



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

**Raised Bill No. 5150**

LCO No. 886



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:  
(GL)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS AND HEMP REGULATION.**

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (63) of section 21a-240 of the 2024 supplement  
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

4 (63) "High-THC hemp product" means a manufacturer hemp  
5 product, as defined in section 22-61*l*, that has, or is advertised, labeled  
6 or offered for sale as having, total THC that exceeds (A) [for a hemp  
7 edible, hemp topical or hemp transdermal patch (i) one milligram on a  
8 per-serving basis, or (ii) five milligrams on a per-container basis,] one-  
9 half milligram on a per-container basis for any manufacturer hemp  
10 product, or (B) [for a hemp tincture, including, but not limited to, oil  
11 intended for ingestion by swallowing, buccal administration or  
12 sublingual absorption (i) one milligram on a per-serving basis, or (ii)  
13 twenty-five milligrams on a per-container basis, (C) for a hemp  
14 concentrate or extract, including, but not limited to, a vape oil, wax or  
15 shatter, twenty-five milligrams on a per-container basis, or (D) for a  
16 manufacturer hemp product not described in subparagraph (A), (B) or

17 (C) of this subdivision, (i) one milligram on a per-serving basis, (ii) five  
18 milligrams on a per-container basis, or (iii)] three-tenths per cent on a  
19 dry-weight basis for cannabis flower or cannabis trim.

20 Sec. 2. Section 21a-420 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
21 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
22 *1, 2024*):

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

24 (1) "Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis  
25 Act" or "RERACA" means this section, sections 2-56j, 7-294kk, 7-294ll,  
26 12-330ll to 12-330nn, inclusive, 14-227p, 21a-278b, 21a-278c, 21a-279c,  
27 21a-279d, 21a-420a to 21a-420j, inclusive, 21a-420l to 21a-421r, inclusive,  
28 as amended by this act, 21a-421aa to 21a-421ff, inclusive, 21a-421aaa to  
29 21a-421hhh, inclusive, 21a-422 to 21a-422c, inclusive, 21a-422e to 21a-  
30 422g, inclusive, 21a-422j to 21a-422s, inclusive, 22-61n, as amended by  
31 this act, 23-4b, 47a-9a, 53-247a, 53a-213a, 53a-213b, 54-33p, 54-56q, 54-  
32 56r, 54-125k and 54-142u, sections 23, 60, 63 to 65, inclusive, 124, 144 and  
33 165 of public act 21-1 of the June special session, and the amendments  
34 in public act 21-1 of the June special session to sections 7-148, 10-221, 12-  
35 30a, 12-35b, 12-412, 12-650, 12-704d, 14-44k, 14-111e, 14-227a to 14-227c,  
36 inclusive, 14-227j, 15-140q, 15-140r, 18-100h, 19a-342, 19a-342a, 21a-267,  
37 21a-277, 21a-279, 21a-279a, 21a-408 to 21a-408f, inclusive, 21a-408h to  
38 21a-408p, inclusive, 21a-408r to 21a-408v, inclusive, 30-89a, 31-40q, 32-  
39 39, 46b-120, 51-164n, 53-394, 53a-39c, 54-1m, 54-33g, 54-41b, 54-56e, 54-  
40 56g, 54-56i, 54-56k, 54-56n, 54-63d, 54-66a and 54-142e, [and] section 20  
41 of public act 23-79 and sections 3 and 4 of this act;

42 (2) "Backer" means any individual with a direct or indirect financial  
43 interest in a cannabis establishment. "Backer" does not include an  
44 individual with an investment interest in a cannabis establishment if (A)  
45 the interest held by such individual and such individual's spouse,  
46 parent or child, in the aggregate, does not exceed five per cent of the  
47 total ownership or interest rights in such cannabis establishment, and  
48 (B) such individual does not participate directly or indirectly in the

49 control, management or operation of the cannabis establishment;

50 (3) "Cannabis" means marijuana, as defined in section 21a-240, as  
51 amended by this act;

52 (4) "Cannabis establishment" means a producer, dispensary facility,  
53 cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage  
54 manufacturer, product manufacturer, product packager, delivery  
55 service or transporter;

56 (5) "Cannabis flower" means the flower, including abnormal and  
57 immature flowers, of a plant of the genus cannabis that has been  
58 harvested, dried, cured, chopped or ground, and prior to any processing  
59 whereby the flower material is transformed into a cannabis product.  
60 "Cannabis flower" does not include (A) the leaves or stem of such plant,  
61 or (B) hemp, as defined in section 22-61l;

62 (6) "Cannabis testing laboratory" means a laboratory that (A) is  
63 located in this state, (B) is licensed by the department to analyze  
64 cannabis, and (C) meets the licensure requirements established in  
65 section 21a-408r and the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (d)  
66 of section 21a-408r;

67 (7) "Cannabis testing laboratory employee" means an individual who  
68 is (A) employed at a cannabis testing laboratory, and (B) registered  
69 pursuant to section 21a-408r and the regulations adopted pursuant to  
70 subsection (d) of section 21a-408r;

71 (8) "Cannabis trim" means all parts, including abnormal or immature  
72 parts, of a plant of the genus cannabis, other than cannabis flower, that  
73 have been harvested, dried and cured, and prior to any processing,  
74 excluding chopping or grinding, whereby the plant material is  
75 transformed into a cannabis product. "Cannabis trim" does not include  
76 hemp, as defined in section 22-61l;

77 (9) "Cannabis product" means cannabis, intended for use or  
78 consumption, that is in the form of (A) a cannabis concentrate, or (B) a

79 product that contains cannabis and at least one other cannabis or  
80 noncannabis ingredient or component, excluding cannabis flower;

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

84 (11) "Cannabis-type substances" have the same meaning as  
85 "marijuana", as defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

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

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

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

93 (15) "Cultivation" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-  
94 408;

95 (16) "Cultivation lot" means one or more lots, as defined in section 22-  
96 61l, associated with a hemp producer's license issued pursuant to  
97 section 22-61l;

98 ~~[(16)]~~ (17) "Cultivator" means a person that is licensed to engage in  
99 the cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an  
100 establishment with not less than fifteen thousand square feet of grow  
101 space;

102 ~~[(17)]~~ (18) "Delivery service" means a person that is licensed to deliver  
103 cannabis from (A) micro-cultivators, retailers and hybrid retailers to  
104 consumers and research program subjects, and (B) hybrid retailers and  
105 dispensary facilities to qualifying patients, caregivers and research  
106 program subjects, as defined in section 21a-408, or to hospices or other  
107 inpatient care facilities licensed by the Department of Public Health

108 pursuant to chapter 368v that have a protocol for the handling and  
109 distribution of cannabis that has been approved by the department, or a  
110 combination thereof;

111 [(18)] (19) "Department" means the Department of Consumer  
112 Protection;

113 [(19)] (20) "Dispensary facility" means a place of business where  
114 cannabis may be dispensed, sold or distributed in accordance with  
115 chapter 420f and any regulations adopted pursuant to said chapter, to  
116 qualifying patients and caregivers, and to which the department has  
117 issued a dispensary facility license pursuant to chapter 420f and any  
118 regulations adopted pursuant to said chapter;

119 [(20)] (21) "Disproportionately impacted area" means (A) for the  
120 period beginning July 1, 2021, and ending July 31, 2023, a United States  
121 census tract in the state that has, as determined by the Social Equity  
122 Council under subdivision (1) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, as  
123 amended by this act, (i) a historical conviction rate for drug-related  
124 offenses greater than one-tenth, or (ii) an unemployment rate greater  
125 than ten per cent, [and] (B) [on and after] for the period beginning  
126 August 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, a United States census tract in  
127 this state that has been identified by the Social Equity Council pursuant  
128 to subdivision (2) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, as amended by  
129 this act, and (C) on and after July 1, 2024, (i) a United States census tract  
130 in this state that has been identified by the Social Equity Council  
131 pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, as  
132 amended by this act, and (ii) a reservation, as defined in section 47-63,  
133 as set forth in subdivision (3) of subsection (i) of section 21a-420d, as  
134 amended by this act;

135 [(21)] (22) "Disqualifying conviction" means a conviction within the  
136 last ten years which has not been the subject of an absolute pardon  
137 under the provisions of section 54-130a, or an equivalent pardon process  
138 under the laws of another state or the federal government, for an offense  
139 under (A) section 53a-276, 53a-277 or 53a-278, [;] (B) section 53a-291, 53a-

140 292 or 53a-293, [;] (C) section 53a-215, [;] (D) section 53a-138 or 53a-139,  
141 [;] (E) section 53a-142a, [;] (F) sections 53a-147 to 53a-162, inclusive, [;]  
142 (G) sections 53a-125c to 53a-125f, inclusive, [;] (H) section 53a-129b, 53a-  
143 129c or 53a-129d, [;] (I) subsection (b) of section 12-737, [;] (J) section 53a-  
144 48 or 53a-49, if the offense which is attempted or is an object of the  
145 conspiracy is an offense under the statutes listed in subparagraphs (A)  
146 to (I), inclusive, of this subdivision, [;] or (K) the law of any other state  
147 or of the federal government, if the offense on which such conviction is  
148 based is defined by elements that substantially include the elements of  
149 an offense under the statutes listed in subparagraphs (A) to (J), inclusive,  
150 of this subdivision;

151 [(22)] (23) "Dispensary technician" means an individual who has had  
152 an active pharmacy technician or dispensary technician registration in  
153 this state within the past five years, is affiliated with a dispensary facility  
154 or hybrid retailer and is registered with the department in accordance  
155 with chapter 420f and any regulations adopted pursuant to said chapter;

156 [(23)] (24) "Edible cannabis product" means a cannabis product  
157 intended for humans to eat or drink;

158 [(24)] (25) "Employee" means any person who is not a backer, but is a  
159 member of the board of a company with an ownership interest in a  
160 cannabis establishment, and any person employed by a cannabis  
161 establishment or who otherwise has access to such establishment or the  
162 vehicles used to transport cannabis, including, but not limited to, an  
163 independent contractor who has routine access to the premises of such  
164 establishment or to the cannabis handled by such establishment;

165 [(25)] (26) "Equity" and "equitable" means efforts, regulations,  
166 policies, programs, standards, processes and any other functions of  
167 government or principles of law and governance intended to [;] (A)  
168 [Identify] identify and remedy past and present patterns of  
169 discrimination and disparities of race, ethnicity, gender and sexual  
170 orientation, [;] (B) ensure that such patterns of discrimination and  
171 disparities, whether intentional or unintentional, are neither reinforced

172 nor perpetuated, [;] and (C) prevent the emergence and persistence of  
173 foreseeable future patterns of discrimination or disparities of race,  
174 ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation;

175 [(26)] (27) "Equity joint venture" means a business entity that is  
176 controlled, and at least fifty per cent owned, by an individual or  
177 individuals, or such applicant is an individual, who meets the criteria of  
178 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(50)] (52) of this section;

179 [(27)] (28) "Extract" means the preparation, compounding, conversion  
180 or processing of cannabis, either directly or indirectly by extraction or  
181 independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of  
182 extraction and chemical synthesis to produce a cannabis concentrate;

183 [(28)] (29) "Financial interest" means any right to, ownership, an  
184 investment or a compensation arrangement with another person,  
185 directly, through business, investment or family. "Financial interest"  
186 does not include ownership of investment securities in a publicly-held  
187 corporation that is traded on a national exchange or over-the-counter  
188 market, provided the investment securities held by such person and  
189 such person's spouse, parent or child, in the aggregate, do not exceed  
190 one-half of one per cent of the total number of shares issued by the  
191 corporation;

192 [(29)] (30) "Food and beverage manufacturer" means a person that is  
193 licensed to own and operate a place of business that acquires cannabis  
194 and creates food and beverages;

195 [(30)] (31) "Grow space" means the portion of a premises owned and  
196 controlled by a producer, cultivator or micro-cultivator that is utilized  
197 for the cultivation, growing or propagation of the cannabis plant, and  
198 contains cannabis plants in an active stage of growth, measured starting  
199 from the outermost wall of the room containing cannabis plants and  
200 continuing around the outside of the room. "Grow space" does not  
201 include space used to cure, process, store harvested cannabis or  
202 manufacture cannabis once the cannabis has been harvested;

203 (32) "Hemp producer" means producer, as defined in section 22-61l;

204 ~~[(31)]~~ (33) "Historical conviction count for drug-related offenses"  
205 means, for a given area, the number of convictions of residents of such  
206 area (A) for violations of sections 21a-267, 21a-277, 21a-278, 21a-279 and  
207 21a-279a, and (B) who were arrested for such violations between  
208 January 1, 1982, and December 31, 2020, inclusive, where such arrest  
209 was recorded in databases maintained by the Department of Emergency  
210 Services and Public Protection;

211 ~~[(32)]~~ (34) "Historical conviction rate for drug-related offenses"  
212 means, for a given area, the historical conviction count for drug-related  
213 offenses divided by the population of such area, as determined by the  
214 five-year estimates of the most recent American Community Survey  
215 conducted by the United States Census Bureau;

216 ~~[(33)]~~ (35) "Hybrid retailer" means a person that is licensed to  
217 purchase cannabis and sell cannabis and medical marijuana products;

218 ~~[(34)]~~ (36) "Key employee" means an employee with the following  
219 management position or an equivalent title within a cannabis  
220 establishment: (A) President or chief officer, who is the top ranking  
221 individual at the cannabis establishment and is responsible for all staff  
222 and overall direction of business operations; (B) financial manager, who  
223 is the individual who reports to the president or chief officer and who is  
224 responsible for oversight of the financial operations of the cannabis  
225 establishment, which financial operations include one or more of the  
226 following: (i) Revenue and expense management; (ii) distributions; (iii)  
227 tax compliance; (iv) budget development; and (v) budget management  
228 and implementation; or (C) compliance manager, who is the individual  
229 who reports to the president or chief officer and who is generally  
230 responsible for ensuring the cannabis establishment complies with all  
231 laws, regulations and requirements related to the operation of the  
232 cannabis establishment;

233 ~~[(35)]~~ (37) "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between a  
234 cannabis establishment and a bona fide labor organization under section



235 21a-421d pursuant to which the owners and management of the  
236 cannabis establishment agree not to lock out employees and that  
237 prohibits the bona fide labor organization from engaging in picketing,  
238 work stoppages or boycotts against the cannabis establishment;

239 [(36)] (38) "Manufacture" means to add or incorporate cannabis into  
240 other products or ingredients or create a cannabis product;

241 [(37)] (39) "Medical marijuana product" means cannabis that may be  
242 exclusively sold to qualifying patients and caregivers by dispensary  
243 facilities and hybrid retailers and which are designated by the  
244 commissioner as reserved for sale to qualifying patients and caregivers  
245 and published on the department's Internet web site;

246 [(38)] (40) "Micro-cultivator" means a person licensed to engage in the  
247 cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an  
248 establishment containing not less than two thousand square feet and not  
249 more than ten thousand square feet of grow space, prior to any  
250 expansion authorized by the commissioner;

251 [(39)] (41) "Municipality" means any town, city or borough,  
252 consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough;

253 [(40)] (42) "Paraphernalia" means drug paraphernalia, as defined in  
254 section 21a-240, as amended by this act;

255 [(41)] (43) "Person" means an individual, partnership, limited liability  
256 company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, estate,  
257 receiver, trustee, assignee, referee or any other legal entity and any other  
258 person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether  
259 appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination thereof;

260 [(42)] (44) "Producer" means a person that is licensed as a producer  
261 pursuant to section 21a-408i and any regulations adopted pursuant to  
262 said section;

263 [(43)] (45) "Product manufacturer" means a person that is licensed to  
264 obtain cannabis, extract and manufacture products;

265     [(44)] (46) "Product packager" means a person that is licensed to  
266     package and label cannabis;

267     [(45)] (47) "Qualifying patient" has the same meaning as provided in  
268     section 21a-408;

269     [(46)] (48) "Research program" has the same meaning as provided in  
270     section 21a-408;

271     [(47)] (49) "Retailer" means a person, excluding a dispensary facility  
272     and hybrid retailer, that is licensed to purchase cannabis from  
273     producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product manufacturers and  
274     food and beverage manufacturers and to sell cannabis to consumers and  
275     research programs;

276     [(48)] (50) "Sale" or "sell" has the same meaning as provided in section  
277     21a-240, as amended by this act;

278     [(49)] (51) "Social Equity Council" or "council" means the council  
279     established under section 21a-420d, as amended by this act;

280     [(50)] (52) "Social equity applicant" means a person that has applied  
281     for a license for a cannabis establishment, where such applicant is  
282     controlled, and at least sixty-five per cent owned, by an individual or  
283     individuals, or such applicant is an individual, who:

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

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

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

292     (53) "Telehealth" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-

293 906;

294 [(51)] (54) "THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-  
295 240, as amended by this act;

296 [(52)] (55) "Third-party lottery operator" means a person, or a  
297 constituent unit of the state system of higher education, that conducts  
298 lotteries pursuant to section 21a-420g, as amended by this act, identifies  
299 the cannabis establishment license applications for consideration  
300 without performing any review of the applications that are identified  
301 for consideration, and that has no direct or indirect oversight of or  
302 investment in a cannabis establishment or a cannabis establishment  
303 applicant;

304 [(53)] (56) "Transfer" means to transfer, change, give or otherwise  
305 dispose of control over or interest in;

306 [(54)] (57) "Transport" means to physically move from one place to  
307 another;

308 [(55)] (58) "Transporter" means a person licensed to transport  
309 cannabis between cannabis establishments, cannabis testing  
310 laboratories and research programs; and

311 [(56)] (59) "Unemployment rate" means, in a given area, the number  
312 of people sixteen years of age or older who are in the civilian labor force  
313 and unemployed divided by the number of people sixteen years of age  
314 or older who are in the civilian labor force.

315 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) During the period beginning  
316 July 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2025, the department shall issue  
317 a cultivator license to a social equity applicant:

318 (1) If prior to July 1, 2024, the social equity applicant submitted to the  
319 department a completed cultivator license application pursuant to  
320 subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by  
321 this act, and:

322 (A) The Social Equity Council verified, pursuant to subdivision (1) of  
323 subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by  
324 this act, that the applicant met the criteria established for a social equity  
325 applicant; or

326 (B) The department issued a provisional cultivator license, but not a  
327 final cultivator license, to the social equity applicant pursuant to section  
328 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

329 (2) If during the period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending March 31,  
330 2025, the social equity applicant submits to the department, in a form  
331 and manner prescribed by the commissioner:

332 (A) A completed application for a cultivator license;

333 (B) A copy of an agreement, between the social equity applicant and  
334 a hemp producer that has been continually licensed under section 22-  
335 61l of the general statutes since January 1, 2023, which provides:

336 (i) For the use of the hemp producer's cultivation lot, which may be  
337 located outside a disproportionately impacted area; and

338 (ii) That if the department issues a provisional cultivator license to  
339 the social equity applicant pursuant to this section:

340 (I) Such provisional cultivator license shall immediately be deemed  
341 to have automatically replaced both the provisional cultivator license  
342 application the social equity applicant submitted and any provisional  
343 cultivator license the department issued to the social equity applicant  
344 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as  
345 amended by this act, and such previously submitted provisional  
346 cultivator license application and previously issued provisional  
347 cultivator license shall immediately be deemed to have been  
348 automatically withdrawn or surrendered, as applicable, as set forth in  
349 subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision; and

350 (II) The hemp producer shall immediately be deemed to have  
351 automatically surrendered such hemp producer's license under section

352 22-611 of the general statutes, as set forth in subparagraph (D) of this  
353 subdivision;

354 (C) An acknowledgment by the social equity applicant that, if the  
355 department issues a provisional cultivator license to the social equity  
356 applicant pursuant to this section:

357 (i) Such provisional cultivator license shall immediately be deemed  
358 to have automatically replaced both the provisional cultivator license  
359 application the social equity applicant submitted and any provisional  
360 cultivator license the department issued to the social equity applicant  
361 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as  
362 amended by this act, and such previously submitted provisional  
363 cultivator license application and previously issued cultivator license  
364 shall immediately be deemed to have been automatically withdrawn or  
365 surrendered, as applicable; and

366 (ii) The social equity applicant shall no longer be eligible to create an  
367 equity joint venture, as prohibited under subsection (e) of this section;

368 (D) An acknowledgment by the hemp producer which is a party to  
369 the agreement described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision that, if  
370 the department issues a provisional cultivator license to the social equity  
371 applicant pursuant to this section, the hemp producer shall immediately  
372 be deemed to have automatically surrendered such hemp producer's  
373 license under section 22-611 of the general statutes;

374 (E) Evidence that is sufficient for the department to verify that the  
375 hemp producer which is a party to the agreement described in  
376 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision has been continually licensed  
377 under section 22-611 of the general statutes since January 1, 2023;

378 (F) A written statement by the social equity applicant disclosing  
379 whether any change occurred in the ownership or control of the social  
380 equity applicant after the Social Equity Council verified that the social  
381 equity applicant met the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant  
382 to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general

383 statutes, as amended by this act; and

384 (G) The application fee required under subsection (b) of this section;

385 (3) If any change described in subparagraph (F) of subdivision (2) of  
386 this subsection has occurred which is:

387 (A) Allowed under (i) section 21a-420g of the general statutes, as  
388 amended by this act, or (ii) any regulation adopted, or policy or  
389 procedure issued, pursuant to section 21a-420g of the general statutes,  
390 as amended by this act, or 21a-420h of the general statutes; and

391 (B) Allowed under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section,  
392 whereby (i) the Social Equity Council has determined that the social  
393 equity applicant continues to meet the criteria for a social equity  
394 applicant, and (ii) the department has received a written notice from the  
395 Social Equity Council disclosing that the Social Equity Council has  
396 determined that the social equity applicant continues to meet the criteria  
397 for a social equity applicant;

398 (4) If pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, (A)  
399 the Social Equity Council has reviewed the agreement described in  
400 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (B) the  
401 department has received a written notice from the Social Equity Council  
402 disclosing that the Social Equity Council has determined that the social  
403 equity applicant continues to meet the criteria for a social equity  
404 applicant; and

405 (5) If all hemp, as defined in section 22-611 of the general statutes, has  
406 been harvested from the cultivation lot described in subparagraph (B)(i)  
407 of subdivision (2) of this subsection.

408 (b) (1) A social equity applicant shall submit to the department a  
409 three-million-dollar application fee unless the social equity applicant  
410 has (A) received a provisional cultivator license under subsection (a) of  
411 section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and (B)  
412 paid the fee required under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section

413 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

414 (2) The fee to renew a final cultivator license issued pursuant to this  
415 section shall be the same as the fee to renew a final cultivator license as  
416 set forth in section 21a-420e of the general statutes, as amended by this  
417 act.

418 (3) All fees collected by the department under this section shall be  
419 deposited in the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund  
420 established in subsection (c) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes.

421 (c) (1) If any change described in subparagraph (F) of subdivision (2)  
422 of subsection (a) of this section has occurred, the Social Equity Council  
423 shall (A) determine whether the social equity applicant continues to  
424 meet the criteria for a social equity applicant, and (B) submit to the  
425 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, a  
426 written notice disclosing such determination.

427 (2) The Social Equity Council shall (A) review the agreement  
428 described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this  
429 section, and (B) submit to the department, in a form and manner  
430 prescribed by the commissioner, a written notice disclosing whether the  
431 social equity applicant continues to meet the criteria for a social equity  
432 applicant.

433 (d) All harvested hemp described in subdivision (5) of subsection (a)  
434 of this section shall continue to be deemed hemp until the department  
435 issues a final cultivator license to the social equity applicant pursuant to  
436 this section. After the department issues a final cultivator license to the  
437 social equity applicant pursuant to this section, such harvested hemp  
438 shall be deemed to be cannabis and shall be subject to all cannabis  
439 cultivation, testing, labeling, tracking, reporting and manufacturing  
440 provisions of RERACA as such provisions apply to cultivators. For the  
441 purposes of this subsection, "hemp" has the same meaning as provided  
442 in section 22-611 of the general statutes.

443 (e) No social equity applicant that receives a cultivator license

444 pursuant to this section shall be eligible to create an equity joint venture.

445 (f) Each application submitted to the department pursuant to  
446 subsection (a) of this section, and all information included in, or  
447 submitted with, any application submitted pursuant to said subsection,  
448 shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of section 21a-420e of  
449 the general statutes.

450 (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of RERACA, and except as  
451 otherwise provided in subsections (a) to (f), inclusive, of this section:

452 (1) Each application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
453 section shall be processed as any other cultivator application that has  
454 been selected through the lottery; and

455 (2) Each social equity applicant, application submitted pursuant to  
456 subsection (a) of this section and cultivator license issued pursuant to  
457 this section shall be subject to subsections (e) to (l), inclusive, of section  
458 21a-420g of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

459 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) (1) During the period  
460 beginning July 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024, a social equity  
461 applicant that has submitted an application to the department for a  
462 cultivator license pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the  
463 general statutes, as amended by this act, may withdraw such application  
464 and apply for a micro-cultivator license pursuant to this section if:

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

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

472 (C) The department has not already issued a provisional cultivator  
473 license to the social equity applicant pursuant to subsection (a) of section



474 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by this act; and

475 (D) The social equity applicant submits to the department, in a form  
476 and manner prescribed by the commissioner, a written statement by the  
477 social equity applicant:

478 (i) Withdrawing the social equity applicant's application under  
479 subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes, as amended by  
480 this act; and

481 (ii) Acknowledging that if the social equity applicant withdraws the  
482 application submitted under subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the  
483 general statutes, as amended by this act, the social equity applicant shall  
484 no longer be eligible to create an equity joint venture, as prohibited  
485 under subsection (e) of this section.

486 (2) No social equity applicant that withdraws an application in the  
487 manner set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be eligible to  
488 receive a refund for any fee paid in connection with such withdrawn  
489 application.

490 (b) During the period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending December  
491 31, 2025, the department shall issue a micro-cultivator license to a social  
492 equity applicant pursuant to this section:

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

495 (2) If during the period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending December  
496 31, 2024, the social equity applicant submits to the department, in a form  
497 and manner prescribed by the commissioner:

498 (A) A completed micro-cultivator license application;

499 (B) A written statement by the social equity applicant disclosing  
500 whether any change occurred in the ownership or control of the social  
501 equity applicant after the Social Equity Council verified that the  
502 applicant met the criteria for a social equity applicant pursuant to

503 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general  
504 statutes, as amended by this act; and

505 (C) The application and conversion fees required under subdivision  
506 (1) of subsection (c) of this section; and

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

509 (A) Such change in ownership or control is allowed under (i) section  
510 21a-420g of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or (ii) any  
511 regulation adopted, or policy or procedure issued, pursuant to section  
512 21a-420g of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 21a-420h of  
513 the general statutes; and

514 (B) Pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, (i) the Social Equity  
515 Council has determined that the social equity applicant continues to  
516 meet the criteria for a social equity applicant, and (ii) the department  
517 has received a written notice from the Social Equity Council disclosing  
518 that the Social Equity Council has determined that the social equity  
519 applicant continues to meet the criteria for a social equity applicant.

520 (c) (1) A social equity applicant that submits a micro-cultivator license  
521 application pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall submit to the  
522 department (A) an application fee in the amount of five hundred  
523 thousand dollars, and (B) a conversion fee in the amount of five hundred  
524 thousand dollars.

525 (2) The fee to renew a final micro-cultivator license issued pursuant  
526 to this section shall be the same as the fee to renew a final micro-  
527 cultivator license as set forth in section 21a-420e of the general statutes,  
528 as amended by this act.

529 (3) All fees collected by the department under this section shall be  
530 deposited in the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund  
531 established in subsection (c) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes.

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

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

538 (e) A social equity applicant that withdraws an application in the  
539 manner set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall  
540 no longer be eligible to create an equity joint venture.

541 (f) Each application submitted to the department pursuant to  
542 subsection (b) of this section, and all information included in, or  
543 submitted with, any application submitted pursuant to said subsection,  
544 shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of section 21a-420e of  
545 the general statutes.

546 (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of RERACA, and except as  
547 otherwise provided in subsections (a) to (f), inclusive, of this section:

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

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

555 Sec. 5. Subsections (i) to (k), inclusive, of section 21a-420d of the 2024  
556 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
557 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

558 (i) (1) Not later than August 1, 2021, and annually thereafter until July  
559 31, 2023, the council shall use the most recent five-year United States  
560 Census Bureau American Community Survey estimates or any  
561 successor data to determine one or more United States census tracts in  
562 the state that are a disproportionately impacted area and shall publish a

563 list of such tracts on the council's Internet web site.

564 (2) Not later than August 1, 2023, the council shall use poverty rate  
565 data from the most recent five-year United States Census Bureau  
566 American Community Survey estimates, population data from the most  
567 recent decennial census and conviction information from databases  
568 managed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public  
569 Protection to identify all United States census tracts in the state that are  
570 disproportionately impacted areas and shall publish a list of such tracts  
571 on the council's Internet web site. In identifying which census tracts in  
572 this state are disproportionately impacted areas and preparing such list,  
573 the council shall:

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

576 (B) After eliminating the census tracts described in subparagraph (A)  
577 of this subdivision, rank the remaining census tracts in order from the  
578 census tract with the greatest historical conviction rate for drug-related  
579 offenses to the census tract with the lowest historical conviction rate for  
580 drug-related offenses; and

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

585 (3) On and after July 1, 2024, any reservation, as defined in section 47-  
586 63, of the Schaghticoke, Paucatuck Eastern Pequot or Golden Hill  
587 Paugussett indigenous tribe recognized by this state under subsection  
588 (b) of section 47-59a shall be deemed to be a disproportionately  
589 impacted area, provided such reservation includes at least ten acres of  
590 contiguous land and such land comprised part of such reservation on  
591 July 1, 2024.

592 (j) After developing criteria for workforce development plans as  
593 described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this section, the council

594 shall review and approve or deny in writing any such plan submitted  
595 by a producer under section 21a-420l or a hybrid-retailer under section  
596 21a-420u, as amended by this act.

597 (k) The council shall develop criteria for evaluating the ownership  
598 and control of any equity joint venture created under section 21a-420m,  
599 as amended by this act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, or 21a-420j  
600 and shall review and approve or deny in writing such equity joint  
601 venture prior to such equity joint venture being licensed under section  
602 21a-420m, as amended by this act, 21a-420u, as amended by this act, or  
603 21a-420j. After developing criteria for social equity plans as described in  
604 subdivision (5) of subsection (h) of this section, the council shall review  
605 and approve or deny in writing any such plan submitted by a cannabis  
606 establishment as part of its final license application. The council shall  
607 not approve any equity joint venture applicant which shares with an  
608 equity joint venture any individual owner who meets the criteria  
609 established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(50)] (52) of  
610 section 21a-420, as amended by this act, other than an individual owner  
611 in their capacity as a backer licensed under section 21a-420o, as  
612 amended by this act.

613 Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 21a-420e of the 2024 supplement to  
614 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
615 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

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

618 (1) For a retailer license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be five  
619 hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be five  
620 thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal of a  
621 final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

622 (2) For a hybrid retailer license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be five  
623 hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be five  
624 thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal of a  
625 final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

626 (3) For a cultivator license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be one  
627 thousand dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be twenty-  
628 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal  
629 of a final license shall be seventy-five thousand dollars.

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

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

638 (B) For a product manufacturer seeking authorization to expand the  
639 product manufacturer's authorized activities to include the authorized  
640 activities of a food and beverage manufacturer, the application fee for  
641 such expanded authorization shall be five thousand dollars and the fee  
642 to renew such expanded authorization shall be five thousand dollars.  
643 The fees due under this subparagraph shall be in addition to the fees  
644 due under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

645 (6) (A) For a food and beverage manufacturer license, the fee to enter  
646 the lottery shall be two hundred fifty dollars, the fee to receive a  
647 provisional license shall be one thousand dollars and the fee to receive  
648 a final license or a renewal of a final license shall be five thousand  
649 dollars.

650 (B) For a food and beverage manufacturer seeking authorization to  
651 expand the food and beverage manufacturer's authorized activities to  
652 include the authorized activities of a product manufacturer, the  
653 application fee for such expanded authorization shall be twenty-five  
654 thousand dollars and the fee to renew such expanded authorization  
655 shall be twenty-five thousand dollars. The fees due under this  
656 subparagraph shall be in addition to the fees due under subparagraph  
657 (A) of this subdivision.

658 (7) (A) For a product packager license, the fee to enter the lottery shall  
659 be five hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be  
660 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal  
661 of a final license shall be twenty-five thousand dollars.

662 (B) For a product packager seeking authorization to expand the  
663 product packager's authorized activities to include the authorized  
664 activities of a product manufacturer, the application fee for such  
665 expanded authorization shall be thirty thousand dollars and the fee to  
666 renew such expanded authorization shall be thirty thousand dollars.  
667 The fees due under this subparagraph shall be in lieu of the fees due  
668 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

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

673 (9) For an initial or renewal of a backer license, the fee shall be one  
674 hundred dollars.

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

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

679 (12) The license conversion fee for a dispensary facility to become a  
680 hybrid retailer shall be one million dollars, except as provided in section  
681 21a-420u, as amended by this act.

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

685 (14) For a dispensary facility license, the fee to enter the lottery shall  
686 be five hundred dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be  
687 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal

688 of a final license shall be five thousand dollars.

689 (15) For a producer license, the fee to enter the lottery shall be one  
690 thousand dollars, the fee to receive a provisional license shall be twenty-  
691 five thousand dollars and the fee to receive a final license or a renewal  
692 of a final license shall be seventy-five thousand dollars.

693 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420g of the 2024 supplement to  
694 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
695 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

696 (b) Except as provided in section 21a-420o, as amended by this act,  
697 and sections 3 and 4 of this act, prior to the first date that the department  
698 begins accepting applications for a license type, the department shall  
699 determine the maximum number of applications that shall be  
700 considered for such license type and post such information on its  
701 Internet web site. Fifty per cent of the maximum number of applications  
702 that shall be considered for each license type (1) shall be selected  
703 through a social equity lottery for such license type, and (2) shall be  
704 reserved by the department for social equity applicants. If, upon the  
705 close of the application period for a license type, the department  
706 receives more applications than the maximum number to be considered  
707 in total or to be reserved for social equity applicants as set forth in this  
708 subsection, a third-party lottery operator shall conduct a lottery to  
709 identify applications for review by the department and the Social Equity  
710 Council.

711 Sec. 8. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420m of the 2024 supplement to  
712 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
713 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

714 (b) The equity joint venture shall be in any cannabis establishment  
715 licensed business, other than a cultivator license, provided such equity  
716 joint venture is at least fifty per cent owned and controlled by an  
717 individual or individuals who meet, or the equity joint venture  
718 applicant is an individual who meets, the criteria established in  
719 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(50)] (52) of section 21a-420,



720 as amended by this act.

721 Sec. 9. Section 21a-420o of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
722 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
723 *1, 2024*):

724 (a) Thirty days after the Social Equity Council posts the criteria for  
725 social equity applicants on its Internet web site, the department shall  
726 open up a three-month application period for cultivators during which  
727 a social equity applicant may apply to the department for a provisional  
728 cultivator license and final license for a cultivation facility located in a  
729 disproportionately impacted area without participating in a lottery or  
730 request for proposals. Such application for a provisional license shall be  
731 granted upon: (1) [verification] Verification by the Social Equity Council  
732 that the applicant meets the criteria for a social equity applicant; (2) the  
733 applicant submitting to and passing a criminal background check; and  
734 (3) payment of a three-million-dollar fee to be deposited in the Cannabis  
735 Social Equity and Innovation Fund established in section 21a-420f. Upon  
736 granting such provisional license, the department shall notify the  
737 applicant of the project labor agreement requirements of section 21a-  
738 421e. The department shall not grant an application for a provisional  
739 cultivator license under this subsection after December 31, 2025.

740 (b) To obtain a final cultivator license under this section, the social  
741 equity applicant shall provide evidence of: (1) [a] A contract with an  
742 entity providing an approved electronic tracking system as described in  
743 section 21a-421n; (2) a right to exclusively occupy [a] the location [in a  
744 disproportionately impacted area] at which the cultivation facility will  
745 be located, which location shall be situated (A) in a disproportionately  
746 impacted area, or (B) in the case of an exclusively outdoor grow, in a  
747 municipality containing any portion of a disproportionately impacted  
748 area, provided (i) such outdoor grow is conducted on land that such  
749 municipality has approved for agricultural or farming uses, and (ii) all  
750 cultivation complies with the provisions of the regulations adopted, and  
751 policies and procedures issued, pursuant to section 21a-421j, as  
752 amended by this act, permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis; (3)

753 any necessary local zoning approval and permits for the cultivation  
754 facility; (4) a business plan; (5) a social equity plan approved by the  
755 Social Equity Council; (6) written policies for preventing diversion and  
756 misuse of cannabis and sales of cannabis to underage persons; and (7)  
757 blueprints of the facility and all other security requirements of the  
758 department.

759 Sec. 10. Section 21a-420p of the 2024 supplement to the general  
760 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
761 (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

762 (a) On and after July 1, 2021, the department may issue or renew a  
763 license for a person to be a micro-cultivator. No person may act as a  
764 micro-cultivator or represent that such person is a licensed micro-  
765 cultivator unless such person has obtained a license from the  
766 department pursuant to this section.

767 (b) A micro-cultivator is authorized to cultivate, grow, propagate,  
768 manufacture and package the cannabis plant at an establishment  
769 containing not less than two thousand square feet and not more than ten  
770 thousand square feet of grow space, prior to any expansion authorized  
771 by the commissioner, provided such micro-cultivator complies with the  
772 provisions of any regulations adopted under section 21a-420q  
773 concerning grow space. A micro-cultivator business shall meet physical  
774 security controls set forth and required by the commissioner.

775 (c) A micro-cultivator may apply for expansion of its grow space, in  
776 increments of five thousand square feet, on an annual basis, from the  
777 date of initial licensure, if such licensee is not subject to any pending or  
778 final administrative actions or judicial findings. If there are any pending  
779 or final administrative actions or judicial findings against the licensee,  
780 the department shall conduct a suitability review to determine whether  
781 such expansion shall be granted, which determination shall be final and  
782 appealable only to the Superior Court. The micro-cultivator may apply  
783 for an expansion of its business annually upon renewal of its credential  
784 until such licensee reaches a maximum of twenty-five thousand square

785 feet of grow space. If a micro-cultivator desires to expand beyond  
786 twenty-five thousand square feet of grow space, the micro-cultivator  
787 licensee may apply for a cultivator license one year after its last  
788 expansion request. The micro-cultivator licensee shall not be required to  
789 apply through the lottery application process to convert its license to a  
790 cultivator license. If a micro-cultivator maintains its license and meets  
791 all of the application and licensure requirements for a cultivator license,  
792 including payment of the cultivator license fee established under section  
793 21a-420e, as amended by this act, the micro-cultivator licensee shall be  
794 granted a cultivator license.

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

800 (e) A micro-cultivator may sell, transfer or transport its cannabis to a  
801 dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, retailer, delivery service, food and  
802 beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer, research program,  
803 cannabis testing laboratory or product packager, provided the cannabis  
804 is cultivated, grown and propagated at the micro-cultivator's licensed  
805 establishment and transported utilizing the micro-cultivator's own  
806 employees or a transporter. A micro-cultivator shall not gift or transfer  
807 cannabis or cannabis products at no cost to a consumer as part of a  
808 commercial transaction.

809 (f) [A] (1) Subject to the requirements of this subsection and  
810 subsection (b) of section 21a-420c, a micro-cultivator may sell its own  
811 cannabis, including, but not limited to, its own cannabis seedlings, to  
812 consumers, excluding qualifying patients and caregivers, either through  
813 a delivery service or utilizing its own employees. [, subject to the  
814 requirements of subsection (b) of section 21a-420c] No cannabis  
815 establishment other than a micro-cultivator shall sell cannabis seedlings  
816 to consumers.

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

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

821 (B) The cannabis seedling (i) has a standing height of not more than  
822 six inches measured from the base of the stem to the tallest point of the  
823 plant, (ii) does not contain any bud or flower, and (iii) has been tested  
824 for pesticides and heavy metals in accordance with the laboratory  
825 testing standards established in the policies and procedures issued, and  
826 final regulations adopted, by the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-  
827 421j, as amended by this act; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

856 (6) Any micro-cultivator that engages in the delivery of cannabis as  
857 set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall maintain a secure  
858 location, in a manner approved by the commissioner, at the micro-  
859 cultivator's premises where cannabis that is unable to be delivered may  
860 be returned to the micro-cultivator. Such secure cannabis return location  
861 shall meet specifications set forth by the commissioner and published  
862 on the department's Internet web site or included in regulations adopted  
863 by the department. A micro-cultivator shall cease delivery of cannabis  
864 to consumers if [it] the micro-cultivator converts to being a cultivator.

865 Sec. 11. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 21a-420s of the 2024  
866 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
867 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

868 (d) A hybrid retailer shall [maintain] provide access to a licensed  
869 pharmacist, either on premises or through telehealth, at all times when  
870 the hybrid retail location is open to the public or to qualifying patients  
871 and caregivers.

872 (e) The hybrid retailer location shall include a private consultation  
873 space for pharmacists to meet with qualifying patients and caregivers  
874 either on premises or through telehealth. Additionally, the hybrid  
875 retailer premises shall accommodate an expedited method of entry that

876 allows for priority entrance into the premises for qualifying patients and  
877 caregivers.

878 Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420u of the 2024 supplement to  
879 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
880 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

881 (b) Any equity joint venture created under this section shall be  
882 created for the development of a cannabis establishment, other than a  
883 cultivator, provided such equity joint venture is at least fifty per cent  
884 owned and controlled by an individual or individuals who meet, or the  
885 equity joint venture applicant is an individual who meets, the criteria  
886 established in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision [(50)] (52) of  
887 section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

888 Sec. 13. Section 21a-420v of the general statutes is repealed and the  
889 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

890 (a) A dispensary facility or hybrid retailer may submit an application  
891 to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the  
892 commissioner, to relocate its current dispensary facility or hybrid  
893 retailer location. Such relocation application shall include:

894 (1) The number of qualifying patients the applicant served during the  
895 six-month period preceding the date of such relocation application,  
896 broken down by month, and indicating whether such number increased  
897 or decreased over such six-month period;

898 (2) Evidence of (A) alternative dispensary facilities and hybrid  
899 retailers located within a ten-mile radius of the applicant, prior to the  
900 proposed relocation, where qualifying patients may obtain medical  
901 marijuana products, and (B) available public transportation to the  
902 alternative dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers described in  
903 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision;

904 (3) A statement disclosing whether the applicant will continue to  
905 provide delivery services to the qualifying patients the applicant serves

906 prior to the proposed relocation and, if so, the duration and geographic  
907 scope of such delivery services;

908 (4) A plan to communicate the proposed relocation to qualifying  
909 patients, including, but not limited to, the content and methods of, and  
910 timeframes and target audiences for, such communications; and

911 (5) A plan to communicate with nearby dispensary facilities and  
912 hybrid retailers concerning the proposed relocation and the needs of the  
913 qualifying patients served by the applicant.

914 [(a) Until June 30, 2023, the] (b) The commissioner may deny a  
915 [change of location] relocation application from a dispensary facility or  
916 hybrid retailer based on the needs of qualifying patients.

917 [(b)] (c) Prior to June 30, 2022, the commissioner shall not approve the  
918 relocation of a dispensary facility or hybrid retailer to a location that is  
919 further than ten miles from its current dispensary facility or hybrid  
920 retailer location.

921 Sec. 14. Section 21a-420y of the 2024 supplement to the general  
922 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
923 (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

924 (a) On and after July 1, 2021, the department may issue or renew a  
925 license for a person to be a product packager. No person may act as a  
926 product packager or represent that such person is a product packager  
927 unless such person has obtained a license from the department pursuant  
928 to this section.

929 (b) A product packager may obtain cannabis from a producer,  
930 cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage manufacturer or a  
931 product manufacturer, provided the product packager utilizes its own  
932 employees or a transporter. The product packager may sell, transfer or  
933 transport cannabis to and from any cannabis establishment, cannabis  
934 testing laboratory or research program, provided the product packager  
935 only transports cannabis packaged at its licensed establishment and

936 utilizing its own employees or a transporter.

937 (c) A product packager shall be responsible for ensuring that  
938 cannabis products are labeled and packaged in compliance with the  
939 provisions of RERACA and the policies and procedures issued by the  
940 commissioner to implement, and any regulations adopted pursuant to,  
941 RERACA.

942 (d) A product packager shall ensure all equipment utilized for  
943 processing and packaging cannabis is sanitary and inspected regularly  
944 to deter the adulteration of cannabis.

945 (e) (1) A product packager may expand the product packager's  
946 authorized activities to include the authorized activities of a product  
947 manufacturer if: (A) The product packager submits to the department  
948 (i) a completed license expansion application on a form and in a manner  
949 prescribed by the commissioner, and (ii) the fee prescribed in  
950 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 21a-420e,  
951 as amended by this act; and (B) the commissioner authorizes the product  
952 packager, in writing, to expand such product packager's authorized  
953 activities to include the authorized activities of a product manufacturer.

954 (2) A product packager that expands the product packager's  
955 authorized activities to include the authorized activities of a product  
956 manufacturer under this subsection shall comply with all provisions of  
957 this chapter, and all regulations, policies and procedures prescribed  
958 pursuant to this chapter, concerning product manufacturers. In the  
959 event of a conflict between any provision of this chapter, or any  
960 regulation, policy or procedure prescribed pursuant to this chapter,  
961 concerning product packagers and any such provision, regulation,  
962 policy or procedure concerning product manufacturers, the provision,  
963 regulation, policy or procedure imposing the more stringent public  
964 health and safety standard shall prevail.

965 Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421j of the 2024 supplement to  
966 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
967 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):



968 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with  
969 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of RERACA. Notwithstanding  
970 the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, in order to  
971 effectuate the purposes of RERACA and protect public health and  
972 safety, prior to adopting such regulations the commissioner shall issue  
973 policies and procedures to implement the provisions of RERACA that  
974 shall have the force and effect of law. The commissioner shall post all  
975 policies and procedures on the department's Internet web site and  
976 submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for  
977 posting on the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the  
978 effective date of any policy or procedure. The commissioner shall also  
979 provide such policies and procedures, in a manner prescribed by the  
980 commissioner, to each licensee. Any such policy or procedure shall no  
981 longer be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy  
982 or procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or forty-eight  
983 months from June 22, 2021, if such regulations have not been submitted  
984 to the legislative regulation review committee for consideration under  
985 section 4-170. The commissioner shall issue policies and procedures and  
986 thereafter final regulations that include, but are not limited to, the  
987 following:

988 (1) Setting appropriate dosage, potency, concentration and serving  
989 size limits and delineation requirements for cannabis, provided a  
990 standardized serving of edible cannabis product or beverage, other than  
991 a medical marijuana product, shall contain not more than five  
992 milligrams of THC.

993 (2) Requiring that each single standardized serving of cannabis  
994 product in a multiple-serving edible product or beverage is physically  
995 demarked in a way that enables a reasonable person to determine how  
996 much of the product constitutes a single serving and a maximum  
997 amount of THC per multiple-serving edible cannabis product or  
998 beverage.

999 (3) Requiring that, if it is impracticable to clearly demark every  
1000 standardized serving of cannabis product or to make each standardized

1001 serving easily separable in an edible cannabis product or beverage, the  
1002 product, other than cannabis concentrate or medical marijuana product,  
1003 shall contain not more than five milligrams of THC per unit of sale.

1004 (4) Establishing, in consultation with the Department of Mental  
1005 Health and Addiction Services, consumer health materials that shall be  
1006 posted or distributed, as specified by the commissioner, by cannabis  
1007 establishments to maximize dissemination to cannabis consumers.  
1008 Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts,  
1009 signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed  
1010 health materials.

1011 (5) Imposing labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis sold  
1012 by a cannabis establishment that include, but are not limited to, the  
1013 following:

1014 (A) Inclusion of universal symbols to indicate that cannabis, or a  
1015 cannabis product, contains THC and is not legal or safe for individuals  
1016 younger than twenty-one years of age, and prescribe how such product  
1017 and product packaging shall utilize and exhibit such symbols.

1018 (B) A disclosure concerning the length of time it typically takes for  
1019 the cannabis to affect an individual, including that certain forms of  
1020 cannabis take longer to have an effect.

1021 (C) A notation of the amount of cannabis the cannabis product is  
1022 considered the equivalent to.

1023 (D) A list of ingredients and all additives for cannabis.

1024 (E) [Child-resistant] Except as provided in subdivision (3) of  
1025 subsection (f) of section 21a-420p, as amended by this act, child-  
1026 resistant, tamper-resistant and light-resistant packaging. [, including  
1027 requiring that an edible product be individually wrapped.] For the  
1028 purposes of this subparagraph, packaging shall be deemed to be (i)  
1029 child-resistant if the packaging satisfies the standard for special  
1030 packaging established in 16 CFR 1700.1(b)(4), as amended from time to

1031 time, (ii) tamper-resistant if the packaging has at least one barrier to, or  
1032 indicator of, entry that would preclude the contents of such packaging  
1033 from being accessed or adulterated without indicating to a reasonable  
1034 person that such packaging has been breached, and (iii) light-resistant if  
1035 the packaging is entirely and uniformly opaque and protects the entirety  
1036 of the contents of such packaging from the effects of light.

1037 (F) [Packaging for] Except as provided in subdivision (3) of  
1038 subsection (f) of section 21a-420p, as amended by this act, (i) packaging  
1039 for cannabis intended for multiple servings to be resealable in such a  
1040 manner so as to render such packaging continuously child-resistant, as  
1041 described in subparagraph (E)(i) of this subdivision, and preserve the  
1042 integrity of the contents of such packaging, and (ii) if packaging for  
1043 cannabis intended for multiple servings contains any edible cannabis  
1044 product, for each single standardized serving to be easily discernible  
1045 and (I) individually wrapped, or (II) physically demarked and  
1046 delineated as required under this subsection.

1047 (G) Impervious packaging that protects the contents of such  
1048 packaging from contamination and exposure to any toxic or harmful  
1049 substance, including, but not limited to, any glue or other adhesive or  
1050 substance that is incorporated in such packaging.

1051 (H) Product tracking information sufficient to determine where and  
1052 when the cannabis was grown and manufactured such that a product  
1053 recall could be effectuated.

1054 (I) A net weight statement.

1055 (J) A recommended use by or expiration date.

1056 (K) Standard and uniform packaging and labeling, including, but not  
1057 limited to, requirements (i) regarding branding or logos, (ii) that all  
1058 packaging be opaque, and (iii) that amounts and concentrations of THC  
1059 and cannabidiol, per serving and per package, be clearly marked on the  
1060 packaging or label of any cannabis product sold.

1061 (L) For any cannabis concentrate cannabis product that contains a  
1062 total THC percentage greater than thirty per cent, a warning that such  
1063 cannabis product is a high-potency product and may increase the risk  
1064 of psychosis.

1065 (M) Chemotypes, which shall be displayed as (i) "High THC, Low  
1066 CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is greater than five to one and the  
1067 total THC percentage is at least fifteen per cent, (ii) "Moderate THC,  
1068 Moderate CBD" where the ratio of THC to CBD is at least one to five but  
1069 not greater than five to one and the total THC percentage is greater than  
1070 five per cent but less than fifteen per cent, (iii) "Low THC, High CBD"  
1071 where the ratio of THC to CBD is less than one to five and the total THC  
1072 percentage is not greater than five per cent, or (iv) the chemotype  
1073 described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph that most closely  
1074 fits the cannabis or cannabis product, as determined by mathematical  
1075 analysis of the ratio of THC to CBD, where such cannabis or cannabis  
1076 product does not fit a chemotype described in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of  
1077 this subparagraph.

1078 (N) A requirement that, prior to being sold and transferred to a  
1079 consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver, cannabis packaging be  
1080 clearly labeled, whether printed directly on such packaging or affixed  
1081 by way of a separate label, other than an extended content label, with:

1082 (i) A unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking  
1083 system maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under  
1084 the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by  
1085 the commissioner pursuant to this section; and

1086 (ii) The following information concerning the cannabis contained in  
1087 such packaging, which shall be in legible English, black lettering, Times  
1088 New Roman font, flat regular typeface, on a contrasting background  
1089 and in uniform size of not less than one-tenth of one inch, based on a  
1090 capital letter "K", which information shall also be available on the  
1091 Internet web site of the cannabis establishment that sells and transfers  
1092 such cannabis:

1093 (I) The name of such cannabis, as registered with the department  
1094 under the policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted,  
1095 by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

1096 (II) The expiration date, which shall not account for any refrigeration  
1097 after such cannabis is sold and transferred to the consumer, qualifying  
1098 patient or caregiver.

1099 (III) The net weight or volume, expressed in metric and imperial  
1100 units.

1101 (IV) The standardized serving size, expressed in customary units, and  
1102 the number of servings included in such packaging, if applicable.

1103 (V) Directions for use and storage.

1104 (VI) Each active ingredient comprising at least one per cent of such  
1105 cannabis, including cannabinoids, isomers, esters, ethers and salts and  
1106 salts of isomers, esters and ethers, and all quantities thereof expressed  
1107 in metric units and as a percentage of volume.

1108 (VII) A list of all known allergens, as identified by the federal Food  
1109 and Drug Administration, contained in such cannabis, or the denotation  
1110 "no known FDA identified allergens" if such cannabis does not contain  
1111 any allergen identified by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

1112 (VIII) The following warning statement within, and outlined by, a red  
1113 box:

1114 "This product is not FDA-approved, may be intoxicating, cause long-  
1115 term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side  
1116 effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence  
1117 of cannabis. Keep away from children."

1118 (IX) At least one of the following warning statements, rotated  
1119 quarterly on an alternating basis:

1120 "Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to

1121 mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression,  
1122 stunted brain development and impaired memory."

1123 "Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be  
1124 harmful."

1125 "Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit-  
1126 forming and addictive."

1127 "Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may  
1128 result in adverse effects requiring medical attention."

1129 (X) All information necessary to comply with labeling requirements  
1130 imposed under the laws of this state or federal law, including, but not  
1131 limited to, sections 21a-91 to 21a-120, inclusive, and 21a-151 to 21a-159,  
1132 inclusive, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC 301 et seq.,  
1133 as amended from time to time, and the federal Fair Packaging and  
1134 Labeling Act, 15 USC 1451 et seq., as amended from time to time, for  
1135 similar products that do not contain cannabis.

1136 (XI) Such additional warning labels for certain cannabis products as  
1137 the commissioner may require and post on the department's Internet  
1138 web site.

1139 (6) Establishing laboratory testing standards.

1140 (7) Restricting forms of cannabis products and cannabis product  
1141 delivery systems to ensure consumer safety and deter public health  
1142 concerns.

1143 (8) Prohibiting certain manufacturing methods, or inclusion of  
1144 additives to cannabis products, including, but not limited to, (A) added  
1145 flavoring, terpenes or other additives unless approved by the  
1146 department, or (B) any form of nicotine or other additive containing  
1147 nicotine.

1148 (9) Prohibiting cannabis product types that appeal to children.

1149 (10) Establishing physical and cyber security requirements related to  
1150 build out, monitoring and protocols for cannabis establishments as a  
1151 requirement for licensure.

1152 (11) Placing temporary limits on the sale of cannabis in the adult-use  
1153 market, if deemed appropriate and necessary by the commissioner, in  
1154 response to a shortage of cannabis for qualifying patients.

1155 (12) Requiring retailers and hybrid retailers to make best efforts to  
1156 provide access to (A) low-dose THC products, including products that  
1157 have one milligram and two and a half milligrams of THC per dose, and  
1158 (B) high-dose CBD products.

1159 (13) Requiring producers, cultivators, micro-cultivators, product  
1160 manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers to register brand  
1161 names for cannabis, in accordance with the policies and procedures and  
1162 subject to the fee set forth in, regulations adopted under chapter 420f.

1163 (14) Prohibiting a cannabis establishment from selling, other than the  
1164 sale of medical marijuana products between cannabis establishments  
1165 and the sale of cannabis to qualified patients and caregivers, (A)  
1166 cannabis flower or other cannabis plant material with a total THC  
1167 concentration greater than thirty per cent on a dry-weight basis, and (B)  
1168 any cannabis product other than cannabis flower and cannabis plant  
1169 material with a total THC concentration greater than sixty per cent on a  
1170 dry-weight basis, except that the provisions of subparagraph (B) of this  
1171 subdivision shall not apply to the sale of prefilled cartridges for use in  
1172 an electronic cannabis delivery system, as defined in section 19a-342a  
1173 and the department may adjust the percentages set forth in  
1174 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision in regulations adopted  
1175 pursuant to this section for purposes of public health or to address  
1176 market access or shortage. As used in this subdivision, "cannabis plant  
1177 material" means material from the cannabis plant, as defined in section  
1178 21a-279a.

1179 (15) Permitting the outdoor cultivation of cannabis.

1180 (16) Prohibiting packaging that is (A) visually similar to any  
1181 commercially similar product that does not contain cannabis, or (B) used  
1182 for any good that is marketed to individuals reasonably expected to be  
1183 younger than twenty-one years of age.

1184 (17) Allowing packaging to include a picture of the cannabis product  
1185 and contain a logo of one cannabis establishment, which logo may be  
1186 comprised of not more than three colors and provided neither black nor  
1187 white shall be considered one of such three colors.

1188 (18) Requiring packaging to (A) be entirely and uniformly one color,  
1189 and (B) not incorporate any information, print, embossing, debossing,  
1190 graphic or hidden feature, other than any permitted or required label.

1191 (19) Requiring that packaging and labeling for an edible cannabis  
1192 product, excluding the warning labels required under this subsection  
1193 and a picture of the cannabis product described in subdivision (17) of  
1194 this subsection but including, but not limited to, the logo of the cannabis  
1195 establishment, shall only be comprised of black and white or a  
1196 combination thereof.

1197 (20) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,  
1198 requiring that delivery device cartridges be labeled, in a clearly legible  
1199 manner and in as large a font as the size of the device reasonably allows,  
1200 with only the following information (i) the name of the cannabis  
1201 establishment where the cannabis is grown or manufactured, (ii) the  
1202 cannabis brand, (iii) the total THC and total CBD content contained  
1203 within the delivery device cartridge, (iv) the expiration date, and (v) the  
1204 unique identifier generated by a cannabis analytic tracking system  
1205 maintained by the department and used to track cannabis under the  
1206 policies and procedures issued, and final regulations adopted, by the  
1207 commissioner pursuant to this section.

1208 (B) A cannabis establishment may emboss, deboss or similarly print  
1209 the name of the cannabis establishment's business entity, and one logo  
1210 with not more than three colors, on a delivery device cartridge.



1211 Sec. 16. Section 21a-421r of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1212 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1213 A licensed pharmacist working as an employee [at] of a dispensary  
1214 facility or hybrid retailer shall transmit dispensing information, in a  
1215 manner prescribed by the commissioner, on any cannabis sold to a  
1216 qualifying patient or caregiver in real-time or immediately upon  
1217 completion of the transaction, unless not reasonably feasible for a  
1218 specific transaction, but in no case longer than one hour after completion  
1219 of the transaction.

1220 Sec. 17. Subsection (b) of section 21a-421bb of the 2024 supplement to  
1221 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1222 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1223 (b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, cannabis  
1224 establishments shall not:

1225 (1) Advertise, including, but not limited to, through a business name  
1226 or logo, cannabis, cannabis paraphernalia or goods or services related to  
1227 cannabis:

1228 (A) In ways that target or are designed to appeal to individuals under  
1229 twenty-one years of age, including, but not limited to, spokespersons or  
1230 celebrities who appeal to individuals under the legal age to purchase  
1231 cannabis or cannabis products, depictions of a person under twenty-five  
1232 years of age consuming cannabis, or, the inclusion of objects, such as  
1233 toys, characters or cartoon characters, suggesting the presence of a  
1234 person under twenty-one years of age, or any other depiction designed  
1235 in any manner to be appealing to a person under twenty-one years of  
1236 age; or

1237 (B) By using any image, or any other visual representation, of the  
1238 cannabis plant or any part of the cannabis plant, including, but not  
1239 limited to, the leaf of the cannabis plant;

1240 (2) Engage in any advertising by means of any form of billboard

1241 within one thousand five hundred feet of an elementary or secondary  
1242 school ground or a house of worship, recreation center or facility, child  
1243 care center, playground, public park or library, or engage in any  
1244 advertising by means of a billboard between the hours of six o'clock a.m.  
1245 and eleven o'clock p.m.;

1246 (3) Engage in advertising by means of any television, radio, Internet,  
1247 mobile application, social media or other electronic communication,  
1248 billboard or other outdoor signage, or print publication unless the  
1249 cannabis establishment has reliable evidence that at least ninety per cent  
1250 of the audience for the advertisement is reasonably expected to be  
1251 twenty-one years of age or older;

1252 (4) Engage in advertising or marketing directed toward location-  
1253 based devices, including, but not limited to, cellular phones, unless the  
1254 marketing is a mobile device application installed on the device by the  
1255 owner of the device who is twenty-one years of age or older and  
1256 includes a permanent and easy opt-out feature and warnings that the  
1257 use of cannabis is restricted to persons twenty-one years of age or older;

1258 (5) Advertise cannabis or cannabis products in a manner claiming or  
1259 implying, or permit any employee of the cannabis establishment to  
1260 claim or imply, that such products have curative or therapeutic effects,  
1261 or that any other medical claim is true, or allow any employee to  
1262 promote cannabis for a wellness purpose unless such claims are  
1263 substantiated as set forth in regulations adopted under chapter 420f or  
1264 verbally conveyed by a licensed pharmacist or other licensed medical  
1265 practitioner in the course of business in, or while representing, a hybrid  
1266 retail or dispensary facility;

1267 (6) Sponsor charitable, sports, musical, artistic, cultural, social or  
1268 other similar events or advertising at, or in connection with, such an  
1269 event unless the cannabis establishment has reliable evidence that (A)  
1270 not more than ten per cent of the in-person audience at the event is  
1271 reasonably expected to be under the legal age to purchase cannabis or  
1272 cannabis products, and (B) not more than ten per cent of the audience

1273 that will watch, listen or participate in the event is expected to be under  
1274 the legal age to purchase cannabis products;

1275 (7) Advertise cannabis, cannabis products or cannabis paraphernalia  
1276 in any physical form visible to the public within five hundred feet of an  
1277 elementary or secondary school ground or a recreation center or facility,  
1278 child care center, playground, public park or library;

1279 (8) Cultivate cannabis or manufacture cannabis products for  
1280 distribution outside of this state in violation of federal law, advertise in  
1281 any way that encourages the transportation of cannabis across state lines  
1282 or otherwise encourages illegal activity;

1283 (9) Except for dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers, exhibit within  
1284 or upon the outside of the facility used in the operation of a cannabis  
1285 establishment, or include in any advertisement, the word "dispensary"  
1286 or any variation of such term or any other words, displays or symbols  
1287 indicating that such store, shop or place of business is a dispensary;

1288 (10) Exhibit within or upon the outside of the premises subject to the  
1289 cannabis establishment license, or include in any advertisement the  
1290 words "drug store", "pharmacy", "apothecary", "drug", "drugs" or  
1291 "medicine shop" or any combination of such terms or any other words,  
1292 displays or symbols indicating that such store, shop or place of business  
1293 is a pharmacy;

1294 (11) Advertise on or in public or private vehicles or at bus stops, taxi  
1295 stands, transportation waiting areas, train stations, airports or other  
1296 similar transportation venues including, but not limited to, vinyl-  
1297 wrapped vehicles or signs or logos on transportation vehicles not  
1298 owned by a cannabis establishment;

1299 (12) Display cannabis, cannabis products or any image, or any other  
1300 visual representation, of the cannabis plant or any part of the cannabis  
1301 plant, including, but not limited to, the leaf of the cannabis plant, so as  
1302 to be clearly visible to a person from the exterior of the facility used in  
1303 the operation of a cannabis establishment, or display signs or other

1304 printed material advertising any brand or any kind of cannabis or  
1305 cannabis product, or including any image, or any other visual  
1306 representation, of the cannabis plant or any part of the cannabis plant,  
1307 including, but not limited to, the leaf of the cannabis plant, on the  
1308 exterior of any facility used in the operation of a cannabis establishment;

1309 (13) Utilize radio or loudspeaker, in a vehicle or in or outside of a  
1310 facility used in the operation of a cannabis establishment, for the  
1311 purposes of advertising the sale of cannabis or cannabis products; [or]

1312 (14) Operate any web site advertising or depicting cannabis, cannabis  
1313 products or cannabis paraphernalia unless such web site verifies that  
1314 the entrants or users are twenty-one years of age or older; or

1315 (15) Engage in advertising or marketing that includes a discounted  
1316 price or other promotional offering as an inducement to purchase  
1317 cannabis or any cannabis product.

1318 Sec. 18. Section 22-61m of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
1319 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1320 *1, 2024*):

1321 (a) No person shall manufacture in the state without a license to  
1322 manufacture issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

1323 (b) Each applicant for a manufacturer license shall submit an  
1324 application on a form and in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner  
1325 of Consumer Protection.

1326 (c) The following fees shall apply for a license to manufacture:

1327 (1) A nonrefundable license application fee of seventy-five dollars;  
1328 and

1329 (2) A nonrefundable licensing fee of three hundred seventy-five  
1330 dollars for a license to manufacture hemp.

1331 (d) A license to manufacture issued by the Commissioner of

1332 Consumer Protection pursuant to this section shall expire triennially on  
1333 June thirtieth. Such licenses shall not be transferable.

1334 (e) In accordance with a hearing held pursuant to chapter 54, the  
1335 Commissioner of Consumer Protection may deny, suspend or revoke a  
1336 manufacturer license, issue fines of not more than two thousand five  
1337 hundred dollars per violation and place conditions upon a  
1338 manufacturer licensee who violates the provisions of this section and  
1339 any regulation adopted pursuant to this section.

1340 (f) (1) Any individual who manufactures in this state without  
1341 obtaining a license pursuant to this section or who manufactures in this  
1342 state after such entity's license is suspended or revoked shall be fined  
1343 two hundred fifty dollars in accordance with the provisions of section  
1344 51-164n.

1345 (2) Any entity who manufactures in this state without obtaining a  
1346 license pursuant to this section, or who manufactures in this state after  
1347 having a license suspended, shall be fined not more than two thousand  
1348 five hundred dollars per violation after a hearing conducted in  
1349 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

1350 (g) Nothing in this chapter or any regulations adopted pursuant to  
1351 this chapter shall be construed to apply to persons licensed pursuant to  
1352 section 21a-408i nor to require persons licensed pursuant to said section  
1353 to obtain a license pursuant to this chapter.

1354 (h) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may inspect and shall  
1355 have access to the buildings, equipment, supplies, vehicles, records, real  
1356 property and other information of any manufacturer applicant or  
1357 licensee that the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the  
1358 commissioner's duties pursuant to this section.

1359 (i) (1) Each manufacturer shall follow the protocol in this subsection  
1360 for disposing of cannabis in the event that any hemp or hemp product  
1361 is deemed to exceed the prescribed THC concentration, as determined  
1362 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or a manufacturer

1363 licensee in possession of hemp or hemp products who desires to dispose  
1364 of obsolete, misbranded, excess or otherwise undesired product. Each  
1365 manufacturer licensee shall be responsible for all costs of disposal of  
1366 hemp samples and any hemp produced by such licensee that violates  
1367 the provisions of this section or any regulation adopted pursuant to this  
1368 section. Any cannabis that exceeds the prescribed THC concentration  
1369 allowable in hemp or hemp products shall be immediately embargoed  
1370 by such manufacturer and clearly labeled as adulterated by such  
1371 licensee and such licensee shall immediately notify both the Department  
1372 of Consumer Protection and the Department of Agriculture, in writing,  
1373 of such adulterated product. Such adulterated product shall be  
1374 destroyed and disposed of by the following method, as determined by  
1375 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection:

1376 (A) Surrender, without compensation, of such hemp or hemp product  
1377 to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection who shall be responsible  
1378 for the destruction and disposal of such adulterated product; or

1379 (B) By disposal in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner of  
1380 Consumer Protection.

1381 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
1382 subsection, upon written request of a manufacturer, the Commissioner  
1383 of Consumer Protection may permit such manufacturer to combine  
1384 different batches of raw hemp plant material to achieve a THC  
1385 concentration of 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis, in lieu of embargo  
1386 or destruction.

1387 (j) The manufacturer or manufacturer's authorized designee  
1388 disposing of the hemp or hemp products shall maintain and make  
1389 available to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection a record of each  
1390 such disposal or destruction of product indicating:

1391 (1) The date, time and location of disposal or destruction;

1392 (2) The manner of disposal or destruction;

1393 (3) The batch or lot information and quantity of hemp or hemp  
1394 product disposed of or destroyed; and

1395 (4) The signatures of the persons disposing of the hemp or hemp  
1396 products, the authorized representative of the Commissioner of  
1397 Consumer Protection and any other persons present during the  
1398 disposal.

1399 (k) Any hemp intended to be manufactured by a manufacturer into a  
1400 manufacturer hemp product shall be tested by an independent testing  
1401 laboratory located in this state. A manufacturer licensee shall make  
1402 available samples, in an amount and type determined by the  
1403 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, of hemp for an independent  
1404 testing laboratory employee to select random samples. The independent  
1405 testing laboratory shall test each sample in accordance with the  
1406 laboratory testing standards established in policies, procedures and  
1407 regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 21a-421j,  
1408 as amended by this act.

1409 (l) Once a batch of hemp, intended to be sold as a manufacturer hemp  
1410 product, has been homogenized for sample testing and eventual  
1411 packaging and sale, until the independent testing laboratory provides  
1412 the results from its tests and analysis, the manufacturer shall segregate  
1413 and withhold from use the entire batch of hemp that is intended for use  
1414 as a manufacturer hemp product, except the samples that have been  
1415 removed by the independent testing laboratory for testing. During this  
1416 period of segregation, the manufacturer licensee shall maintain the  
1417 hemp batch in a secure, cool and dry location, as prescribed by the  
1418 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, so as to prevent the hemp from  
1419 becoming adulterated. Such manufacturer shall not manufacture or sell  
1420 a manufacturer hemp product prior to the time that the independent  
1421 testing laboratory completes testing and analysis and provides such  
1422 results, in writing, to the manufacturer licensee who initiated such  
1423 testing.

1424 (m) An independent testing laboratory shall immediately return or

1425 dispose of any hemp or manufacturer hemp product upon the  
1426 completion of any testing, use or research. If an independent testing  
1427 laboratory disposes of hemp or manufacturer hemp products, the  
1428 laboratory shall dispose of such hemp in the following manner, as  
1429 determined by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection:

1430 (1) By surrender, without compensation, of such hemp or  
1431 manufacturer hemp product to the Commissioner of Consumer  
1432 Protection who shall be responsible for the destruction and disposal of  
1433 such hemp or hemp product; or

1434 (2) By disposal in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner of  
1435 Consumer Protection.

1436 (n) If a sample does not pass the microbiological, mycotoxin, heavy  
1437 metal or pesticide chemical residue test, based on the laboratory testing  
1438 standards established in policies, procedures and regulations adopted  
1439 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-  
1440 421j, as amended by this act, the manufacturer licensee who sent such  
1441 batch for testing shall:

1442 (1) Retest and reanalyze the hemp from which the sample was taken  
1443 by having an employee from the same laboratory randomly select  
1444 another sample from the same hemp batch. If the sample used to retest  
1445 or reanalyze such hemp yields satisfactory results for all testing  
1446 required under this section, an employee from a different laboratory  
1447 shall randomly select a different sample from the same hemp batch for  
1448 testing. If both samples yield satisfactory results for all testing required  
1449 under this section, the hemp batch from which the samples were taken  
1450 shall be released for manufacturing, processing and sale;

1451 (2) If a remediation plan sufficient to ensure public health and safety  
1452 is submitted to and approved by the commissioner, remediate the hemp  
1453 batch from which the sample was taken and have a laboratory employee  
1454 randomly select a sample from such remediated hemp batch for testing.  
1455 If such randomly selected sample yields satisfactory results for any  
1456 testing required under this section, an employee from a different



1457 laboratory shall randomly select a different sample from the same hemp  
1458 batch for testing. If both samples yield satisfactory results for all testing  
1459 required under this section, the hemp batch from which the samples  
1460 were taken may be released for manufacturing, processing or sale; or

1461 (3) If the manufacturer does not retest or remediate, or if any  
1462 subsequent laboratory testing does not yield satisfactory results for any  
1463 testing required under this section, dispose of the entire batch from  
1464 which the sample was taken in accordance with procedures established  
1465 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to subdivision  
1466 (1) of subsection (i) of this section.

1467 (o) If a sample passes the microbiological, mycotoxin, heavy metal  
1468 and pesticide chemical residue test, the independent testing laboratory  
1469 shall release the entire batch for manufacturing, processing or sale.

1470 (p) The independent testing laboratory shall file with the Department  
1471 of Consumer Protection an electronic copy of each laboratory test result  
1472 for any batch that does not pass the microbiological, mycotoxin, heavy  
1473 metal or pesticide chemical residue test, at the same time that it  
1474 transmits such results to the manufacturer licensee who requested such  
1475 testing. Each independent testing laboratory shall maintain the test  
1476 results of each tested batch for a period of three years and shall make  
1477 such results available to the Department of Consumer Protection upon  
1478 request.

1479 (q) Manufacturers shall maintain records required by the federal act,  
1480 this section, any regulation adopted pursuant to this section and the  
1481 policies, procedures and regulations adopted by the Commissioner of  
1482 Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-421j, as amended by this  
1483 act. Each manufacturer shall make such records available to the  
1484 Department of Consumer Protection immediately upon request and in  
1485 electronic format, if available.

1486 (r) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt  
1487 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to  
1488 implement the provisions of this section including, but not limited to,

1489 establishing sampling and testing procedures to ensure compliance  
1490 with this section, prescribing storage and disposal procedures for hemp,  
1491 marijuana and manufacturer hemp products that fail to pass  
1492 Department of Consumer Protection prescribed independent testing  
1493 laboratory testing standards and establishing advertising and labeling  
1494 requirements for manufacturer hemp products.

1495 (s) Any claim of health impacts, medical effects or physical or mental  
1496 benefits shall be prohibited on any advertising for, labeling of or  
1497 marketing of manufacturer hemp products regardless of whether such  
1498 manufacturer hemp products were manufactured in this state or  
1499 another jurisdiction. Any violation of this subsection shall be deemed an  
1500 unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-  
1501 110b.

1502 (t) Not later than February 1, 2020, the Commissioners of Agriculture  
1503 and Consumer Protection shall submit a report, in accordance with  
1504 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the general assembly  
1505 having cognizance of matters relating to the environment on the status  
1506 of the pilot program, the development of the state plan and any  
1507 regulations for such pilot program or state plan. Such report shall also  
1508 include any legislative recommendations, including, but not limited to,  
1509 any recommendations for requiring the registration of any  
1510 manufacturer hemp product offered for sale in this state.

1511 (u) (1) Any person who sells manufacturer hemp products shall not  
1512 be required to be licensed, provided such person only engages in: (A)  
1513 The retail or wholesale sale of manufacturer hemp products in which no  
1514 further manufacturing of hemp occurs, provided such manufacturer  
1515 hemp products are acquired from a person authorized to manufacture  
1516 the manufacturer hemp products under the laws of this state or another  
1517 state, territory or possession of the United States or another sovereign  
1518 entity; (B) the acquisition of manufacturer hemp products for the sole  
1519 purpose of product distribution for resale; and (C) the retail sale of  
1520 manufacturer hemp products that is authorized under federal or state  
1521 law.

1522 (2) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection or Commissioner of  
1523 Revenue Services may, pursuant to section 4-182, summarily suspend  
1524 any credential the Department of Consumer Protection or Department  
1525 of Revenue Services, respectively, issued to any person who [sells  
1526 manufacturer hemp products in violation of subdivision (1) of this  
1527 subsection or subsections (v) to (y), inclusive, of this section] violates  
1528 any provision of this section or chapter 214c, 228d, 420f or 420h.

1529 (v) No manufacturer hemp product offered for sale in this state, or to  
1530 a consumer in this state, shall contain any synthetic cannabinoid, as  
1531 defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this act.

1532 (w) No manufacturer hemp product offered for sale in this state, or  
1533 to a consumer in this state, shall be packaged, presented or advertised  
1534 in a manner that is likely to mislead a consumer by incorporating any  
1535 statement, brand, design, representation, picture, illustration or other  
1536 depiction that: (1) Bears a reasonable resemblance to trademarked or  
1537 characteristic packaging of (A) cannabis offered for sale (i) in this state  
1538 by a cannabis establishment licensed in this state, or (ii) on tribal land  
1539 by a tribal-credentialed cannabis entity, or (B) a commercially available  
1540 product other than a cannabis product, as defined in section 21a-420, as  
1541 amended by this act; or (2) implies that the manufacturer hemp product  
1542 (A) is a cannabis product, as defined in section 21a-420, as amended by  
1543 this act, (B) contains a total THC concentration greater than three-tenths  
1544 per cent on a dry-weight basis, or (C) is a high-THC hemp product, as  
1545 defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this act.

1546 (x) No manufacturer hemp product that is a food, beverage, oil or  
1547 other product intended for human ingestion shall be distributed or sold  
1548 in this state unless such product is contained within a package, or a label  
1549 is affixed to such package, that includes:

1550 (1) A scannable barcode, Internet web site address or quick response  
1551 code that is linked to the certificate of analysis of the final form product  
1552 batch by an independent testing laboratory and discloses:

1553 (A) The name of such product;

1554 (B) The name, address and telephone number of such product's  
1555 manufacturer, packer and distributor, as applicable;

1556 (C) The batch number, which shall match the batch number on such  
1557 package or label; and

1558 (D) The concentration of cannabinoids present in such product,  
1559 including, but not limited to, total THC and any cannabinoids or active  
1560 ingredients comprising at least one per cent of such product;

1561 (2) The expiration or best by date for such product, if applicable;

1562 (3) A clear and conspicuous statement disclosing that:

1563 (A) Children, or those who are pregnant or breastfeeding, should  
1564 avoid using such product prior to consulting with a health care  
1565 professional concerning such product's safety;

1566 (B) Products containing cannabinoids should be kept out of reach of  
1567 children; and

1568 (C) The federal Food and Drug Administration has not evaluated  
1569 such product for safety or efficacy; and

1570 (4) If such product is intended to be inhaled, a clear and conspicuous  
1571 warning statement disclosing that smoking or vaporizing is hazardous  
1572 to human health.

1573 (y) No manufacturer hemp product that is a topical, soap or cosmetic,  
1574 as defined in section 21a-92, shall be distributed or sold in this state  
1575 unless such product is contained within a package, or a label is affixed  
1576 to such package, that includes:

1577 (1) A scannable barcode, Internet web site address or quick response  
1578 code that is linked to the certificate of analysis of the final form extract  
1579 or final form product batch by an independent testing laboratory and  
1580 discloses:

1581 (A) The name of such product;

1582 (B) The name, address and telephone number of such product's  
1583 manufacturer, packer and distributor, as applicable;

1584 (C) The batch number, which shall match the batch number on such  
1585 package or label; and

1586 (D) The concentration of cannabinoids present in such batch,  
1587 including, but not limited to, total THC and any marketed cannabinoids;

1588 (2) The expiration or best by date for such product, if applicable; and

1589 (3) A clear and conspicuous statement disclosing the following:

1590 "THE FDA HAS NOT EVALUATED THIS PRODUCT FOR SAFETY  
1591 OR EFFICACY."

1592 (z) Any violation of subsections (u) to (y), inclusive, of this section  
1593 shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection  
1594 (a) of section 42-110b.

1595 (aa) Not later than October 31, 2023, the Department of Emergency  
1596 Services and Public Protection shall, in consultation with the  
1597 Department of Consumer Protection, publish a training bulletin to  
1598 inform local law enforcement agencies and officers regarding the  
1599 investigation and enforcement standards concerning cannabis and high-  
1600 THC hemp products.

1601 (bb) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes: (1) CBD  
1602 that is found in manufacturer hemp products shall not be considered a  
1603 controlled substance, as defined in section 21a-240, as amended by this  
1604 act, or legend drug, as defined in section 20-571; and (2) CBD derived  
1605 from hemp and contained in manufacturer hemp products shall not be  
1606 considered a controlled substance or adulterant.

1607 (cc) No manufacturer hemp product shall be sold in packaging that  
1608 contains more than one serving per container.

1609 Sec. 19. Subsection (c) of section 22-61n of the 2024 supplement to the

1610 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 1611 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1612 (c) Hemp or hemp products purchased by a producer, cultivator,  
 1613 micro-cultivator, [or] product manufacturer or food and beverage  
 1614 manufacturer from a third party shall be tracked as a separate batch  
 1615 throughout the manufacturing process in order to document the  
 1616 disposition of such hemp or hemp products. Once hemp or hemp  
 1617 products are received by a producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, [or]  
 1618 product manufacturer or food and beverage manufacturer, such hemp  
 1619 or hemp products shall be deemed cannabis and shall comply with the  
 1620 requirements for cannabis contained in the applicable provisions of the  
 1621 general statutes and any regulations adopted pursuant to such  
 1622 provisions. A producer, cultivator, micro-cultivator, [and] product  
 1623 manufacturer or food and beverage manufacturer shall retain a copy of  
 1624 the certificate of analysis for purchased hemp or hemp products and  
 1625 invoice and transport documents that evidence the quantity purchased  
 1626 and date received.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-240(63)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420d(i) to (k)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420e(c)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420g(b)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420m(b)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420o
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420p
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420s(d) and (e)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420u(b)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420v
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-420y
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-421j(b)
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	21a-421r

Sec. 17	July 1, 2024	21a-421bb(b)
Sec. 18	July 1, 2024	22-61m
Sec. 19	July 1, 2024	22-61n(c)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To: (1) Redefine "high-THC hemp product" and "disproportionately impacted area"; (2) enable certain social equity applicants to engage in additional cultivation activities and apply for additional licenses; (3) modify certain common ownership requirements concerning equity joint ventures; (4) enable product packagers to expand their authorized activities; (5) limit the licensing period for certain provisional cultivator licenses; (6) modify requirements concerning the location of cultivation facilities; (7) authorize micro-cultivators to sell cannabis seedlings; (8) authorize hybrid retailers to provide access to pharmacists through telehealth; (9) establish additional requirements concerning dispensary facility and hybrid retailer relocations; (10) alter certain requirements applicable to packaging containing (A) multiple servings of cannabis, or (B) manufacturer hemp products; (11) provide that no cannabis establishment shall engage in certain advertising; and (12) make various minor, technical and conforming changes to statutes concerning cannabis and hemp regulation.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*