3.

4415 (k) Whenever an inspection or investigation conducted by the
4416 commissioner pursuant to this title reveals any violation of the state
4417 plan, this section or any regulation adopted thereunder, the producer
4418 license applicant or respondent, as applicable, shall be notified, in
4419 writing, of such violation and any corrective action to be taken and the
4420 time period within which such corrective action shall be taken. Any such
4421 producer license applicant or respondent may request a hearing,
4422 conducted in accordance with chapter 54, on any such notification. Any

4423 notification issued pursuant to this section shall be made by certified
4424 mail, return receipt requested to the producer license applicant or
4425 respondent's last known address, by in-hand service by the
4426 commissioner or designated agent of the commissioner, electronic mail
4427 service with the consent of the recipient, or by service in accordance
4428 with chapter 896. The commissioner shall report all producer violations
4429 made with a culpable mental state greater than negligence to the United
4430 States Attorney General and the State's Attorney for the judicial district
4431 in which the producer violation occurred.

4432 (l) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the
4433 commissioner's authority to issue a cease and desist order pursuant to
4434 section 22-4d, or an emergency order, in order to respond to a condition
4435 that may present a public health hazard, or issue orders necessary to
4436 effectuate the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to,
4437 orders for the embargo, partial destruction, destruction and release of
4438 hemp or hemp products. Any cease and desist order or an emergency
4439 order shall become effective upon service of such order by the
4440 commissioner. Following service of any such order, subsequent
4441 proceedings shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of section
4442 22-4d and the rules of practice for such agency. Any embargo, partial
4443 destruction, destruction or release order issued pursuant to this section
4444 shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested to the
4445 respondent's last known address, by in-hand service by the
4446 commissioner or designated agent of the commissioner, or by service in
4447 accordance with chapter 896.

4448 (m) Following a hearing conducted in accordance with chapter 54,
4449 the commissioner may impose an administrative civil penalty, not to
4450 exceed two thousand five hundred dollars per violation, and suspend,
4451 revoke or place conditions upon any producer licensee who violates the
4452 provisions of this section or any regulation adopted pursuant to this
4453 section.

4454 (n) (1) Any individual who produces hemp in this state without
4455 obtaining a license pursuant to this section, or who produces hemp in

4456 this state after having a license suspended or revoked shall have
4457 committed an infraction.

4458 (2) Any entity that produces hemp in this state without obtaining a
4459 license pursuant to this section, produces hemp in violation of this
4460 section or produces hemp in this state after having a license suspended
4461 or revoked may be fined not more than two thousand five hundred
4462 dollars per violation, after a hearing conducted in accordance with
4463 chapter 54.

4464 (o) (1) Any negligent violation, as described in the federal act, of this
4465 section or the state plan shall be subject to enforcement in accordance
4466 with the federal act, and the state plan for negligent violations.

4467 (2) For any negligent violation, a producer shall be required to correct
4468 such negligent violation, by means of a corrective action plan approved
4469 by the commissioner. Each corrective action plan shall include, at a
4470 minimum, a reasonable completion deadline for correction of the
4471 negligent violation, periodic reporting to the commissioner for at least
4472 two years and compliance with the state plan.

4473 (3) Any producer that negligently violates the state plan shall not, as
4474 a result of such negligent violation, be referred by the commissioner for
4475 any criminal enforcement action by the federal, state or local
4476 government.

4477 (4) Any producer that negligently violates the state plan three times
4478 during any five-year period shall be ineligible to produce hemp for a
4479 period of five years beginning on the date of the third violation.

4480 (5) The commissioner shall conduct an inspection to determine if the
4481 corrective action plan for a producer who commits any such negligent
4482 violation was properly implemented.

4483 (p) Any person aggrieved by an order issued pursuant to this section
4484 may appeal to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of
4485 chapter 54. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the commissioner
4486 and received not later than fifteen days after the date of the order. If no

4487 appeal is made pursuant to this subsection the order shall be final.

4488 (q) (1) All documents submitted under this section shall be subject to
4489 disclosure in accordance with chapter 14, except: (A) Information
4490 depicting or describing (i) the test results of any producer, (ii) the
4491 location of any hemp growing, harvesting, processing or storage
4492 location, or (iii) hemp producer location security schematics; and (B) the
4493 results of any criminal history records check.

4494 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
4495 subsection, all documents and records submitted or maintained
4496 pursuant to this section shall be disclosed to any law enforcement
4497 agency upon request of such law enforcement agency.

4498 (r) The commissioner may inspect and shall have access to the
4499 buildings, equipment, supplies, vehicles, records, real property and
4500 other information that the commissioner deems necessary to carry out
4501 the commissioner's duties pursuant to this section from any person
4502 participating in producing, handling, storing, marketing or researching
4503 hemp.

4504 (s) All licensees pursuant to this section shall maintain records
4505 required by the federal act, the state plan, this section and any regulation
4506 adopted pursuant to this section. Each licensee shall make such records
4507 available to the department immediately upon request of the
4508 commissioner and in electronic format, if available.

4509 (t) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
4510 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section
4511 including, but not limited to, the labeling of producer hemp products.

4512 (u) Whenever the commissioner believes or has reasonable cause to
4513 believe that the actions of a licensee or any employee of a producer
4514 licensee are in violation of the federal act, the state plan, or any state law
4515 concerning the growing, cultivation, handling, transporting or
4516 possession of [marijuana] cannabis, the commissioner shall notify the
4517 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the

4518 Division of State Police.

4519 Sec. 89. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

4520 (1) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in
4521 section 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

4522 (2) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420
4523 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

4524 (3) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
4525 provided in section 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this
4526 act;

4527 (4) "Infused beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
4528 provided in section 21a-425 of the general statutes, as amended by this
4529 act;

4530 (5) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section
4531 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

4532 (6) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420
4533 of the general statutes, as amended by this act; and

4534 (7) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in
4535 section 21a-420 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

4536 (b) No person shall manufacture, advertise, offer or sell commercial
4537 extract in this state unless such person is (1) a cannabis establishment,
4538 or (2) located in this state and the Department of Consumer Protection
4539 has issued a commercial extractor license to such person pursuant to this
4540 section.

4541 (c) The Department of Consumer Protection may issue or renew not
4542 more than ten licenses for a manufacturer to be a commercial extractor.
4543 Each commercial extractor license issued pursuant to this section shall
4544 be issued to a manufacturer who held an active manufacturer license on
4545 July 1, 2026, and maintains an active manufacturer license until the date
4546 on which the department issues a commercial extractor license to such

4547 manufacturer pursuant to this section. Each commercial extractor
4548 license issued pursuant to this section shall authorize the holder of such
4549 license to manufacture, advertise, offer and sell commercial extract in
4550 this state to producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product
4551 manufacturers, food and beverage manufacturers, manufacturers and
4552 infused beverage manufacturers. The department shall not issue a
4553 commercial extractor license to a cannabis establishment or infused
4554 beverage manufacturer, and no holder of a commercial extractor license
4555 shall hold a cannabis establishment, manufacturer or infused beverage
4556 manufacturer license. Any manufacturer who receives a commercial
4557 extractor license shall be deemed to have immediately surrendered such
4558 manufacturer license upon issuance of such commercial extractor
4559 license.

4560 (d) (1) To obtain an initial license as a commercial extractor under this
4561 section, an applicant manufacturer shall submit to the Department of
4562 Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the
4563 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, (A) a completed application for
4564 an initial license as a commercial extractor, and (B) an initial license fee
4565 in the amount of three hundred seventy-five dollars.

4566 (2) Each initial license as a commercial extractor issued pursuant to
4567 this section shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of
4568 issuance, and may be renewed for successive one-year periods upon
4569 submission of a completed renewal application in the manner, and
4570 payment of a license renewal fee in the amount, set forth in subdivision
4571 (1) of this subsection for an initial license.

4572 (3) All license and renewal fees collected pursuant to this subsection
4573 shall be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account
4574 established in section 21a-8a of the general statutes for the purposes of
4575 (A) protecting public health, (B) educating consumers and licensees, and
4576 (C) ensuring compliance with hemp and cannabis laws.

4577 (e) Each commercial extractor shall use an approved electronic
4578 tracking system, as described in section 21a-421n of the general statutes,
4579 as amended by this act, in a form and manner prescribed by the

4580 Commissioner of Consumer Protection for the purpose of monitoring
4581 (1) the intake of hemp in plant form, (2) the extraction and refinement
4582 of commercial extract, (3) the laboratory testing of commercial extract,
4583 (4) the transportation and handling of commercial extract, and (5) the
4584 sale or final disposition of commercial extract.

4585 (f) Prior to the sale or distribution of commercial extract, a
4586 commercial extractor shall comply with the laboratory testing
4587 requirements set forth in section 22-61m of the general statutes, as
4588 amended by this act.

4589 (g) (1) No cannabis establishment or commercial extractor licensed
4590 under this section shall manufacture or process commercial extract that
4591 contains any concentrate, oil or extract from hemp that was not
4592 manufactured by the commercial extractor.

4593 (2) A commercial extractor may combine one or more commercial
4594 extracts, provided such commercial extracts were manufactured by such
4595 commercial extractor.

4596 (h) Any producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product
4597 manufacturer, food and beverage manufacturer, manufacturer or
4598 infused beverage manufacturer that receives commercial extract from a
4599 commercial extractor shall not further distribute such commercial
4600 extract, and shall incorporate such commercial extract into a hemp or
4601 cannabis product for the purpose of resale, which product shall comply
4602 with all total THC concentration limits.

4603 Sec. 90. Subsection (r) of section 22-61m of the 2026 supplement to the
4604 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4605 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4606 (r) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
4607 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
4608 implement the provisions of this section including, but not limited to,
4609 establishing sampling and testing procedures to ensure compliance
4610 with this section, prescribing storage and disposal procedures for hemp,

4611 [marijuana] cannabis and manufacturer hemp products that fail to pass
4612 Department of Consumer Protection prescribed independent testing
4613 laboratory testing standards and establishing advertising and labeling
4614 requirements for manufacturer hemp products.

4615 Sec. 91. Section 22-61n of the general statutes is repealed and the
4616 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4617 (a) As used in this section:

4618 (1) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section
4619 21a-420, as amended by this act;

4620 [(1)] (2) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
4621 420, as amended by this act;

4622 (3) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
4623 provided in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

4624 [(2)] (4) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-61l,
4625 as amended by this act;

4626 [(3)] (5) "Hemp products" has the same meaning as provided in
4627 section 22-61l, as amended by this act;

4628 (6) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
4629 21a-425, as amended by this act;

4630 (7) "Manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-
4631 61l, as amended by this act;

4632 [(4)] (8) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in
4633 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

4634 [(5)] (9) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
4635 420, as amended by this act; and

4636 [(6)] (10) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided
4637 in section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

4638 (b) Any producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage
4639 manufacturer and product manufacturer may manufacture, market,
4640 cultivate or store hemp, [and] hemp products and commercial extracts
4641 from licensees in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and any
4642 regulations adopted pursuant to [said] this chapter. A producer,
4643 cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer and
4644 product manufacturer [that obtains] may obtain hemp, [and] hemp
4645 products or commercial extracts from a third party, and shall only
4646 obtain such hemp, [and] hemp products or commercial extracts from a
4647 person authorized under the laws of this state or another state, territory
4648 or possession of the United States or another sovereign entity to possess
4649 and sell such hemp, [and] hemp products and commercial extracts. An
4650 infused beverage manufacturer or manufacturer may obtain
4651 commercial extracts only from a person authorized under the laws of
4652 this state to produce or manufacture hemp products.

4653 (c) Hemp, [or] hemp products and commercial extracts purchased by
4654 a producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage
4655 manufacturer or product manufacturer [or food and beverage
4656 manufacturer] from a third party shall be tracked as a separate batch
4657 throughout the manufacturing process in order to document the
4658 disposition of such hemp, [or] hemp products and commercial extracts.
4659 Once hemp, [or] hemp products and commercial extracts are received
4660 by a producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage
4661 manufacturer or product manufacturer [or food and beverage
4662 manufacturer] to manufacture a cannabis product, such hemp, [or]
4663 hemp products and commercial extracts shall be deemed cannabis and
4664 shall comply with the requirements for cannabis contained in the
4665 applicable provisions of the general statutes and any regulations
4666 adopted pursuant to such provisions. A producer, cultivator, micro-
4667 cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer,
4668 [and food and beverage manufacturer] manufacturer or infused
4669 beverage manufacturer shall retain a copy of the certificate of analysis
4670 for purchased hemp or hemp products and invoice and transport
4671 documents that evidence the quantity purchased and date received. A
4672 producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer,

4673 product manufacturer, manufacturer or infused beverage manufacturer
4674 shall obtain from an independent testing laboratory, and retain, a
4675 certificate of analysis for commercial extracts that complies with the
4676 laboratory testing standards established in the policies, procedures and
4677 regulations adopted pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this
4678 act, and invoice and transport documents that evidence the quantity
4679 purchased and date received.

4680 Sec. 92. Section 30-1 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
4681 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4682 *1, 2026*):

4683 For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context indicates a
4684 different meaning:

4685 (1) "Airline" means any (A) United States airline carrier holding a
4686 certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Civil
4687 Aeronautics Board under Section 401 of the Federal Aviation Act of
4688 1958, as amended from time to time, or (B) foreign flag carrier holding a
4689 permit under Section 402 of said act.

4690 (2) "Alcohol" (A) means the product of distillation of any fermented
4691 liquid that is rectified at least once and regardless of such liquid's origin,
4692 and (B) includes synthetic ethyl alcohol which is considered nonpotable.

4693 (3) "Alcoholic beverage" and "alcoholic liquor" include the four
4694 varieties of liquor defined in subdivisions (2), (5), [(21)] (22) and [(22)]
4695 (23) of this section (alcohol, beer, spirits and wine) and every liquid or
4696 solid, patented or unpatented, containing alcohol, beer, spirits or wine
4697 and at least one-half of one per cent alcohol by volume, and capable of
4698 being consumed by a human being as a beverage. Any liquid or solid
4699 containing more than one of the four varieties so defined belongs to the
4700 variety which has the highest percentage of alcohol according to the
4701 following order: Alcohol, spirits, wine and beer, except as provided in
4702 subdivision [(22)] (23) of this section.

4703 (4) "Backer" means, except in cases where the permittee is the

4704 proprietor, the proprietor of any business or club, incorporated or
4705 unincorporated, that is engaged in manufacturing or selling alcoholic
4706 liquor and in which business a permittee is associated, whether as an
4707 agent, employee or part owner.

4708 (5) "Beer" means any beverage obtained by the alcoholic fermentation
4709 of a decoction or infusion of barley, hops and malt in drinking water.

4710 (6) "Boat" means any vessel that is (A) operating on any waterway of
4711 this state, and (B) engaged in transporting passengers for hire to or from
4712 any port of this state.

4713 (7) "Business entity" means any incorporated or unincorporated
4714 association, corporation, firm, joint stock company, limited liability
4715 company, limited liability partnership, partnership, trust or other legal
4716 entity.

4717 (8) "Case price" means the price of a container made of cardboard,
4718 wood or any other material and containing units of the same class and
4719 size of alcoholic liquor. A case of alcoholic liquor, other than beer,
4720 cocktails, cordials, prepared mixed drinks and wines, shall be in the
4721 quantity and number, or fewer, with the permission of the
4722 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, of bottles or units as follows:
4723 (A) Six three thousand seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (B) six three
4724 thousand milliliter bottles, (C) six two thousand milliliter bottles, (D) six
4725 one thousand eight hundred milliliter bottles, (E) six one thousand
4726 seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (F) six one thousand five hundred
4727 milliliter bottles, (G) six nine hundred forty-five milliliter bottles, (H)
4728 twelve one liter bottles, (I) twelve nine hundred milliliter bottles, (J)
4729 twelve seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (K) twelve seven hundred
4730 twenty milliliter bottles, (L) twelve seven hundred ten milliliter bottles,
4731 (M) twelve seven hundred milliliter bottles, (N) twelve five hundred
4732 seventy milliliter bottles, (O) twelve five hundred milliliter bottles, (P)
4733 twelve four hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, (Q) twenty-four
4734 three hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, (R) twenty-four three
4735 hundred fifty-five milliliter bottles, (S) twenty-four three hundred fifty
4736 milliliter bottles, (T) twenty-four three hundred thirty-one milliliter

4737 bottles, (U) forty-eight two hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (V) forty-
4738 eight two hundred milliliter bottles, (W) forty-eight one hundred eighty-
4739 seven milliliter bottles, (X) sixty one hundred milliliter bottles, or (Y) one
4740 hundred twenty fifty milliliter bottles, except a case of fifty milliliter
4741 bottles may be in a quantity and number as originally configured,
4742 packaged and sold by the manufacturer or out-of-state shipper prior to
4743 shipment if the number of such bottles in such case is not greater than
4744 two hundred. The commissioner shall not authorize fewer quantities or
4745 numbers of bottles or units as specified in this subdivision for any one
4746 person or entity more than eight times in any calendar year. For the
4747 purposes of this subdivision, "class" has the same meaning as provided
4748 in 27 CFR 4.21 for wine, 27 CFR 5.22 for spirits and 27 CFR 7.24 for beer.

4749 (9) "Club" has the same meaning as provided in section 30-22aa.

4750 (10) "Coliseum" has the same meaning as provided in section 30-33a.

4751 (11) "Commission" means the Liquor Control Commission
4752 established under this chapter.

4753 (12) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection.

4754 (13) "Dining room" means any room or rooms (A) located in premises
4755 operating under (i) a hotel permit issued under section 30-21, (ii) a
4756 restaurant permit issued under subsection (a) of section 30-22, (iii) a
4757 restaurant permit for wine and beer issued under subsection (b) of
4758 section 30-22, (iv) a cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, or (v) a cafe
4759 permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g, and (B)
4760 where meals are customarily served to any member of the public who
4761 has means of payment and a proper demeanor.

4762 (14) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
4763 21a-425, as amended by this act.

4764 [(14)] (15) "Mead" means fermented honey (A) with or without
4765 additions or adjunct ingredients, and (B) regardless of (i) alcohol
4766 content, (ii) process, and (iii) whether such honey is carbonated,
4767 sparkling or still.

4768 [(15)] (16) "Minor" means any person who is younger than twenty-
4769 one years of age.

4770 [(16)] (17) "Noncommercial entity" means an academic institution,
4771 charitable organization, government organization, nonprofit
4772 organization or similar entity that is not primarily dedicated to
4773 obtaining a commercial advantage or monetary compensation.

4774 [(17)] (18) "Nonprofit club" has the same meaning as provided in
4775 section 30-22aa.

4776 [(18)] (19) (A) "Person" means an individual, including, but not
4777 limited to, a partner.

4778 (B) "Person" does not include any business entity.

4779 [(19)] (20) (A) "Proprietor" includes all owners of a business or club,
4780 incorporated or unincorporated, that is engaged in manufacturing or
4781 selling alcoholic liquor, whether such owners are persons, fiduciaries,
4782 business entities, stockholders of corporations or otherwise.

4783 (B) "Proprietor" does not include any person who, or business entity
4784 that, is merely a creditor, whether as a bond holder, franchisor, landlord
4785 or note holder, of a business or club, incorporated or unincorporated,
4786 that is engaged in manufacturing or selling alcoholic liquor.

4787 [(20)] (21) "Restaurant" has the same meaning as provided in section
4788 30-22.

4789 [(21)] (22) "Spirits" means any beverage that contains alcohol
4790 obtained by distillation mixed with drinkable water and other
4791 substances in solution, including brandy, rum, whiskey and gin.

4792 [(22)] (23) "Wine" means any alcoholic beverage obtained by
4793 fermenting the natural sugar content of fruits, such as apples, grapes or
4794 other agricultural products, containing such sugar, including fortified
4795 wines such as port, sherry and champagne.

4796 Sec. 93. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 30-17d of the

4797 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4798 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4799 (a) For the purposes of this section, [:(1) "Container"] "container" has
4800 the same meaning as provided in section 21a-425, as amended by this
4801 act. [; and

4802 (2) "Infused beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section
4803 21a-425.]

4804 (b) A fee of one dollar shall be assessed by the holder of a wholesaler
4805 permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17 on
4806 each infused beverage container sold to the holder of a package store
4807 permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this
4808 act. Such fee shall not be subject to any sales tax or treated as income
4809 pursuant to any provision of the general statutes.

4810 (c) On the second days of January [2, 2025, and every six months
4811 thereafter] and July, annually, each holder of a wholesaler permit or a
4812 wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17 shall remit
4813 payment to the department for each infused beverage container sold
4814 during the preceding six-month period. The funds received by the
4815 department from infused beverage sales shall be deposited in the
4816 consumer protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a
4817 for the purposes of (1) protecting public health and safety, (2) educating
4818 consumers and licensees, and (3) ensuring compliance with cannabis
4819 and liquor control laws.

4820 Sec. 94. Subsection (b) of section 30-20 of the 2026 supplement to the
4821 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4822 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4823 (b) (1) A package store permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic
4824 liquor in sealed bottles or containers not to be consumed on the permit
4825 premises. The holder of a package store permit may, in accordance with
4826 regulations adopted by the Department of Consumer Protection
4827 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, (A) offer free samples of

4828 alcoholic liquor for tasting on the permit premises, (B) conduct fee-
4829 based wine or spirits education and tasting classes and demonstrations,
4830 and (C) conduct tastings or demonstrations provided by a permittee or
4831 backer of the package store for a nominal charge to charitable nonprofit
4832 organizations. Any offering, tasting, wine or spirits education and
4833 tasting class or demonstration held on permit premises shall be
4834 conducted only during the hours the package store may sell alcoholic
4835 liquor under section 30-91. No tasting of wine on the permit premises
4836 shall be offered from more than ten uncorked bottles at any one time.
4837 No holder, backer or permittee shall offer or provide to any customer (i)
4838 more than one-half ounce of any single spirit for sampling or tasting per
4839 day, or (ii) a total of more than two ounces of spirits for sampling or
4840 tasting per day. No tasting shall be provided below cost.

4841 (2) No store operating under a package store permit shall sell any
4842 commodity other than alcoholic liquor except, notwithstanding any
4843 other provision of law, such store may sell (A) cigarettes and cigars, (B)
4844 publications, (C) bar utensils, including, but not limited to, corkscrews,
4845 beverage strainers, stirrers or other similar items used to consume, or
4846 related to the consumption of, alcoholic liquor, (D) gift packages of
4847 alcoholic liquor shipped into the state by a manufacturer or out-of-state
4848 shipper, which gift packages may include nonalcoholic items, other than
4849 food or tobacco products, if the dollar value of the nonalcoholic items in
4850 such gift package does not exceed the dollar value of the alcoholic items
4851 in such gift package, (E) complementary fresh fruits used in the
4852 preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (F) cheese, crackers or both,
4853 (G) olives, (H) nonalcoholic beverages, (I) concentrates used in the
4854 preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (J) beer and wine-making kits
4855 and products related to such kits, (K) ice in any form, (L) articles of
4856 clothing imprinted with advertising related to the alcoholic liquor
4857 industry, (M) gift baskets or other containers of alcoholic liquor, (N)
4858 multiple packages of alcoholic liquors, provided in all such cases the
4859 minimum retail selling price for such alcoholic liquor shall apply, (O)
4860 lottery tickets authorized by the Department of Consumer Protection, if
4861 licensed as an agent to sell such tickets by the department, (P) devices
4862 and related accessories designed primarily for accessing and extracting

4863 a beverage containing alcohol from prepackaged containers, including,
4864 but not limited to, pods, pouches or similar containers, but excluding
4865 devices, including, but not limited to, household blenders, that are not
4866 designed primarily for such purposes, (Q) alcohol-infused confections
4867 containing not more than one-half of one per cent of alcohol by weight
4868 and which the commissioner has approved for sale under section 21a-
4869 101, (R) gift baskets containing only containers of alcoholic liquor and
4870 commodities authorized for sale under subparagraphs (A) to (Q),
4871 inclusive, of this subdivision, and (S) infused beverages, [as defined in
4872 section 21a-425,] provided (i) the package store permittee (I) paid to the
4873 department the annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement
4874 pursuant to this subdivision, and (II) purchased such infused beverages
4875 from the holder of a wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer
4876 issued under section 30-17 or an infused beverage wholesaler licensed
4877 under section 21a-425e, as amended by this act, and (ii) such sales are
4878 made in accordance with the provisions of section 21a-425b, as amended
4879 by this act.], and (T) legacy infused beverages, as defined in section 21a-
4880 425d, provided all such sales shall be made (i) during the period
4881 beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2024, and (ii) in
4882 accordance with (I) a waiver issued pursuant to section 21a-425d, and
4883 (II) the requirements set forth in section 21a-425d.] A package store
4884 permit shall also allow the taking and transmitting of orders for delivery
4885 of such merchandise in other states. Notwithstanding any other
4886 provision of law, a package store permit shall allow the participation in
4887 any lottery ticket promotion or giveaway sponsored by the department.
4888 The annual fee for a package store permit shall be five hundred thirty-
4889 five dollars. The annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement to a
4890 package store permit shall be five hundred dollars, and shall be
4891 deposited by the department in the consumer protection enforcement
4892 account established in section 21a-8a.

4893 Sec. 95. Subsection (a) of section 30-47 of the 2026 supplement to the
4894 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4895 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4896 (a) The Department of Consumer Protection may, in the department's

4897 discretion, suspend, revoke or refuse to grant or renew a permit for the
4898 sale of alcoholic liquor, or impose a fine of not greater than one thousand
4899 dollars per violation, if the department has reasonable cause to believe:
4900 (1) That the applicant or permittee appears to be financially
4901 irresponsible or neglects to provide for the applicant's or permittee's
4902 family, or neglects or is unable to pay the applicant's or permittee's just
4903 debts; (2) that the applicant or permittee has been provided with funds
4904 by any wholesaler or manufacturer or has any forbidden connection
4905 with any other class of permittee as provided in this chapter; (3) that the
4906 applicant or permittee is in the habit of using alcoholic beverages to
4907 excess; (4) that the applicant or permittee has wilfully made any false
4908 statement to the department in a material matter; (5) that the applicant
4909 or permittee has been convicted of violating any of the liquor laws of
4910 this or any other state or the liquor laws of the United States or has been
4911 convicted of a felony as such term is defined in section 53a-25, provided
4912 any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its
4913 relationship to the applicant or permittee's ability to safely or
4914 competently perform the duties associated with such permit, (B)
4915 information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the applicant or
4916 permittee, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, or
4917 has such a criminal record that the department reasonably believes the
4918 applicant or permittee is not a suitable person to hold a permit, provided
4919 no refusal shall be rendered under this subdivision except in accordance
4920 with the provisions of sections 46a-80 and 46a-81; (6) that the applicant
4921 or permittee has not been delegated full authority and control of the
4922 permit premises and of the conduct of all business on such premises; or
4923 (7) that the applicant, applicant's backer, backer or permittee has
4924 violated (A) any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted
4925 under this chapter, or (B) any provision of sections 21a-425 to [21a-425d]
4926 21a-425f, inclusive, as amended by this act, or any regulation adopted
4927 under subsection (k) of section 21a-425a, as amended by this act. Any
4928 applicant, applicant's backer or backer shall be subject to the same
4929 disqualifications as provided in this chapter, or any regulation adopted
4930 under this chapter, for permittees.

4931 Sec. 96. Subsection (e) of section 30-63 of the general statutes is

4932 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4933 *1, 2026*):

4934 (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale or
4935 distribution of infused beverages, [or legacy infused beverages,] as
4936 [such terms are] defined in section 21a-425, as amended by this act.

4937 Sec. 97. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 31-40q of the
4938 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4939 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4940 (6) "Cannabis" [means marijuana, as defined] has the same meaning
4941 as provided in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

4942 Sec. 98. Section 38a-1052 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4943 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4944 (a) For the purposes of this section:

4945 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240,
4946 as amended by this act;

4947 [(1)] (2) "Caregiver" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
4948 408, as amended by this act;

4949 [(2) "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
4950 240;]

4951 (3) "Palliative use" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
4952 408, as amended by this act; and

4953 (4) "Qualifying patient" has the same meaning as provided in section
4954 21a-408, as amended by this act.

4955 (b) There is established, within available appropriations, an Office of
4956 the Cannabis Ombudsman, which shall be within the Office of the
4957 Healthcare Advocate for administrative purposes only. The Office of the
4958 Cannabis Ombudsman shall be under the direction of a Cannabis
4959 Ombudsman. The Healthcare Advocate shall appoint an individual

4960 who is familiar with the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis and the
4961 medical cannabis system to serve as the Cannabis Ombudsman.

4962 (c) The Office of the Cannabis Ombudsman shall:

4963 (1) Represent the interests of qualifying patients and caregivers;

4964 (2) Identify, investigate and resolve complaints made by, or on behalf
4965 of, qualifying patients and caregivers;

4966 (3) Monitor the palliative use of [marijuana] cannabis as authorized
4967 under chapter 420f;

4968 (4) Report action, inaction or decisions that may adversely affect the
4969 health, safety, welfare or rights of qualifying patients;

4970 (5) Analyze, comment on and monitor the development and
4971 implementation of federal, state and local laws, regulations and other
4972 government policies and actions concerning the health, safety, welfare
4973 and rights of qualifying patients and caregivers;

4974 (6) Recommend any changes to the laws, regulations, policies and
4975 actions described in subdivision (5) of this subsection that the office
4976 deems appropriate to, among other things, improve the palliative
4977 [marijuana] cannabis market in this state; and

4978 (7) Facilitate public comment on the laws, regulations, policies and
4979 actions described in subdivision (5) of this subsection.

4980 Sec. 99. Section 53-247a of the general statutes is repealed and the
4981 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4982 Any person who provides cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420]
4983 21a-240, as amended by this act, to a domesticated animal, shall be guilty
4984 of a class C misdemeanor.

4985 Sec. 100. Subsection (a) of section 53a-213a of the 2026 supplement to
4986 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4987 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4988 (a) A person is guilty of smoking, otherwise inhaling or ingesting
4989 cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act,
4990 while operating a motor vehicle when he or she smokes, otherwise
4991 inhales or ingests cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as
4992 amended by this act, while operating a motor vehicle upon a public
4993 highway of this state or upon any road of any specially chartered
4994 municipal association or of any district organized under the provisions
4995 of chapter 105, a purpose of which is the construction and maintenance
4996 of roads and sidewalks, or in any parking area for ten cars or more, or
4997 upon any private road on which a speed limit has been established in
4998 accordance with the provisions of section 14-218a or upon any school
4999 property. No person shall be convicted of smoking or otherwise
5000 inhaling or ingesting cannabis while operating a motor vehicle and
5001 possessing or having under such person's control a controlled substance
5002 upon the same transaction. A person may be charged and prosecuted
5003 for either or each such offense, a violation of operating a motor vehicle
5004 while under the influence of any drug and any other applicable offense
5005 upon the same information.

5006 Sec. 101. Subsection (a) of section 53a-213b of the 2026 supplement to
5007 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5008 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5009 (a) A person is guilty of smoking or otherwise inhaling or ingesting
5010 cannabis, as defined in section [21a-420] 21a-240, as amended by this act,
5011 in a motor vehicle when he or she smokes or otherwise inhales or ingests
5012 cannabis in a motor vehicle that is being operated by another person
5013 upon a public highway of this state or upon any road of any specially
5014 chartered municipal association or of any district organized under the
5015 provisions of chapter 105, a purpose of which is the construction and
5016 maintenance of roads and sidewalks, or in any parking area for ten cars
5017 or more, or upon any private road on which a speed limit has been
5018 established in accordance with the provisions of section 14-218a or upon
5019 any school property. No person shall be convicted of smoking or
5020 otherwise inhaling or ingesting cannabis as a passenger in a motor
5021 vehicle and possessing or having under such person's control a

5022 controlled substance upon the same transaction, but such person may
 5023 be charged and prosecuted for both offenses upon the same information.

5024 Sec. 102. Sections 21a-425c and 21a-425d of the general statutes are
 5025 repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2026*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	1-1(q)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	7-148(c)(7)(H)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-217(a)(1)(H)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-330ll(a)(1)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-412(120)(B)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-650
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-701(a)(20)(B)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	12-704d(a)(13)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	14-36(d)(1)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	14-227a(e)(2)
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	15-140r(d)(2)
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-342(a)(3)
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-342a(a)(6)
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-3b(a)(1)
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-12g
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-106(d)
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-240(20) to (29)
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-243(e)
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-246(a)
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-253
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-277(b)(3)
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-279(a)(1)
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-279a(j)(1)
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408a
Sec. 26	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408b(b)
Sec. 27	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408c(a) and (b)
Sec. 28	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408d(a) to (c)
Sec. 29	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408e
Sec. 30	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408f
Sec. 31	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408g
Sec. 32	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-408h

Sec. 33	October 1, 2026	21a-408i(b)
Sec. 34	October 1, 2026	21a-408j
Sec. 35	October 1, 2026	21a-408k
Sec. 36	October 1, 2026	21a-408l
Sec. 37	October 1, 2026	21a-408m
Sec. 38	October 1, 2026	21a-408o
Sec. 39	October 1, 2026	21a-408p(c)
Sec. 40	October 1, 2026	21a-408r(d)
Sec. 41	October 1, 2026	21a-408s(a) to (c)
Sec. 42	October 1, 2026	21a-408u
Sec. 43	October 1, 2026	21a-408v(b) and (c)
Sec. 44	October 1, 2026	21a-408w
Sec. 45	October 1, 2026	21a-409(b) and (c)
Sec. 46	October 1, 2026	21a-410(a) and (b)
Sec. 47	October 1, 2026	21a-420
Sec. 48	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 49	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 50	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 51	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 52	October 1, 2026	21a-420c(b)
Sec. 53	October 1, 2026	21a-420d(k)
Sec. 54	October 1, 2026	21a-420h
Sec. 55	October 1, 2026	21a-420l(b)
Sec. 56	October 1, 2026	21a-420m(b)
Sec. 57	October 1, 2026	21a-420n(d)
Sec. 58	October 1, 2026	21a-420p(f) and (g)
Sec. 59	October 1, 2026	21a-420q
Sec. 60	October 1, 2026	21a-420r
Sec. 61	October 1, 2026	21a-420s
Sec. 62	October 1, 2026	21a-420t(a) to (d)
Sec. 63	October 1, 2026	21a-420u(b)
Sec. 64	October 1, 2026	21a-420z(c) to (e)
Sec. 65	October 1, 2026	21a-420aa(b)(3)(A)
Sec. 66	October 1, 2026	21a-420bb(b)(3)(A)
Sec. 67	October 1, 2026	21a-421d(f)
Sec. 68	October 1, 2026	21a-421j
Sec. 69	October 1, 2026	21a-421k(b)
Sec. 70	October 1, 2026	21a-421n(a) and (b)
Sec. 71	October 1, 2026	21a-421o(e)
Sec. 72	October 1, 2026	21a-421q
Sec. 73	October 1, 2026	21a-421r

Sec. 74	October 1, 2026	21a-421s
Sec. 75	October 1, 2026	21a-421aa(c)
Sec. 76	October 1, 2026	21a-421bb(b)(15)
Sec. 77	October 1, 2026	21a-421ddd
Sec. 78	October 1, 2026	21a-422g(a)
Sec. 79	October 1, 2026	21a-422k(g)
Sec. 80	October 1, 2026	21a-422l(a)
Sec. 81	October 1, 2026	21a-422m
Sec. 82	October 1, 2026	21a-425
Sec. 83	October 1, 2026	21a-425a
Sec. 84	October 1, 2026	21a-425b
Sec. 85	October 1, 2026	21a-425e(f)
Sec. 86	October 1, 2026	21a-425f(a) and (b)
Sec. 87	October 1, 2026	21a-426(a)(7)
Sec. 88	October 1, 2026	22-61l
Sec. 89	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 90	October 1, 2026	22-61m(r)
Sec. 91	October 1, 2026	22-61n
Sec. 92	October 1, 2026	30-1
Sec. 93	October 1, 2026	30-17d(a) to (c)
Sec. 94	October 1, 2026	30-20(b)
Sec. 95	October 1, 2026	30-47(a)
Sec. 96	October 1, 2026	30-63(e)
Sec. 97	October 1, 2026	31-40q(a)(6)
Sec. 98	October 1, 2026	38a-1052
Sec. 99	October 1, 2026	53-247a
Sec. 100	October 1, 2026	53a-213a(a)
Sec. 101	October 1, 2026	53a-213b(a)
Sec. 102	October 1, 2026	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 17(29)(C)(vii), "as defined in section 22-61l, as amended by this act," was deleted for conciseness; in Section 24(15)(A), "qualifying" was added before "patient's" for internal consistency; in Section 47(11), provisions were redrafted for statutory consistency; in Section 48(e), "Such chairpersons" was changed to "The chairpersons of the working group" for clarity; in Section 60(b), ", except as provided in regulations adopted pursuant to section 50 of this act," was added to conform with the provisions of section 50; and in Section 68(b)(1)(A)(ii) and (3)(B), "provided the increase" was changed to "if the increase" for clarity.

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	Cannabis Regulatory Fund - Cost	159,407	207,209
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	63,335	84,447
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Department of Revenue Services	Various - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Consumer Protection, Dept.	Consumer Protection Enforcement Account - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: Various=Various; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill makes various changes to the cannabis statutes resulting in

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.82% of payroll in FY 27.

the costs and revenue impacts described below.

Costs:

Sections 49, 68, 89 require the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to conduct informal hearings between certain cannabis licensees regarding delinquent payments, reduces restrictions on cannabis packaging and labeling, and creates a new commercial extractor license resulting in a cost to the Cannabis Regulatory Fund. To meet these requirements DCP will have to hire two employees² for a salary and other expenses cost of \$159,407 in FY 27³ and \$207,209 in FY 28, along with associated fringe benefit costs of \$63,335 in FY 27 and \$84,447 in FY 28. The additional employees are needed to conduct the informal hearings, review the cannabis packaging and labeling which will increase in complexity due to reduced restrictions, and inspect and regulate cannabis commercial extractors.

Revenue:

Section 49 requires DCP to conduct informal hearings between certain cannabis licensees and requires the adverse party to pay for the cost of the meeting (the cost is determined by the Commissioner and shall be at least \$50). This results in a potential revenue gain to the General Fund to the extent these hearings occur.

Section 89 creates a commercial extractor license for an initial license fee and subsequent annual renewal fee of \$375, resulting in a potential revenue gain of up to \$3,750 per year to the Consumer Protection Enforcement Account⁴.

The bill also results in a potential increase in state and municipal sales

²The employees consist of one drug control agent and one program manager.

³Costs in FY 27 reflect nine months of expenditures due to the bill's 10/1/26 effective date.

⁴The bill specifies that DCP may issue a maximum of ten commercial extractor licenses and that the funding shall be deposited into the Consumer Protection Enforcement Account.

tax revenue by:⁵

- expanding the sale of certain medical use cannabis products to retail consumers (**Sections 50 & 60**)
- increasing the allowable THC levels in an infused beverage to be sold or offered for sale within the state (**Sections 82 & 83**).

The actual tax revenue impact is dependent upon availability of and demand for these products.

The bill also makes various changes to cannabis statutes that do not result in a fiscal impact to the state.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above will continue into the future subject to employee wage increases, the number of licenses applied for, the number of informal hearings, and inflation.

⁵Under current law, there is a 3% municipal sales tax on retail cannabis.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5350****AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS, HEMP AND INFUSED BEVERAGE REGULATION.**

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Lifts the cap on THC by dry-weight-bases for cannabis flower, other plant material, and concentrates and prohibits DCP from limiting their dosage, potency, or concentration; allows edibles to have six mgs of THC if the increase over current law's five mgs is due to the margin of error inherent in laboratory testing; eliminates DCP's ability to adjust certain maximum THC percentages for public health reasons or when there is a shortage

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Makes all information and documentation filed with the attorney general when there is a material change to a cannabis establishment a public record under FOIA; requires the attorney general to retain this information in accordance with the state's record retention schedule

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BACKGROUND

SUMMARY

This bill makes various unrelated changes to laws on cannabis, hemp, and THC-infused beverages. It also makes numerous minor, technical, and conforming changes, as described in the section-by-section analysis below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§§ 1-47, 55, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 76-78, 80-82, 88, 90 & 98-101 — CANNABIS

Renames “marijuana” as “cannabis” throughout the statutes; specifies extracted resin from the plant is considered cannabis, modifies which cannabinoids derived from hemp are considered cannabis, and exempts certain commercial hemp extracts with higher THC levels from being considered cannabis

Renaming

The bill renames “marijuana” as “cannabis” in the general statutes. Currently, marijuana and cannabis have the same legal definition. The bill makes changes to the definition of cannabis.

Changes to Definition (§ 17)

Broadly, under current law, “cannabis” means all parts of a plant or species of the genus cannabis, whether growing or not, including its resin extracted from any part of the plant, among other parts. The bill specifies this includes extracted resin from the (1) plant’s mature stalks, (2) fiber produced from the mature stalks, or (3) oil or cake made from the seeds. As under existing law, “cannabis” does not include the plant’s mature stalks, the fiber produced from the mature stalks, or the oil or cake from the seeds.

The bill also modifies the cannabinoids derived from hemp that are considered cannabis. Under current law, cannabidiol (CBD) that is not a high THC hemp product is not considered cannabis. The bill eliminates this exemption and instead excludes cannabinon, cannabinol (CBN), cannabigerol (CBG), cannabichromene (CBC), or any other minor cannabinoid derived from hemp.

The bill also exempts any “commercial extract” that is manufactured, advertised, offered, and sold under the bill’s provisions on these extracts (see §§ 88, 89 & 91 below). Generally, a commercial extract is an oil or concentrate that is extracted using certain methods directly and exclusively from raw hemp and has a total THC concentration of more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis.

**§§ 24, 25, 28, 30, 32, 34, 47, 52, 57, 58, 60-62, 67, 68, 70-73 & 75 —
QUALIFYING OUT-OF-STATE PATIENTS FOR MEDICAL
CANNABIS**

Allows qualifying out-of-state patients to purchase and possess, among other things, medical cannabis in the same manner and under the same conditions as Connecticut qualifying patients and their caregivers

The bill generally allows qualifying out-of-state patients to acquire, distribute, transfer, possess, and use medical cannabis in the same way as Connecticut qualifying patients and their caregivers. These patients are residents of another state who hold a valid medical cannabis credential from that state.

Liability

Under the bill, a qualifying out-of-state patient who complies with Connecticut laws on legally acquiring medical cannabis from a dispensary is not subject to arrest, prosecution, or penalty in any manner. This includes being subject to any civil penalty or denied any right or privilege, including being subject to any disciplinary action by a professional board, for using medical cannabis if the amount possessed does not exceed five ounces. This immunity does not apply to any medical cannabis use that endangers the health or well-being of others or ingesting cannabis in certain areas, such as moving vehicle, workplace, or school grounds.

Sales Limitations

Under the bill, regardless of any provision in the adult-use cannabis statutes limiting the dispensing, sale, or distribution of cannabis by dispensary facilities to qualifying patients and caregivers, a dispensary facility may dispense, sell, or distribute cannabis to qualifying out-of-state patients. The Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) commissioner must adopt or amend regulations to implement this provision.

The bill also allows a micro-cultivator to sell medical cannabis products directly to qualifying out-of-state patients using its own employees.

§§ 47, 56, 60, 61 & 63 — PERSONAL DATA RETENTION

Prohibits retailers and hybrid retailers from retaining any personal data they obtain for age verification purposes for more than 24 hours without written consent

The bill prohibits retailers and hybrid retailers (those licensed to sell both adult-use and medical cannabis) from keeping any personal data they obtain for age verification purposes for more than 24 hours without written consent. “Personal information” is any information linked or reasonably linkable to an identified or identifiable individual. It does not include de-identified data or publicly available information.

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

§ 48 — CANNABIS REGULATORY WORKING GROUP

Establishes a cannabis regulatory working group to (1) study and recommend new or amended regulations or policies and procedures concerning cannabis and (2) propose legislation concerning cannabis

The bill establishes a cannabis regulatory working group to (1) study regulations adopted or proposed, and policies and procedures issued or proposed, by the DCP commissioner and the Social Equity Council concerning cannabis; (2) recommend new or amended regulations or policies and procedures concerning cannabis; and (3) propose legislation concerning cannabis.

The working group consists of four members with each of the General Law Committee’s House and Senate chairpersons and ranking

members appointing one member, who may be a legislator. The committee's chairpersons must select the working group's chairpersons from among the members.

The bill requires initial appointments to the working group to be made by October 31, 2026, with the appointing authority filling any vacancy. The chairpersons must schedule and hold the working group's first meeting by December 1, 2026.

The bill requires the General Law Committee's administrative staff to serve as the working group's administrative staff.

The bill requires the working group to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the General Law Committee by January 1, 2027. The working group ends on that date or when it submits the report, whichever is later.

§ 49 — PAYMENT DELINQUENCY PROCEDURE

Prohibits retailers, hybrid retailers, or dispensary facilities from borrowing money or being extended credit for more than 30 days from a cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer; establishes a procedure for cultivators, micro-cultivators, or producers to collect overdue payments; limits when others can extend credit or make loans to a delinquent retailer or facility

The bill broadly prohibits retailers, hybrid retailers, and dispensary facilities from borrowing money or receiving credit, directly or indirectly in any form, for more than 30 days from any cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer.

It also creates requirements related to reporting and collecting delinquent payments.

Notice of Nonpayment

Under the bill, a cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer that has not received full payment from a retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility before the allowable 30-day credit period expires must submit a written obligation notice to DCP and give a copy to the retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility, within five days after the credit period expires. The written obligation notice must at least state (1) the amount

due; (2) the date credit was extended; (3) the credit period's expiration date; and (4) that the retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility is in violation of the credit time limit provision.

Optional Response

If the retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility disputes the notice's accuracy, it must submit a written response to DCP within five days after receiving the notice. It must also give a copy to the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer who sent the original obligation notice. The written response must at least state the (1) basis for disputing the notice obligation and (2) amount, if any, that the retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility admits is owed for longer than 30 days. The copy of the response given to the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer must be accompanied by a payment in the amount admitted. The payment must be made and received without affecting the rights of either party in any civil action.

Hearing

The bill requires the DCP commissioner or his designee, within 30 days after receiving any written response, to hold an informal hearing with the parties to give them an equal opportunity to appear and be heard.

If, after the hearing, the commissioner or his designee determines that the written notice of obligation is accurate, then he or his designee must issue an order directing the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer to promptly give all cultivators, micro-cultivators, and producers a written delinquency notice, which must at least state the (1) delinquent retailer's, hybrid retailer's, or dispensary facility's identity; (2) amount due; and (3) credit period's expiration date.

If the commissioner or designee finds the notice is inaccurate, then he or his designee must issue an order prohibiting the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer from giving a written delinquency notice.

The bill requires the party who was ruled against to promptly pay DCP for a portion of the proceeding's costs as the commissioner or his

designee determines, provided at least \$50 is charged.

No Response Contesting Obligation

Under the bill, if DCP does not receive a written response within the five-day period the bill sets, the retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility that failed to respond in a timely manner is deemed to have admitted to the truth of the obligation notice. Within three days after the five-day period expires, the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer that sent the notice obligation must give all cultivators, micro-cultivators, and producers a written delinquency notice in the format DCP sets. These orders have the same effect as one sent after a hearing.

Prohibition on Extending Credit

The bill prohibits any cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer that receives a written delinquency notice from extending credit for cannabis sales to the delinquent retailer or facility until it has received a written satisfaction notice from the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer that gave the delinquency notice.

Penalty for Incorrect Information

The bill allows DCP to suspend or revoke the license of any (1) cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer that issues an incorrect written obligation notice in bad faith, or sends an unauthorized delinquency notice, or (2) retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility that issues an incorrect written response in bad faith.

Full Payment

Any cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer that sends a delinquency notice and subsequently receives full payment for the credit extended must, within three days after receiving full payment, submit to DCP a written satisfaction notice, and give a copy to all cultivators, micro-cultivators, and producers that were sent a delinquency notice.

The prohibition against extending credit to the retailer, hybrid retailer, or dispensary facility subject to the delinquency notice ends

when the cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer receives full payment.

§§ 50 & 60 — ADDITIONAL PALLIATIVE CANNABIS PRODUCTS

Requires DCP to adopt regulations to allow sales of additional medical cannabis products, including cannabis topicals, tablets, capsules, products intended for sublingual absorption, and ethanol-free tinctures

The bill requires the DCP commissioner to adopt regulations to allow the sale of additional medical use cannabis products, including cannabis topicals, tablets, capsules, products intended for sublingual absorption (under the tongue), and ethanol-free tinctures (concentrated liquid extracts), to consumers at retailer and hybrid retailer establishments. The bill also makes a conforming change to allow retailers to sell these medical cannabis items to consumers.

§ 51 — MINIMUM EMPLOYEES REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY

Allows cannabis establishments to deliver or transport cannabis with only one employee when transporting to another cannabis establishment, testing laboratory, or research program

Current policies and procedures require at least two transporting agents per transport vehicle when there is more than two pounds of cannabis flower and cannabis trim or their equivalency. Regardless of any medical cannabis or adult-use cannabis law, the bill allows cannabis establishments to deliver or transport cannabis with only one employee when transporting to another cannabis establishment, testing laboratory, or research program.

By law, a “cannabis establishment” is a cannabis producer, dispensary facility, cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer or packager, delivery service, or transporter.

§§ 53, 54, 65 & 66 — SOCIAL EQUITY CANNABIS LICENSE TRANSFERS

Codifies the general prohibition on selling or changing ownership or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a social equity applicant to someone other than another qualifying social equity applicant during the provisional licensure period and for three years after final licensure

Current law requires the Social Equity Council to adopt regulations

and issue policies and procedures to prevent the sale or change in ownership or control of a cannabis establishment license awarded to a social equity applicant to someone other than another qualifying social equity applicant during the provisional licensure period, and for three years after final licensure, with limited exceptions. The bill codifies the prohibition and limited exceptions and sets a statutory process for selling or changing ownership.

Sale or Change

The bill requires any sale or change to have the Social Equity Council's approval and to only be made to another qualified social equity applicant, unless the cannabis establishment's backer has died or been diagnosed with a condition such as a physical illness or loss of skill or deterioration due to the aging process, an emotional disorder, or mental illness, that would interfere with the backer's ability to operate.

Application

Before a sale or change is made, the qualified social equity applicant seeking to sell or change ownership must submit to the council, in a way it prescribes, an application for the sale or change and all documents the council needs to determine whether the sale or change is authorized under the bill, including all operating agreements and transfer, sale, or conveyance documents the council needs.

The bill requires the council to complete its review of the application and documents, issue a decision, and notify the social equity applicant or cannabis establishment, within 90 days after it receives the application and documents.

Approval

If the council approves any sale or change to anyone other than a qualified social equity applicant, the cannabis establishment must be treated as a cannabis establishment without social equity status beginning on day of the approval and the cannabis establishment is no longer eligible to pay a reduced license renewal fee.

Notice Required After Three Years

Under the bill, even after the three-year period has ended, a social equity cannabis establishment must notify the council at least 90 days before a sale or change. The council may send notice to the establishment requiring any documents the council needs to ensure the establishment and the proposed sale or change complies with the Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-use Cannabis Act and its regulations. The cannabis establishment must provide the requested documents within three days after the council sends notice.

Regulations

The bill also requires the Social Equity Council to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.

§§ 54, 59, 64, 68 & 69 — POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SUBMISSION

Requires the policies and procedures that DCP and the Social Equity Commission submit for posting on the eRegulations system to also be submitted to the General Law Committee

The bill requires the policies and procedures related to adult-use cannabis that DCP and the Social Equity Commission must submit the secretary of the state for posting on the eRegulations systems to also be submitted to the General Law Committee. As under existing law, they must submit the policies and procedures at least 15 days before they are effective.

§ 61 — HYBRID RETAILERS

Eliminates the requirement that cannabis or medical cannabis be dispensed by a licensed pharmacist; allows registered employees and automated systems to record and upload data to the state's electronic prescription drug monitoring program; specifically allows pharmacists, dispensary technicians, and other registered employees to perform all authorized activities; eliminates the minimum on-site presence requirement for pharmacists

Pharmacist Requirements Reduced

The bill eliminates the requirement that cannabis or medical cannabis be dispensed to a qualifying patient or caregiver by a licensed pharmacist, and correspondingly eliminates the requirement that pharmacists conduct remote order entry verification. The bill broadly allows a hybrid retailer's licensed pharmacist, dispensary technician, or

other registered employee, to perform all the hybrid retailer's authorized activities, including all activities related to the sale, handling, or management of cannabis or medical cannabis products.

It also allows a hybrid retailer's registered employees under a licensed pharmacist's direction to upload data to the electronic prescription drug monitoring program. Current law only allows the pharmacist or dispensary technician to upload this data. The bill also allows the data to be uploaded through an automated upload from the hybrid retailer's point-of-sale system. But it requires the pharmacist to conduct a weekly audit of the uploaded data.

Current law requires a hybrid retailer to have a licensed pharmacist on premises for at least eight consecutive hours per calendar week when the location is open, with telehealth consultations being available the other times. The bill instead requires the hybrid retailer to ensure one is available (1) when the location is open (on-site or by telehealth) and (2) for telehealth consultations for at least 35 hours per week. The bill eliminates requirements that require (1) individual telehealth pharmacists to be employed by a retailer for at least 20 hours per week and (2) a private consultation space for pharmacists to meet with qualifying patients and caregivers.

The bill also eliminates the requirement for pharmacists who consult with qualifying patients or caregivers to annually complete at least five contact hours of continuing professional education on the cannabis industry, the state pharmacy laws, or the treatment of debilitating medical conditions.

As under existing law, hybrid retailers must still conspicuously post a sign with the name of the licensed pharmacist that is available for consultation.

Privacy Training

Under the bill, a hybrid retailer's registered employees who sell any cannabis or medical cannabis to a qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient, or caregiver must take at least one hour of training on the

federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's (HIPAA) privacy requirements.

§ 68 — THC LEVELS

Lifts the cap on THC by dry-weight-bases for cannabis flower, other plant material, and concentrates and prohibits DCP from limiting their dosage, potency, or concentration; allows edibles to have six mgs of THC if the increase over current law's five mgs is due to the margin of error inherent in laboratory testing; eliminates DCP's ability to adjust certain maximum THC percentages for public health reasons or when there is a shortage

Current law prohibits cannabis establishments from selling to consumers (1) cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC concentration over 35% on a dry-weight basis or (2) cannabis products (including concentrates) with a total THC concentration over 70% on a dry-weight basis. The bill eliminates the THC cap for cannabis flower, other plant material, and concentrates by removing (1) cannabis flower and other plant material from the 35% cap and (2) concentrates from the 70% cap.

It also prohibits DCP from limiting the dosage, potency, or concentration of cannabis products, cannabis flower, or other cannabis plant material (even if intended to address public health, market access, or shortage concerns).

The bill requires any cannabis flower or cannabis plant material that contains a total THC percentage greater than 30% to include a warning that it is a high-potency product and may increase the risk of psychosis. This is already a requirement for cannabis concentrates.

Under the bill, "other cannabis plant material" means cannabis trim and all parts of any plant or species of the genus *cannabis*, or any biological group below, excluding (1) the growing plant and its seeds and (2) cannabis flower or hemp.

Edibles

Current law requires DCP to issue policies and procedures and adopt regulations to set appropriate dosage, potency, concentration, and serving size limits and delineation requirements for edible cannabis products and beverages, as long as a standardized serving contains no

more than five milligrams (mgs) of THC (unless it is a medical marijuana product).

The bill eliminates beverages from these requirements and allows edibles to have six mgs of THC if the increase over the allowable amount (five mgs) is due to the margin of error inherent in laboratory testing.

§ 68 — STABILITY TESTING

Prohibits DCP from requiring any cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material to undergo stability testing after the flower or material is in its final packaging

Existing law requires the DCP commissioner to issue policies and procedures and adopt regulations establishing laboratory standards. The bill specifies that these standards must not require any cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material (see definition above) to undergo stability testing (to see how a product degrades over time) after the flower or material is in its final packaging.

§ 68 — REMEDIATION

Specifies the permitted remediation practices must include remediating cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material by ionizing radiation; requires packaging to have a disclosure label if it is remediated cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material

Existing law requires the DCP commissioner to issue policies and procedures and adopt regulations establishing permitted remediation practices. The bill specifies this must include allowing remediating cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material by one or more exposures to ionizing radiation if it fails any laboratory testing due to microbial contamination. Afterwards, the packaging must have a label affixed to it disclosing that the flower or material has undergone remediation by ionizing radiation exposure.

§ 68 — PACKAGING AND LABELING

Expands what is allowed on the packaging; applies the revised packaging rules broadly; eliminates the specific packaging and labeling requirements for edibles

Existing law requires the DCP commissioner to issue policies and procedures and adopt regulations on cannabis packaging and labeling. The bill expands what is allowed for packaging and labeling and eliminates the specific packaging and labeling requirements for edibles.

Under the bill, packages for any cannabis product may include the cannabis establishment's branding (not just logo) and have up to three colors, in addition to black and white. The branding and logo can be any number of colors. Under current law, packaging generally must be entirely and uniformly one color (other than the logo, which can be three colors). The bill also eliminates the prohibition on packaging incorporating any information, print, embossing, debossing, graphic, or hidden feature, other than any permitted or required label.

By law and unchanged by the bill, the warning labels are still required on the packaging.

§§ 74, 82-87, 92-96 & 102 — INFUSED BEVERAGES

Increases the allowable THC levels, from three to five mgs, for infused beverages sold in package stores and from 3 mgs to 10 mgs, for ones sold in a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, or retailer; allows infused beverages to be tested by out-of-state laboratories; modifies the container labeling requirements to follow ASTM standards; eliminates obsolete references to legacy infused beverages

Increased Allowable THC Levels

The bill increases the allowable THC levels in an infused beverage to be sold or offered for sale within the state. Under current law, infused beverages may have up to three mgs per container. The bill increases this amount to (1) five mgs if the infused beverage is sold at a package store and (2) 10 mgs if the infused beverage is sold at a dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, or retailer. By law and unchanged by the bill, infused beverages cannot contain alcohol. The bill specifies these beverages may contain caffeinated coffee or tea.

Out-of-State Laboratories

The bill allows infused beverages to also be tested by similarly qualified out-of-state laboratories, rather than only DCP-regulated laboratories. As under existing law, each lot of an infused beverage in final form must be tested. These tests must be conducted using a representative sample and by collecting a minimum number of sample increments relative to the lot size.

Labeling

The bill modifies the labeling requirements for infused beverage containers by eliminating the statutory requirement that a symbol that indicates the infused beverage is not legal or safe for those younger than age 21, which must be in a certain size and format that the DCP commissioner approves, be placed on each containers. The bill instead requires the symbol to satisfy ASTM International standard D8441. As under existing law, the symbol must be prominently displayed on the container.

§ 79 — MATERIAL CHANGES IN PUBLIC RECORDS

Makes all information and documentation filed with the attorney general when there is a material change to a cannabis establishment a public record under FOIA; requires the attorney general to retain this information in accordance with the state's record retention schedule

Existing law requires anyone who enters a transaction that results in a material change to a cannabis establishment to file a written notice with the attorney general that includes the information he needs to determine if the transaction would violate antitrust laws.

The bill makes all the information filed with the attorney general disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Under current law, this information is not subject to FOIA disclosure and may only be made public for relevant administrative or judicial action or proceedings. But the bill (1) requires him to redact the records to the extent it is needed and allowed under FOIA to prevent an invasion of personal privacy and disclosing trade secrets, and (2) prohibits him from redacting any backer or owner with an equity interest involved in any transaction that results in, or will result in, a material change to a cannabis establishment.

The bill also requires the submitted information to be retained by the attorney general according to the state's record retention schedule. Current law requires the information and material to be returned after the attorney general's review or final determination.

§§ 88, 89 & 91— COMMERCIAL EXTRACTOR LICENSE

Establishes up to 10 commercial extractor licenses for extracts with a total THC concentration of more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis

The bill limits manufacturing, advertising, offering, or selling commercial extract in Connecticut to (1) cannabis establishments and (2) any person (individual or entity) with a DCP-issued commercial extractor license.

Commercial Extract and Manufacture

Under the bill, "commercial extract" is an oil or concentrate that is extracted directly and exclusively from raw hemp plant material, and contains a total THC concentration of more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis. Commercial extracts are extracted by:

1. adding heat;
2. decarboxylation;
3. adding a Class 3 organic solvent as defined by the most recent U.S. Pharmacopeia, Chapter 467, or another solvent the DCP commissioner approves;
4. ethanol extraction;
5. carbon dioxide extraction;
6. a solventless extraction method, including using ice water, rosin pressing, dry sifting, or steam distillation; or
7. an extraction process not listed if the DCP commissioner approves the process.

The bill also modifies what is considered hemp manufacturing to include converting hemp plant into an extract. (But unchanged by the bill, hemp products cannot have a THC over 0.3% on a dry-weight basis.) Under current law, "manufacturing" is converting the hemp plant into a by-product by adding heat, solvents, or using extraction methods that modify the plant's original composition to create a manufacturer hemp product for commercial or research purposes. The bill expands the allowable methods of conversion to include those listed above.

License

The bill allows DCP to issue or renew up to 10 commercial extractor licenses. These licenses allow licensees to manufacture, advertise, offer, and sell commercial extracts to infused beverage manufacturers, hemp manufacturers, producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, food and beverage manufacturers, and product manufacturers.

Each commercial extractor licensee must have held an active hemp manufacturer license on July 1, 2026, and maintain an active manufacturer license until DCP issues a commercial extractor license.

The bill prohibits DCP from issuing a commercial extractor license to a cannabis establishment or infused beverage manufacturer, and no commercial extractor licensee may hold a cannabis establishment, hemp manufacturer, or infused beverage manufacturer license. (Any hemp manufacturer who receives a commercial extractor license is deemed to have immediately surrendered the manufacturer license when the commercial extractor license is issued.)

An applicant for an initial license as a commercial extractor must submit a completed application and a \$375 initial license fee to DCP. Each initial license is valid for one year from issuance and may be renewed for successive one-year periods after submitting a completed renewal application with a \$375 renewal fee. All license and renewal fees collected must be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account, and used to protect public health, educate consumers and licensees, and ensure compliance with hemp and cannabis laws.

Electronic Tracking System

The bill requires each commercial extractor to use an approved electronic tracking system, in a way the DCP commissioner prescribes, to monitor the (1) intake of hemp in plant form, (2) extraction and refinement of commercial extract, (3) laboratory testing of commercial extract, (4) transportation and handling of commercial extract, and (5) sale or final disposition of commercial extract.

Laboratory Testing

Before selling or distributing commercial extract, a commercial extractor must comply with the hemp laboratory testing requirements. By law, hemp must be tested by an independent testing laboratory located in the state, which must test each sample according to standards set in policies, procedures, and regulations (CGS § 22-61m(k)).

Limitations

The bill prohibits cannabis establishments and commercial extractors from manufacturing or processing commercial extract that has any hemp concentrate, oil, or extract that the commercial extractor did not manufacture. But it allows a commercial extractor to combine one or more commercial extracts that it manufactures.

Under the bill, any producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, product manufacturer, food and beverage manufacturer, hemp manufacturer, or infused beverage manufacturer that receives commercial extract from a commercial extractor is prohibited from further distributing the commercial extract and must incorporate it into a hemp or cannabis product to resell (and that product must comply with applicable total THC concentration limits).

Cannabis Establishments

The bill allows any producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer, or product manufacturer to manufacture, market, cultivate, or store commercial extracts obtained from licensees, under generally the same requirements as under current law for hemp and hemp products. These licensees must only obtain commercial extracts from an authorized person, while infused beverage manufacturers or hemp manufacturers may only obtain commercial extracts from those authorized by DCP to produce or manufacture hemp products.

As under current law for hemp and hemp products, the bill requires the commercial extract purchased by these cannabis establishments from a third party to be tracked as a separate batch throughout the

manufacturing process. Once the establishment receives the commercial extract, it is deemed cannabis and the licensee must comply with all the cannabis laws and regulations.

The bill also requires producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, food and beverage manufacturers, product manufacturers, hemp manufacturers, or infused beverage manufacturers to obtain and retain from an independent testing laboratory a certificate of analysis for commercial extracts that complies with the laboratory testing standards, and invoice and transport documents that show the quantity purchased and date received.

§ 91 — FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURER

Allows food and beverage manufacturers to manufacture, market, cultivate, and store hemp, hemp products, and commercial extracts acquired from a third party under the same procedures and requirements as for certain other cannabis establishments

The bill allows food and beverage manufacturers to manufacture, market, cultivate, or store hemp or hemp products, if they comply with the requirements listed above for acquiring commercial extracts. They may also do these activities with commercial extracts obtained from a third party.

As is generally the case for other specified cannabis establishments that can engage in the activities the bill allows food and beverage manufacturers to do, these manufacturers must track third-party purchases of commercial extracts and hemp or hemp products.

§ 91 — HEMP AND HEMP PRODUCTS

Requires hemp manufacturers and infused beverage manufacturers to keep a copy of the certificate of analysis for the purchased hemp or hemp products, and the invoice and transport documents

The bill requires hemp manufacturers and infused beverage manufacturers to keep a copy of the certificate of analysis for the purchased hemp or hemp products, and the invoice and transport documents showing the quantity purchased and date received. Existing law has the same requirements for specified cannabis establishments.

BACKGROUND

Related Bills

sSB 231, favorably reported by the General Law Committee, among other things, sets a 60-day deadline to dispose of medical marijuana and cannabis samples that fail testing. It also requires each cannabis establishment to submit cannabis or medical marijuana to a cannabis testing laboratory for testing based on standards established in policies and procedures or regulations.

sHB 5351, favorably reported by the General Law Committee, among other things, prohibits the change of ownership and control of social equity applicants for three years after final licensure, but allows the Social Equity Council to provide otherwise through policies and procedures and regulations.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 8 (03/16/2026)