SENATE No. 2097

Senate June 22, 2017, – Text of the Senate amendment to the House Bill to ensure the public health and safety of patient and consumer access to medical and adult use of marijuana in the Commonwealth (being the text of Senate document number 2090, printed as amended)

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court (2017-2018)

1 SECTION 1. Pursuant to the voter-approved initiative to legalize, regulate and tax 2 marijuana for adult use, the commonwealth by this act establishes a cannabis control 3 commission. The commission shall develop a robust, competitive and legal market for adult use 4 of marijuana in the commonwealth. To that end, the commission shall be responsible for 5 establishing rules, regulations and practices to receive, evaluate and issue license applications 6 and licenses to individuals and entities based on competence, capacity and integrity. The 7 commission shall enforce its rules and regulations fairly and rigorously to provide a clear and 8 expedient path toward a marketplace for the adult use of marijuana in the commonwealth while 9 ensuring the health and safety of its people. 10 SECTION 2. Section 116 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 11 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-12 The executive director of the municipal police training committee, in conjunction with 13 the secretary of public safety and security, shall submit an annual estimate on the full cost of 14 operating the municipal police training committee and the complete array of training programs

for municipal police in the commonwealth to the senate and house committee on ways means by not later than December 31.

SECTION 3. Chapter 10 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 35DDD the following section:-

Section 35EEE. (a) There shall be a Municipal Police Training Fund, consisting of amounts credited to the fund in accordance with this section. The secretary of public safety and security shall act as trustee and may expend money from the fund, without further appropriation; provided, however, that the amounts credited to the fund shall be expended exclusively to support the activities of the municipal police training committee established in section 116 of chapter 6.

(b) The fund shall consist of: (i) funds transferred from the Marijuana Regulation Fund established in section 14 of chapter 94G; (ii) revenue from appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (iii) interest earned on money in the fund; and (iv) funds from private sources including, but not limited to, gifts, grants and donations received by the commonwealth that are specifically designated to be credited to the fund. Amounts credited to the fund shall not be subject to further appropriation and money remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund. The secretary shall annually report the activity of the fund to the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives and the senate and house committees on ways and mean by not later than December 31.

SECTION 4. Said chapter 10 is hereby further amended by striking out sections 76 and 77, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following 2 sections:-

- Section 76. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
- 40 "Commission", the cannabis control commission.

- "Commissioner", a member of the cannabis control commission.
 - (b) There shall be within the department of the state treasurer a cannabis control commission. The commission shall have general supervision and sole regulatory authority over the conduct of the business of marijuana establishments as defined in chapter 94G. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to chapter 30A for the administration of its duties and powers and for the administration, clarification and enforcement of laws regulating and licensing marijuana establishments in accordance with said chapter 94G.
 - (c) The commission shall consist of: 1 person who shall be appointed by the state treasurer who shall have experience in the regulation and business of consumer commodities and who shall serve as chair; 1 person who shall be appointed by the governor who shall have experience in public health; 1 person who shall be appointed by the attorney general who shall have experience in law enforcement; and 2 persons who shall be appointed by a majority vote of the state treasurer, the governor and the attorney general, 1 of whom shall have experience in social justice and 1 of whom shall have experience in the oversight of a regulated industry. The state treasurer, the governor or the attorney general may remove a commissioner who was appointed by that appointing authority for neglect of duty, misconduct or malfeasance in office

or for inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office. The state treasurer, the governor and the attorney general may, by majority vote, remove a commissioner who was appointed by majority vote of the state treasurer, the governor and the attorney general for neglect of duty, misconduct or malfeasance in office or for inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office. Before removal, the commissioner shall be provided with a written statement of the reason for removal and an opportunity to be heard.

- (d) Each commissioner shall serve for a term of 4 years. A person appointed to fill a vacancy shall be appointed in the manner specified in subsection (c) and shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of the commissioner whose position is being filled. Each commissioner shall serve until a successor is appointed and shall be eligible for reappointment; provided, however, that a commissioner shall not serve for more than 8 years.
- (e) The chair of the commission shall be a full-time employee and shall receive a salary commensurate with the duties of the office. The other commissioners shall serve without pay but shall be reimbursed for actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties. A commissioner shall be prohibited from having a legal or financial interest with a marijuana establishment including, but not limited to, serving as a member of the board of directors, providing consulting, legal, marketing, accounting or tax services or otherwise being affiliated with a marijuana establishment.
- (f) Three commissioners shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of 3 commissioners shall be necessary for action to be taken by the commission. A vacancy shall not impair the right of a quorum to exercise the rights and duties of the commission.

(g) The commission shall be subject to chapter 30A. The records of the commission pertaining to the administration of the commission shall be subject to section 42 of chapter 30 and section 10 of chapter 66. The commission shall be subject to chapters 268A and 268B.

- (h)(1) The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall supervise the administrative affairs, general management and operations of the commission. The executive director shall receive a salary commensurate with the duties of the office. Sections 9A, 45, 46 and 46C of chapter 30 and chapters 31 and 150E shall not apply to the executive director.
- (2) The executive director may appoint other officers and employees as may be necessary to the operation of the commission. The executive director shall appoint and may remove agents and subordinate officers as the executive director may consider necessary and may establish such subdivisions within the commission as the executive director considers appropriate to fulfill the purposes of the commission. Said sections 45, 46 and 46C of chapter 30 shall not apply to an employee of the commission. The executive director shall establish personnel policies for the officers and employees of the commission.
- (3) The executive director shall, with the approval of the commission: (i) plan, direct, coordinate and execute administrative functions in conformity with the policies and directives of the commission; (ii) employ professional, investigative and clerical staff as necessary; (iii) report to the commission on all operations under its control and supervision; (iv) prepare an annual budget and manage the administrative expenses of the commission; and (v) undertake any other activities necessary to implement the powers and duties of the commission, subject to approval of the commission.

(4) Annually, not later than December 1, the executive director shall submit to the state treasurer a budget and a personnel report containing the job classifications, duties and salary of each officer and employee of the commission together with personnel policies applicable to those officers and employees.

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Section 77. (a) There shall be a cannabis advisory board to study and make recommendations to the cannabis control commission on the regulation and taxation of marijuana. The board shall consist of: the executive director of the cannabis control commission who shall serve as chair; the commissioner of revenue or a designee; the commissioner of public health or a designee; the commissioner of agricultural resources or a designee; the superintendent of the state police or a designee; the president of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc. or a designee; the president of the Massachusetts Patient Advocacy Alliance, Inc. or a designee; the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. or a designee; 5 members to be appointed by the state treasurer who shall have experience in marijuana cultivation, marijuana retailing, marijuana product manufacturing, laboratory sciences and toxicology and in providing legal services to marijuana businesses; 5 members to be appointed by the governor who shall have experience in minority business development, economic development strategies for under-resourced communities, farming or representing the interests of farmers, representing the interests of employers and municipal law enforcement personnel with advanced training in impairment detection and evaluation; and 5 members to be appointed by the attorney general who shall have experience in social welfare or social justice, criminal justice reform to mitigate the disproportionate impact of drug prosecutions on communities of color, minority business ownership, women-owned business ownership and the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders. Members of the board shall serve for terms

of 2 years. Members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for their expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the discharge of their official duties. Members of the board shall not be state employees for the purposes of chapter 268A by virtue of their service on the board. For the purposes of taking action at a meeting, a majority of the members of the board present and voting shall constitute a quorum.

- (b) The cannabis advisory board shall: (i) consider all matters submitted to it by the commission; (ii) on its own initiative, recommend to the commission guidelines, rules and regulations and any changes to guidelines, rules and regulations that the advisory board considers important or necessary for the commission's review and consideration; and (iii) advise on the preparation of regulations pursuant to chapter 94G.
- (c) The chair may appoint subcommittees in order to expedite the work of the board; provided, however, that the chair shall appoint: (i) a subcommittee on public health to develop recommendations on products, labelling, marketing, advertising, related public health issues, potency, which may include a recommended maximum limit for individual servings of marijuana products, and packaging, which may include the development and implementation of a public health warning to appear on marijuana products; (ii) a subcommittee on public safety and community mitigation to develop recommendations on law enforcement, property, business and consumer issues; (iii) a subcommittee on the cannabis industry to develop recommendations on cultivation, processing, manufacturing, transportation, distribution, seed-to-sale tracking and market stability; and (iv) a subcommittee on market participation to develop recommendations on women, minority and veteran-owned businesses, local agriculture and growing cooperatives.

SECTION 5. Section 5I of chapter 18 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 41 to 43, inclusive, the words "or for the payment to the commonwealth of or any political subdivision thereof of any fees, fines, bail or bail bonds ordered by a court" and inserting in place thereof the following words:-; for the payment to the commonwealth or a political subdivision thereof of a fee, fine, bail or bail bond ordered by a court; or marijuana or marijuana products that are not prescribed for medicinal purposes.

SECTION 6. Section 5J of said chapter 18, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 14, the words "or on cruise ships" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- on a cruise ship; or at a marijuana establishment as defined in chapter 94G.

SECTION 7. Section 3 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out", in lines 40 and 41, the words "growing, cultivation" and inserting in place thereof the following word:- retail.

SECTION 8. Section 5 of chapter 64N of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 2 and 3, the words "this chapter, other than revenue collected pursuant to section 2 of chapter 64H of the General Laws," and inserting in place thereof the following words:- section 2 and the revenue generated by the tax imposed by section 2 of chapter 64H on the sale of marijuana and marijuana products by a marijuana retailer to anyone other than a marijuana establishment.

SECTION 9. Section 1 of chapter 94C of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "plant", in line 225, the following words:-, industrial hemp as defined in section 116 of chapter 128.

SECTION 10. Section 32L of said chapter 94C, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 2, 25, 30, 35, 36 and 45, the words "one ounce" and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- 2 ounces.

SECTION 11. Said section 32L of said chapter 94C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 19 and 20, the words ""An Act Establishing a Sensible State Marihuana Policy," neither" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- section 24I of chapter 90, chapter 94G and chapter 387 of the acts of 2008, neither.

SECTION 12. Said section 32L of said chapter 94C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 23, the words "an ounce" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 2 ounces.

SECTION 13. Section 32M of said chapter 94C, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3, the words "one ounce" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 2 ounces.

SECTION 14. Section 1 of chapter 94G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (c) the following 2 subsections:-

(c½) "Craft marijuana cultivator", an individual licensed to cultivate marijuana and to process, package, deliver, transfer and sell marijuana or marijuana products only to a craft marijuana cultivator cooperative of which that individual is a member; provided, however, that a craft marijuana cultivator license shall not be issued to an applicant who retains or owns an interest, directly or indirectly, in any activity or in any business directly or indirectly engaged in the business of cultivating, manufacturing, processing or packaging marijuana or marijuana products either within or outside the commonwealth.

(c½) "Craft marijuana cultivator cooperative", an entity comprised of licensed craft marijuana cultivators organized as a limited liability company or limited liability partnership under the laws of the commonwealth, or an appropriate business structure as determined by the commission, and that is licensed to obtain, manufacture, process, package and brand marijuana and marijuana products to deliver marijuana to marijuana establishments but not to consumers.

SECTION 15. Said chapter 94G is hereby amended by striking out section 3, as so appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 3. (a) A city or town may adopt ordinances and by-laws that impose reasonable safeguards on the operation of marijuana establishments not in conflict with this chapter or section 3 of chapter 40A and that:

- (i) govern the time, place and manner of the operations of marijuana establishments and businesses that deal in marijuana accessories; provided, however, that a zoning ordinance or by-law shall not prohibit the placement of a marijuana establishment that cultivates, manufactures or sells marijuana or marijuana products in an area in which a medical marijuana treatment center is registered to engage in the same type of activity; provided, however, that nothing in this clause shall prohibit a limit that is adopted through the process described in subsection (b);
- (ii) restrict the licensed cultivation, processing and manufacturing of marijuana that is a public nuisance;
- (iii) establish reasonable restrictions on public signs related to marijuana establishments; and

(iv) establish a civil penalty for the violation of an ordinance or by-law enacted pursuant to this subsection, which shall be similar to a penalty imposed for violation of an ordinance or by-law relating to alcoholic beverages.

An ordinance or by-law adopted pursuant to this subsection shall not be unreasonably impracticable or conflict with this chapter or the regulations made pursuant to this chapter.

- (b) The voters of a city or town may limit the number of marijuana establishments in the city or town by accepting any of the following ballot questions:
 - (i) Shall this [city or town] prohibit the operation of any type of marijuana establishment within the [city or town], a summary of which appears below?

The summary shall be prepared by the city solicitor or town counsel and shall include a fair and concise summary of the proposed prohibition, including identification of the types of marijuana establishments that shall be subject to the prohibition as voted by the board of selectmen or city or town council.

(ii) Shall this [city or town] limit the number of marijuana retailers to less than 20 per cent of the number of licenses issued within the [city or town] for the retail sale of alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises under chapter 138 of the General Laws, a summary of which appears below?

The summary shall be prepared by the city solicitor or town counsel and shall include a fair and concise summary of the proposed limitation including, if applicable, the total number of marijuana retailers that will be authorized to operate in the municipality as voted by the board of selectmen or city or town council.

(iii) Shall this [city/town] limit the number of any type of marijuana establishment to less than the number of medical marijuana treatment centers registered to engage in the same type of activity in the [city or town], a summary of which appears below?

The summary shall be prepared by the city solicitor or town counsel and shall include a fair and concise summary of the proposed limitation including, if applicable, the total number of the types of marijuana establishments that will be authorized to operate in the municipality as voted by the board of selectmen or city or town council.

If a majority of the votes cast in the city or town on a ballot question is in the negative, the city or town shall be taken to not have authorized the prohibition or limitation as described in that question. The city or town clerk shall provide notice of the results of the vote to the state secretary, attorney general, and state treasurer not later than 30 days after the vote was taken.

A ballot question under this subsection may be placed on the ballot at a regular or special election held by the city or town by a vote of the board of selectmen or town council in a town or by a vote of the city council, with the approval of the mayor, in a city and subject to a municipal charter, if applicable.

(c) A city or town that has adopted a local acceptance provision under subsection (b) may overturn that decision by the voters of the municipality accepting the following ballot question:

Shall this [city or town] repeal the limitation on marijuana establishments within the [city or town] previously adopted by ballot question, a summary of which appears below?

The summary shall be prepared by the city solicitor or town counsel and shall include a fair and concise summary of the current limitations, the number and type of marijuana

establishments that would be allowed to operate upon passage and a fiscal impact statement describing the revenues and costs to the municipality.

The city or town clerk shall provide notice of the results of the vote to the state secretary, attorney general and state treasurer not later than 30 days after the vote was taken.

If a majority of the votes cast in the city or town are in the affirmative, the city or town may still adopt ordinances and by-laws under subsection (a).

A ballot question under this subsection may be placed on the ballot at a regular or special election held by the city or town by a vote of the board of selectmen or city or town council, with the approval of the mayor, and subject to a municipal charter, if applicable.

(d) The city council of a city and the board of selectmen or town council of a town shall, upon the filing with the clerk of the city or town of a petition that meets the requirements of this subsection and is signed by not less than 10 per cent of the number of voters of the city or town voting at the preceding biennial state election that requests that the question of whether to allow the sale of marijuana and marijuana products for consumption on the premises where sold be submitted to the voters of the city or town, place the following question on the ballot, accompanied by a fair and concise summary prepared by by the city solicitor or town counsel:

Shall this [city or town] allow the sale of marijuana and marijuana products for consumption on the premises where sold, a summary of which appears below?

If a majority of the votes cast in answer to the question is in the negative, the city or town shall be taken to have not authorized the consumption of marijuana and marijuana products on the premises where sold.

The petition shall be on a form prepared by the state secretary and shall, after filing with the clerk of the city or town, be submitted immediately by the clerk to the board of registrars or election commissioners who shall certify the signatures of registered voters on the petition not more than 7 days after receipt of the petition. Upon certification of the signatures, the question shall be placed upon the ballot at the next occurring regular municipal or state election; provided, however, that the question shall only appear on a municipal ballot for an election to be held not less than 35 days after certification. For the question to appear on the biennial state election ballot, the city or town clerk shall provide notice, which shall include the ballot question and summary as prepared by the city solicitor or town counsel, to the state secretary not later than the first Wednesday in August before that election.

- (e) A city or town shall not prohibit the transportation of marijuana or marijuana products or adopt an ordinance or by-law that makes the transportation of marijuana or marijuana products unreasonably impracticable.
- (f) An agreement between a city or town and a marijuana establishment shall not require the payment of a fee to that city or town that is not directly proportional and reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the city or town by the operation of a marijuana establishment; provided, however, that the commission shall issue regulations governing such agreements, including a requirement that agreements include a cap and specified duration on fees associated with the agreement; provided further, that a cap shall be reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the city or town by the operation of a marijuana establishment and shall be expressed as a percentage of gross sales. A cost to a city or town by the operation of a marijuana establishment shall be a public record under clause Twenty-Sixth of section 7 of chapter 4.

SECTION 16. Subsection (a) of section 4 of said chapter 94G, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking clauses (8) to (10), inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the following 3 clauses:-

- (8) health and safety standards, developed in consultation with the department of public health and the department of agricultural resources, for the cultivation, processing, manufacture and distribution of marijuana and marijuana products, including standards regarding sanitation for the preparation, storage, handling and sale of food products; provided however, that nothing in this clause shall authorize the commission to promulgate regulations pertaining to the use of pesticides.
- (9) requirements for the packaging of marijuana and marijuana products that shall, at a minimum: (i) protect children from accidently ingesting marijuana or marijuana products, including by making packaging child-resistant and resealable; (ii) require the division of each serving within a package containing multiple servings in a manner that allows consumers to easily identify a single serving; (iii) prohibit the use of bright colors, cartoon characters and other features designed to appeal to minors; (iv) ensure that packaging is opaque or plain in design; and (v) prohibit any packaging that imitates or has a semblance to any existing branded consumer products, including foods and beverages, that do not contain marijuana.
- (10) requirements for the labeling of a package containing marijuana or marijuana products that shall, at a minimum, include: (i) a symbol or other easily recognizable mark on the package indicating that the package contains marijuana; (ii) a symbol or other easily recognizable mark on the package indicating to children that the product is harmful to children; (iii) a symbol or other easily recognizable mark directly on the marijuana product,

where feasible, indicating that the product contains marijuana; (iv) an identification of the marijuana cultivator or product manufacturer who produced the marijuana or marijuana product; (v) a warning that marijuana and marijuana products are illegal under federal law; (vi) a standard health warning developed by the department of public health that is legible; (vii) the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol in the package and the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol in each serving of a marijuana product as expressed in absolute terms and as a percentage of volume; (viii) the phone number for the regional center for poison control and prevention and the following warning: "For use only by adults 21 and older. Keep out of reach of children" that is legible; (ix) the number of servings in a package if there are multiple servings; and (x) a list of ingredients and possible allergens.

SECTION 17. Said subsection (a) of said section 4 of said chapter 94G, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out clauses (13) to (15), inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the following 14 clauses:-

(13) requirements for advertising, marketing and branding of marijuana and marijuana products that shall, at a minimum, include: (i) a prohibition on advertising, marketing and branding in a manner that is deceptive, false or misleading; (ii) a prohibition on advertising, marketing and branding by means of television, radio, internet, billboard or print publication unless the marijuana establishment can demonstrate that at least 85 per cent of the audience is reasonably expected to be at least 21 years of age as determined by reliable, up-to-date audience composition data; (iii) a prohibition on advertising, marketing and branding which uses statements, designs, representations, pictures or illustrations that portray a person less than 21 years of age; (iv) a prohibition on advertising, marketing and branding that appeals to a person less than 21 years of age, including the use of cartoon characters, certain celebrity endorsements

and brand sponsorships or other features designed to appeal to minors; (v) a prohibition on advertising, marketing and branding through promotional items as determined by the commission, including giveaways, coupons, "free" or "donated" marijuana products, markdowns or any similar types of price discounting; (vi) a prohibition on advertising, marketing and branding that makes assertions that marijuana or marijuana products are safe, other than labeling required pursuant to this chapter; (vii) that a marijuana establishment may sponsor a charitable, sports or similar event, but such establishment shall not engage in advertising, marketing and branding at or in connection with such an event unless the marijuana establishment can demonstrate that not less than 85 per cent of the audience is reasonably expected to be at least 21 years of age as determined by reliable, up-to-date audience composition data; (viii) that the website of a marijuana establishment shall verify that the entrant is at least 21 years of age; (ix) that a sign visible from outside the establishment indicates that a marijuana establishment is an adult-only establishment; (x) a prohibition on the use of unsolicited pop-up advertisements on the internet; and (xi) a standard health warning developed by the department of public health on advertising, marketing or branding materials.

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- (14) procedures and requirements to enable the transfer of a license for a marijuana establishment to another qualified person or to another suitable location;
- (15) provisions for the enforcement of this chapter, including: (i) penalties for civil violations for the failure to comply with a regulation made pursuant to this section or for a violation of section 13; (ii) for the collection of fees and penalties imposed; (iii) for the suspension of a license of a marijuana establishment, including provision for allowing the continued maintenance and security of marijuana and marijuana products; (iv) for the termination of the license; and (v) for the appeal of civil penalties or licensing actions;

(16) procedures and policies, in cooperation with the department of agricultural resources, to promote and encourage full participation in the regulated marijuana industry by farmers and businesses of all sizes, which shall include creating a schedule of cultivator license fees commensurate with cultivation size as measured by volume of product output and promulgating regulations to create a craft marijuana cultivator cooperative system to encourage access to the industry by farmers;

(17) requirements for ensuring that marijuana testing facilities shall be independent from marijuana cultivators, marijuana product manufacturers, marijuana retailers and craft marijuana cultivation cooperatives, including prohibiting an individual who possesses an interest in or is employed by a marijuana testing facility, or an immediate family member of that individual, from possessing an interest in or being employed by another marijuana establishment;

- (18) requirements that marijuana products shall not be manufactured in the distinct shape of a human, animal or fruit or another shape designed to be especially appealing to minors;
- (19) requirements that prohibit marijuana product manufacturers from altering or utilizing commercially-manufactured food products when manufacturing marijuana products unless the food product was commercially manufactured specifically for use by the marijuana product manufacturer to infuse with marijuana; provided, however, that a commercially-manufactured food product may be used as an ingredient in a marijuana product if: (i) it is used in a way that renders it unrecognizable as the commercial food product in the marijuana product; and (ii) there is no statement or advertisement indicating that the marijuana product contains the commercially-manufactured food product;

(20) requirements that as a consideration for licensure renewal cannabis cultivators shall provide a comprehensive energy audit report to the commission, indicating results for the agricultural facilities used for cannabis production and that the commission shall require compliance with all relevant regulations to reduce current and projected nonrenewable energy usage;

- (21) procedures and policies to support a competitive marketplace including, but not limited to, establishing reasonable limits on the number of licenses an applicant may hold or be party to, as well as residency requirements;
- (22) guidelines for employers to conduct screenings of their employees for the use of marijuana which shall be posted on the commonwealth's public website;
- (23) procedures and policies governing craft marijuana cultivators, which shall: (i) limit the marijuana produced by a craft marijuana cultivator by the number of plants, surface area used for cultivation or output by weight; (ii) establish regulations for security including, but not limited to, periodic monitoring of the cultivation area, product tracking and measures that limit entry to the property; (iii) establish regulations for transportation of cultivated marijuana; and (iv) establish procedures for inspection of the cultivation area, business records and any marijuana, marijuana plants and marijuana products on the premises for compliance with security, safety, health and other regulations; provided, however, that these procedures and policies shall not render compliance unreasonably impracticable for a craft cultivator, taking into account the limited production and scope of craft cultivation;
- (24) procedures and policies governing craft marijuana cultivator cooperatives, which shall: (i) define the number of individuals that may have a membership interest in a craft

marijuana cultivator cooperative; (ii) limit an individual's ownership interest to not more than 34 per cent of a craft marijuana cultivator cooperative; (iii) limit the aggregate output of marijuana by each craft marijuana cultivator cooperative; (iv) establish the exclusive authority of craft marijuana cultivator cooperatives to label or authorize the labeling of their marijuana products with the word "craft" to describe the product or origin of the product; (v) require that a craft marijuana cultivator cooperative's marijuana cultivation take place on property owned by a member of the cooperative; and (vi) establish procedures for inspection of business records, any processing area, marijuana, marijuana plants or marijuana products on the premises for compliance with security, safety, health and other regulations; provided, however, that these regulations shall not render compliance unreasonably impracticable for a craft cultivator cooperative, taking into account the limited production and scope of craft cultivation;

- (25) requirements to establish a process allowing the commission to order a prohibition on the sale of a marijuana product found especially appealing to youth; and
- (26) requirements to establish a process allowing a marijuana product manufacturer to voluntarily submit a product, its packaging and intended marketing to the commission for review of its appeal to youth.
- SECTION 18. Said chapter 94G of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 4 the following section:-
- Section 4A. The commission shall develop a framework to provide funding assistance to communities that host or are directly impacted by the hosting of a marijuana establishment. The framework shall consider the number of marijuana establishments in the community, cost to the

municipality, impacts on public safety, environmental issues and any other factors the commission deems relevant.

SECTION 19. Section 5 of said chapter 94G, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (c).

SECTION 20. Said section 13 of said chapter 94G, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following 2 subsections:-

- (h) Notwithstanding chapter 94C, a person less than 21 years of age, except a qualifying patient holding a valid registration card for the medical use of marijuana, who cultivates not more than 12 marijuana plants shall be punished by a civil penalty of not more than \$100 and shall complete a drug awareness program established pursuant to section 32M of chapter 94C. If that person is less than 18 years of age, the parent or legal guardian of that person shall be notified in accordance with section 32N of said chapter 94C. If a person is less than 17 years of age at the time of the offense and fails to complete a drug awareness program not later than 1 year after the offense, that person may be subject to delinquency proceedings.
- (i) Whoever makes a sale or delivery of marijuana, marijuana products or marijuana accessories to a person less than 21 years of age, either for the person's own use or for the use of the person's parent or another person or furnishes marijuana, marijuana products or marijuana accessories for a person less than 21 years of age shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or both such fine and imprisonment.

For the purposes of this subsection, "furnish" shall mean to knowingly or intentionally supply, give or provide to or allow a person less than 21 years of age, except for the children and

grandchildren of the person being charged, to possess marijuana, marijuana products or marijuana accessories on premises or property owned or controlled by the person charged.

This subsection shall not apply to the sale, delivery or furnishing of medical marijuana pursuant to chapter 369 of the acts of 2012.

SECTION 21. Section 14 of said chapter 94G, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 8, the words "of the General Laws" and inserting in place thereof the following words:-, revenue generated by the tax imposed by section 2 of chapter 64H on the sale of marijuana and marijuana products by a marijuana retailer to anyone other than a marijuana establishment.

SECTION 22. Said section 14 of said chapter 94G, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

(b) Money in the fund shall be subject to appropriation. Money in the fund shall be expended for the implementation, administration and enforcement of this chapter by the commission and by the department of agricultural resources for the implementation, administration and enforcement of sections 116 to 123, inclusive, of chapter 128 and for the provision of pesticide control for marijuana pursuant to chapter 132B. Thereafter, money in the fund shall be expended for: (i) public and behavioral health including, but not limited to, evidence-based and evidence-informed substance use prevention and substance use early intervention services for school districts or community coalitions who operate on the strategic prevention framework or similar structure for youth substance use education and prevention; (ii) public safety; (iii) to be deposited into the Municipal Police Training Fund established in section 35EEE of chapter 10 for the municipal police training committee established in section 116 of

chapter 6; (iv) the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund established in section 2G of chapter 111; and (v) programming for restorative justice, jail diversion, workforce development, industry specific technical assistance, mentoring services and small business start-up capital or loans for economically-disadvantaged persons in communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and incarceration for marijuana offenses pursuant to chapter 94C.

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SECTION 23. Said chapter 94G is hereby further amended by adding the following 4 sections:-

Section 15. (a) The commission shall develop a research agenda to understand the social and economic trends of marijuana in the commonwealth, to inform future decisions that would aid in the closure of the illicit marketplace and inform the commission on the public health impacts of marijuana. The research agenda shall include, but not be limited to: (i) patterns of use, methods of consumption and general perceptions of marijuana; (ii) incidents of impaired driving and hospitalization related to marijuana use, including a report of the state of the science around identifying a quantifiable level of marijuana-induced impairment of motor vehicle operation; (iii) economic and fiscal impacts for state and local governments, which shall include the impact of legalization on the production and distribution of marijuana in the illicit market and the costs and benefits to state and local revenue; (iv) ownership and employment trends in the marijuana industry, examining participation by racial, ethnic and socioeconomic subgroups, including identification of barriers to participation in the industry; (v) a market analysis examining the expansion or contraction of the illicit marketplace and the expansion or contraction of the legal marketplace which shall include estimates and comparisons of pricing and product availability in both markets; and (vi) a compilation of data on the number of arrests, prosecutions, incarcerations and sanctions imposed as a result of violations of chapter 94C for possession,

distribution or trafficking of marijuana or marijuana products, including identification of race, gender, country of origin, state geographic region and average sanctions of the individuals charged.

(b) The commission shall incorporate available data into its research plan and coordinate and form partnerships with the department of public health, the executive office of public safety and security and the executive office of labor and workforce development. The commission shall annually report on the results of its research agenda and, when appropriate, make recommendations for further research or policy changes. The commission shall publish the first such report not later than July 1, 2019.

Section 16. Annually, not later than December 31, the department of revenue shall issue a comprehensive report analyzing tax revenue deposited in the Marijuana Regulation Fund established in section 14. The report shall include, but not be limited to: (i) revenue received from marijuana sales; (ii) recommendations for potential tax adjustments to increase state revenues; (iv) projections for state revenues in the next fiscal year; and (v) recommendations, if any, on best practices to implement changes to the tax rate or structure over time. The report shall be submitted the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the chairs of the joint committee on revenue and the chairs of the senate and house committees on ways and means.

Section 17. (a) The commission shall develop a research agenda in order to understand the social and economic trends of marijuana in the commonwealth, to inform future decisions that would aid in the closure of the illicit marketplace and to inform the commission on the public health impacts of marijuana. The research agenda shall include, but not be limited to: (i) patterns of use, methods of consumption, sources of purchase and general perceptions of

marijuana among minors, among college and university students and among adults; (ii) incidents of impaired driving, hospitalization and use of other health care services related to marijuana use, including a report of the state of the science around identifying a quantifiable level of marijuanainduced impairment of motor vehicle operation and a report of the financial impacts of hospitalizations related to marijuana on the state healthcare system; (iii) economic and fiscal impacts for state and local governments which shall include the impact of legalization on the production and distribution of marijuana in the illicit market and the costs and benefits to state and local revenue; (iv) ownership and employment trends in the marijuana industry examining participation by racial, ethnic and socioeconomic subgroups, including identification of barriers to participation in the industry; (v) a market analysis examining the expansion or contraction of the illicit marketplace and the expansion or contraction of the legal marketplace that includes estimates and comparisons of pricing and product availability in both markets; and; (vi) a compilation of data on the number of incidents of discipline in schools, including suspensions or expulsions, as a result of marijuana use or possession of marijuana or marijuana products; and (vii) a compilation of data on the number of civil penalties, arrests, prosecutions, incarcerations and sanctions imposed as a result of violations of chapter 94C for possession, distribution or trafficking of marijuana or marijuana products, including identification of age, race, gender, country of origin, state geographic region and average sanctions of the persons charged.

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(b) The commission shall incorporate available data into its research plan, including the baseline study conducted pursuant to chapter 351 of the acts of 2016, and coordinate and form partnerships with the department of public health, the department of elementary and secondary education, the department of higher education, the executive office of public safety and security and the executive office of labor and workforce development. The commission shall annually

report on the results of its research agenda and, when appropriate, make recommendations for further research or policy changes. The annual reports shall be posted online in a machine-readable format. The commission shall publish the first such report not later than July 1, 2019.

Section 18. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be a special commission to study the potential impacts on bordering states that may result from the legalization of recreational marijuana in Massachusetts. Topics of study shall include, but not be limited to, increases in funding to law enforcement agencies, increases in arrests for drug possession, and increases in marijuana distribution within states where marijuana is illegal.

The special commission shall consist of: the secretary of the executive office of public safety and security, or their designee; the commissioner of the department of public health, or their designee; the superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police, or their designee; the president of the New England Association of Chiefs of Police, or their designee; the president of the New England Society for Healthcare Communications, or their designee; two members of the House of Representatives, one of whom to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the other to be appointed by the minority leader; two members of the Senate, one of whom to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and the other to be appointed by the minority leader; provided, however, that the first meeting of the commission shall take place not later than December 1, 2017.

The special commission shall submit its findings and recommendations for how to mitigate or prevent any potential impacts on bordering states, together with drafts of any legislation, to the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the chairs of the joint committee on mental health and substance abuse not later than July 1, 2018.

SECTION 24. Chapter 128 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following 8 sections:-

Section 116. As used in this section and sections 117 to section 123, inclusive, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

"Hemp", the plant of the genus cannabis and any part of the plant, whether growing or not, with a delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that does not exceed 0.3 per cent on a dry weight basis or per volume or weight of marijuana product or the combined per cent of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol and tetrahydrocannabinolic acid in any part of the plant of the genus cannabis regardless of moisture content.

"Hemp products", products made from industrial hemp including, but not limited to, cloth, cordage, fiber, food, fuel, paint, paper, particle board, plastics, seed, seed meal, seed oil and certified seed for cultivation if such seeds originate from industrial hemp varieties.

"Industrial hemp", hemp that is used exclusively for industrial purposes including, but not limited to, the fiber and seed.

"Person", a natural person, corporation, association, partnership or other legal entity.

Section 117. (a) Industrial hemp may be planted, grown, harvested, possessed, processed, bought, sold or researched subject to sections 116 to 123. The planting, growing, harvesting, possessing, processing, selling or research of industrial hemp as an agricultural product shall be subject to the supervision and approval of the department pursuant to sections 116 to 123, inclusive.

(b) A person planting, growing, harvesting, possessing, processing or selling industrial hemp for commercial purposes shall: (i) be licensed by the department pursuant to section 118; and (ii) only acquire hemp seeds imported from a distributor registered with the United States

Drug Enforcement Administration and certified by the United States Department of Agriculture.

- (c) Hemp products shall only be used for the following: (i) research purposes; and (ii) commercial purposes considered reasonable by the commissioner.
- Section 118. (a) No person, other than a person utilizing hemp products for commercial purposes pursuant to subsection (c) or a person utilizing industrial hemp or hemp products for research pursuant to subsection (d), shall plant, grow, harvest, possess, process or sell industrial hemp without a license issued by the department.
- (b) No person shall produce or distribute industrial hemp seed without a license issued by the department.
- (c) A person utilizing hemp products for commercial purposes shall register with the department.
- (d) A person utilizing industrial hemp or hemp products for research conducted under an agricultural pilot program or other agricultural or academic research shall register with the department.
- (e) An application for a license issued pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) shall include, but not be limited to: (i) the name and address of any applicants; (ii) the name and address of the industrial hemp operation of the applicant; (iii) the global positioning system coordinates and legal description of the property used for the industrial hemp operation; (iv) the acreage size of

the field where the industrial hemp will be grown, if applicable; (v) a written consent allowing the department to conduct both scheduled and random inspections of and around the premises on which the industrial hemp is being sown, grown, harvested, stored and processed; (vi) a nonrefundable application fee in an amount which shall be established by the commissioner; (vii) any other information as may be required pursuant to subsection (d); and (vii) any other information as may be required by the commissioner.

(f) All documents included in an application for licensure submitted under subsection (e) of section 118 except for the address of a licensee's cultivation or production facilities and any documents describing, depicting or otherwise outlining a licensee's security schematics or global positioning system coordinates, which are considered by the department to be confidential in nature due to their public safety implications, shall be considered public records for the purposes of chapter 66 of the General Laws.

Section 119. (a) After receipt, review and approval of an application for licensure pursuant to section 118, the commissioner may grant an annual license upon issuance of written findings that the requirements of sections 116 to 123, inclusive, have been satisfied and upon the issuance of written findings that issuing the license will be in the best interest of the commonwealth.

(b) The commissioner shall deny an application for a license filed pursuant to section 118 if the applicant: (i) fails to satisfy the minimum qualifications for licensure pursuant to sections 116 to 123, inclusive,; or (ii) for good cause shown.

Section 120. The commissioner shall suspend, revoke or refuse to renew the license of a person who violates sections 116 to 123, inclusive, following appropriate process in accordance with chapter 30A.

Section 121. (a) The department and the commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation, administration and enforcement of sections 117 to 123, inclusive.

(b) Pursuant to section 2 of chapter 30A, the department may promulgate, amend or repeal any regulation promulgated under this chapter as an emergency regulation if the regulation is necessary to protect the interests of the commonwealth in regulating industrial hemp.

Section 122. The department may inspect and have access to the equipment, supplies, records, real property and other information deemed necessary to carry out the department's duties under sections 116 to 123, inclusive, from a person participating in the planting, growing, harvesting, possessing, processing, purchasing, selling or researching of hemp, industrial hemp or hemp products. The department may establish an inspection and testing program to determine delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol levels and ensure compliance with the limits on delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration.

Section 123. The department may establish civil administrative fines for violations of sections 116 to 123, inclusive. A person aggrieved by the assessment of a fine under this section or a licensure action under section 120 may appeal by filing a notice of appeal with the department not later than 21 days after the receipt of the notice of the fine or licensure action. The adjudicatory hearing shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 30A.

639	SECTION 25. Section 22 of chapter 270 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
640	Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "inhaled", in line 97, the
641	following words:-, including marijuana as defined in section 1 of chapter 94G.
642	SECTION 26. Section 2 of chapter 369 of the acts of 2012 is hereby amended by striking
643	out, in line 17, the word "non-profit".
644	SECTION 27. Said section 2 of said chapter 369 is hereby further amended by striking
645	out, in line 29, the words "a not-for-profit entity" and inserting in place thereof the following
646	words:- an entity.
647	SECTION 28. Section 9 of said chapter 369 is hereby amended by striking out, in lines
648	1, 3, 4 and 7, each time it appears, the word "nonprofit".
649	SECTION 29. Said section 9 of said chapter 369 is hereby further amended by striking
650	out, in line 20, the word "non-profit".
651	SECTION 30. Section 10 of said chapter 369 is hereby amended by striking out, in line
652	6, the word "nonprofit"
653	SECTION 31. Section 13 of said chapter 369 is hereby amended by striking out, in line
654	4, the word "non-profit".
655	SECTION 32. Said chapter 369 is hereby amended by adding the following section:-
656	Section 18. An agreement between a city or town and a medical marijuana treatment
657	center shall not require the payment of a fee to that city or town that is not directly proportional
658	and reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the city or town by the operation of the medical

marijuana treatment center; provided, however, that the commission shall issue regulations governing such agreements, including a requirement that the agreements include a cap and specified duration on fees associated with the agreement; provided further, that a cap shall be reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the city or town by the operation of a marijuana establishment and shall be expressed as a percentage of gross sales. A cost to a city or town by the operation of a medical marijuana treatment center shall be documented and considered a public record under clause Twenty-Sixth of section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws. This section shall not apply to an agreement in existence before the effective date of this section.

SECTION 33. Chapter 334 of the acts of 2016 is hereby amended by striking out section 8, as most recently amended by section 10 of chapter 351 of the acts of 2016.

SECTION 34. Said chapter 334 is hereby further amended by striking out section 10, as most recently amended by section 17 of chapter 351 of the acts of 2016, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 10. The commission shall begin accepting applications not later than April 1, 2018.

SECTION 35. Said chapter 334 is hereby further amended by striking out section 11.

SECTION 36. The state treasurer and the attorney general shall make the initial appointments to the cannabis advisory board established in section 77 of chapter 10 of the General Laws not later than August 1, 2017.

SECTION 37. There shall be a special commission to study impaired driving due to substance use other than alcohol to consist of: the executive director of the cannabis control

commission, who shall serve as the chair; the secretary of public safety and security or a designee; the president of the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association or a designee; the president of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association Incorporated or a designee; the chief executive officer and president of the AAA Southern New England; a representative from the Massachusetts Bar Association; the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Inc. or a designee; a representative from the NAACP New England Area Conference; the president of the Massachusetts Medical Society or a designee; 1 person appointed by the secretary of health and human services who shall have medical and physiological expertise; and 1 designee from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center with expertise in scientific research on the effects and testing ability of these substances.

The commission shall examine a variety of areas including, but not limited to, the effects of marijuana consumption on driving, the effects of prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications on driving, the effects of other substances on driving, the admissibility of evidence of impaired driving in court proceedings including, but not limited to the development of uniform standards for qualified drug recognition experts, a review of the available technology that may be used to detect tetrahydrocannabinol, the efficacy of establishing an impairment level for tetrahydrocannabinol and a review of procedures used by other jurisdictions where marijuana use is legal to detect driving under the influence of marijuana.

The commission shall convene its first meeting not later than November 1, 2017. The commission shall file a report, including recommendations based on their findings, with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later than July 1, 2018.

SECTION 38. The cannabis control commission shall establish a working group that shall include, but shall not be limited to: the commissioner of energy resources or a designee, the commissioner of environmental protection or a designee and the commissioner of agricultural resources or a designee. The working group shall provide recommendations to the commission on: (i) ways to reduce energy and water usage in the marijuana industry, which shall include efficiency and environmental standards; (ii) mitigating other environmental impacts; (iii) annual energy audits, energy efficiency measures, energy conservation measures and energy conservation projects as defined in chapter 164 of General Laws; and (iv) additional regulations or modifications to the application process to meet the goals of this section.

The working group shall issue a final report with its recommendations for legislation, if any, not later than September 1, 2018 to the cannabis control commission, the chairs of the joint committee on marijuana policy, the chairs of the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy and the chairs of the senate and house committees on global warming and climate change. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the executive branch from executing its duties under chapter 298 of the acts of 2008.

SECTION 39. The cannabis control commission shall report to the joint committee on marijuana policy and the house and senate committees on ways and means on progress made to promote and encourage full participation in the regulated marijuana industry by farmers and businesses of all sizes, any impediments thereto and recommendations for legislation, if any, not later than May 1, 2018.

SECTION 40. The commission shall maintain a confidential, interoperable database which shall include, but not be limited to: (i) qualifying patients issued a registration card for

medical use of marijuana; (ii) the physicians and healthcare professionals registered to issue written certifications; (iii) the names of medical use cannabis establishments; (iv) the quantity of marijuana for medical use dispensed to a registered qualifying patient; and (v) any other pertinent information. Individual names and other identifying information shall be exempt from section 10 of chapter 66 and shall not be subject to disclosure, except to employees of the commission in the course of their official duties, medical use cannabis establishments to facilitate dispensing of marijuana for medical use and to state and local law enforcement officials for the purposes of conducting an investigation pursuant this chapter.

SECTION 41. The department of public health, in consultation with the cannabis control commission, shall establish the following science-based public awareness campaigns: (i) a campaign to inform the public about responsible adult use of marijuana, including information on edibles and warnings about the dangers of manufacturing marijuana products at home; and (ii) a campaign to educate youth about marijuana use with a goal of decreasing the youth usage rate. The public awareness campaigns shall be funded from revenues received from the Marijuana Regulation Fund established in section 14 of chapter 94G.

SECTION 42. The executive office of public safety and security shall establish public awareness campaigns to: (i) educate the public about impaired driving including, but not limited to, impairment by the use of marijuana; (ii) inform the public that a gift of marijuana given in conjunction with the sale of another item in order to evade laws governing the sale of marijuana is illegal and that a person who grants such a gift is subject to prosecution; and (iii) inform people eligible to have their records sealed as a result of changes to criminal laws resulting from marijuana decriminalization and legalization. The public awareness campaign shall be funded

from revenues received from the Marijuana Regulation Fund established in section 14 of chapter 94G of the General Laws.

SECTION 43. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise:-

"Expunge", "expunged" or "expungement", the permanent erasure and destruction of records.

(b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a court of competent jurisdiction may order expungement of records of or related to a charge if the court determines that the charge was for conduct that is no longer a crime under chapter 334 of the acts of 2016.

Upon notice to the district attorney and after a hearing in which the person seeking expungement shall be permitted to present evidence and be represented by counsel, the court shall determine whether expungement is warranted under this section. If the court finds that expungement is warranted, the court shall order expungement of the records and immediately provide a copy of the order and findings of fact to the commissioner of probation.

The commissioner of probation shall expunge the court appearance and disposition recorded in the commissioner's files and the clerk and the probation officers of the courts in which the proceedings occurred or were initiated shall expunge the records of the proceedings from their files. An individual or entity including, but not limited to, a criminal justice agency, as defined section 167 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, shall not have access to criminal offender record information related to an expunged charge.

The court shall order the expungement of entries contained in a daily log made pursuant to section 98F of chapter 41 of the General Laws that directly pertain to a case expunged pursuant to this section.

A record that directly pertains to a case expunged under this section that is in the care, custody and control of another agency, department, commission or entity shall not be a public record under clause Twenty-sixth of section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws.

SECTION 44. The cannabis control commission may make necessary accommodations and special regulations for the county of Dukes County and the county of Nantucket and other geographically isolated communities.

SECTION 45. The commission shall prioritize review and licensing decisions for applicants for retail, manufacture or cultivation licenses who demonstrate experience in or business practices that promote economic empowerment in communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and incarceration for offenses under chapter 94C or who provide an express plan to reinvest a portion of revenues generated by the licensee into communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and incarceration for offenses under chapter 94C through projects including, but not limited to, community infrastructure development, job creation programs, scholarships, business loans and funding for indigent criminal defense services; provided, however, that applicants who provide an express plan to reinvest a portion of revenues generated by the licensee shall be eligible for a percentage reduction in the licensing fee equal to the percentage of revenues the licensee plans to reinvest; provided further, that a license fee shall not be reduced by more than 33 per cent.

SECTION 46. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a person licensed as of July 1, 2017 to dispense medical use cannabis, or an application pending before the department of public health which has not received provisional or final certification of registration, shall be entitled to convert from a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to chapter 180 of the General Laws into a domestic business corporation or other domestic business entity pursuant to chapter 156 of the General Laws or any other such domestic business entity as permitted by the General Laws by adopting a plan of entity conversion in accordance with section 9.51 of chapter 156D of the General Laws, approved by a vote of 2/3 of the members of its board of directors at a meeting duly called for the purpose or by unanimous written consent; provided, however, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a plan of entity conversion adopted by a medical use cannabis licensee or an application for a medical use cannabis license pending before the commission which has not received provisional or final certification of registration shall not be required to be approved in accordance with the organic law of the nonprofit corporation organized under said chapter 180. Articles of entity conversion shall be signed and submitted to the secretary of the commonwealth in the manner prescribed in and subject to section 9.53 and section 9.55 of said chapter 156D on a form prescribed by the secretary of the commonwealth and the secretary of the commonwealth shall approve all such filings submitted pursuant to this section. For the purposes of converting from a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to said chapter 180 into a domestic business corporation or other domestic business entity pursuant to said chapter 156, notwithstanding any provision in the articles of organization applications pending before the commission which have not received provisional or final certification of registration to the contrary, the members of its board of directors may determine that such plan of entity conversion is consistent with its purpose and

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such nonprofit corporation may surrender its articles of organization in connection with the plan of entity conversion. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, neither the entity conversion nor the issuance of shares, interests or other securities, obligations, rights to acquire interests or other securities, cash, other property or any combination of the foregoing, set forth in or resulting from the plan of entity conversion, shall be subject to taxation or result in the imposition of a tax by the commonwealth.

SECTION 47. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for the purposes of reviewing and approving an application for a license to operate a marijuana establishment, the commission shall identify applicants who are holders of a provisional or final certificate of registration pursuant to chapter 369 of the acts of 2012 and accompanying regulations. The commission shall consider issuance of a provisional or final certificate of registration as achievement of accreditation status. The commission shall ensure an expedited review process for applicants for a license to operate a marijuana establishment who have achieved accreditation status and shall only require that such applicants submit specific information not previously required, analyzed, approved and recognized by the department of public health.

SECTION 48. Notwithstanding subsection (d) of section 76 of chapter 10 of the General Laws, the initial appointments to the cannabis control commission by the governor and the attorney general shall be for 3 years and the initial appointments by majority vote of the state treasurer, governor and attorney general shall be for 2 years.

SECTION 49. (a) As used in sections 49 to 53, inclusive, the following terms shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

"Commission", the cannabis control commission established pursuant to chapter 10 of the General Laws.

"Department", the department of public health.

"Program", the department's medical use of marijuana program.

- (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department and the commission shall develop and implement a transfer agreement providing for the orderly transfer of the program, including personnel, from the department to the commission. Upon the assumption of the outstanding liabilities, obligations and debt of the program by the commission, the program shall be dissolved and, without further conveyance or other act, all the assets, liabilities, obligations and debt and all rights, powers and duties of the program shall be transferred to and assumed by the commission.
- (c) On the date of the transfer required by subsection (b): (i) ownership, possession and control of all personal property including, but not limited to, all equipment, books, papers, memoranda, files, maps, plans, records and documents of whatever description pertaining to the operation of the program which are in the possession of the program or the department or the employees thereof shall pass to and be vested in the commission without consideration or further evidence of transfer; and, (ii) all duly existing contracts or obligations of the program which remain in force immediately before the effective date of the transfer pursuant to said subsection (b) shall be considered obligations of the commission. The commission may exercise all rights and enjoy all interests conferred upon the program or department by such contracts or obligations. In the case of collective bargaining agreements, obligations under the agreements shall expire on the stated date of expiration of those agreements.

(d) The department shall transfer the program to the commission upon receipt of written certification from the commission that the commission has in place the legal and regulatory framework to regulate and oversee medical marijuana without disruption to the medical marijuana industry or patient access to medical marijuana or on December 31, 2018, whichever occurs first.

The transfer of the assets, liabilities, obligations and debt of the program to the commission shall be effective upon execution of the transfer agreement authorized herein and shall bind all persons with or without notice and without any further action or documentation.

- (e) Each employee of the program whose salary is paid in whole or in part by revenues generated by the program and whose salary is accounted for on the books of the program as arising from revenue generated by the program as of June 1, 2017 shall become an employee of the commission upon execution of the transfer agreement authorized herein or on December 31, 2018, whichever occurs first.
- (f) All applications submitted and other proceedings appropriately and duly brought before the program before the effective date of this act shall continue unabated and remain in force but shall be assumed and completed by the commission.
- SECTION 50. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, each employee of the program shall become an employee of the commission upon the execution of the transfer agreement required pursuant to section 49 or on January 1, 2019, whichever occurs first.
- (b) All officers and employees of the program who are transferred to the service of the commission shall be transferred without impairment of seniority, retirement or other statutory rights of employees and without loss of accrued rights to holidays, sick leave, vacation and other

benefits and without a change in union representation or certified collective bargaining unit as certified by the state labor relations commission or in local union representation or affiliation, except as otherwise provided in this act. Terms of service of employees of the program shall not be considered interrupted by virtue of transfer to the commission.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer upon any employee of the program any right not held immediately before the effective date of the transfer to the commission or to prohibit any reduction of salary grade, transfer, reassignment, suspension, discharge, layoff or abolition of position not prohibited before such date.

SECTION 51. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the terms and conditions of a collective bargaining agreement that is in effect upon transfer of the program with respect to employees of that program shall continue in effect until the stated expiration date of the agreement; provided, however, that all such employees shall retain their right to collectively bargain pursuant to chapter 150E of the General Laws and shall be considered employees of the cannabis control commission established in chapter 10 for the purposes of said chapter 150E. Upon the effective date of this act, the program shall not engage in negotiations for future collective bargaining agreements with employees of the program.

The personnel administrator of the commonwealth, in consultation with the commission, shall complete a study of job titles in the program. The personnel administrator, in consultation with the commission, shall determine the appropriate job titles for former employees of the program transferred to the commission. Employees transferred to the commission shall be placed in job positions as determined by the personnel administrator and shall be paid wages and receive benefits consistent with the bargaining unit contract governing such job positions.

Employees not transferred to the commission shall be released pursuant to an applicable collective bargaining agreement or policy in place as of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 52. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, on and after the effective date of this act, the program shall not enter into a contract to employ a person as an employee or officer after December 31, 2018.

SECTION 53. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any order, rule or regulation duly promulgated and any license, permit, certificate or approval duly granted by or on behalf of the program shall continue in effect and shall be enforced by the commission until its expiration or until superseded, revised, rescinded or cancelled by the commission.

SECTION 54. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a person having a record of criminal court appearance or disposition on file with the office of the commissioner of probation for a charge of unlawful possession of a controlled substance under section 34 of chapter 94C of the General Laws shall be eligible to have the record and related records, if any, sealed immediately under section 100A of chapter 276 of the General Laws if the controlled substance specified in the complaint related to the court appearance or disposition was marihuana under clause (1) of subsection (b) of Class D of section 31 of said chapter 94C.

SECTION 55. The cannabis control commission shall provide recommendations related to the costs associated with the purchase of medicinal marijuana by veterans of the United States military and individuals receiving health insurance benefits through the United States

Department of Veterans Affairs. The commission shall make recommendations relative to improving cost-effective access to medicinal marijuana and individuals receiving health

insurance benefits through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to the cannabis control commission not later than September 1, 2018.

SECTION 56. (a) For the purposes of this section "minority business enterprise", "women business enterprise" and "veteran business enterprise" shall have the same meanings as ascribed to them in section 58 of chapter 7 of the General Laws.

- (b) The cannabis control commission shall conduct a study on participation in the regulated marijuana industry, including participation by minority business enterprises, women business enterprises and veteran business enterprises. The study shall include, but shall not be limited to:(i) a review of the participation in activities related to the regulation, licensing and promotion of marijuana establishments; (ii) a compilation of data on the individuals and entities that apply for and are issued licenses under chapter 94G of the General Laws, including the individual's or members of an entity's race, gender, country of origin and state geographic region; and (iii) any evidence of discrimination or barriers to entry in the regulated marijuana industry.
- (c) If, upon completion of the study, the commission determines that there is evidence of discrimination or barriers to entry in the regulated marijuana industry, the commission shall implement policies that address the discrimination or barriers faced by the disadvantaged group. Such policies shall include:
- (i) measures that ensure equal opportunity in licensing and permitting processes and equal access to employment opportunities;

938	(ii) promoting participation in the industry by disadvantaged groups through
939	employment opportunities;
940	(iii) a provision in the application process for licensees to establish policies to
941	encourage the participation by a disadvantaged group in contracting and professional services;
942	(iv) providing start-up capital or business loans for disadvantaged groups;
943	(v) outreach to disadvantaged groups, including consultation with state agencies
944	and providing education and training opportunities;
945	(vi) the adoption of diversity licensing goals that provide meaningful participation
946	by disadvantaged groups and training programs, including workforce training and employer
947	training to attract applicants from a disadvantaged group; and
948	(vii) providing sufficient and continuous notice on the commission's website of
949	the opportunities for disadvantaged groups under this section.
950	(d) If legislation is necessary to address discrimination or barriers to entry in the
951	regulated marijuana industry, as identified in the study, the commission shall file its findings and
952	recommendations, including draft legislation, with the clerks of the senate and the house of
	representatives, the chairs of the joint committee on marijuana policy and the senate and house
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953 954	committees on ways and means.
	committees on ways and means. SECTION 57. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the state
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technology projects; (ii) issuing requests for proposals for consulting services relative to the

establishment and operations of the cannabis control commission; and (iii) working in cooperation with the division of capital asset management and maintenance to identify and procure office space and equipment.

SECTION 58. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the executive office of public safety and security shall conduct an evaluation and comparison of penalties and comparable laws between alcohol and marijuana. The evaluation and comparison shall include, but shall not be limited to, age restrictions, possession and usage of alcohol and recreational marijuana. The study and any recommendations shall be submitted to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the chairs of the joint committee on the judiciary and the chairs of the joint committee on public safety and security not later than December 31, 2017.

SECTION 59. The secretary of public safety, in consultation with the cannabis control commission, shall make a recommendation to the legislature not later than July 1, 2018, regarding a statewide system and procedures for civil citations related to violations of the marijuana statutes.

SECTION 60. The cannabis control commission, in collaboration with the department of revenue, shall study the feasibility of alternative tax bases for calculating taxes on marijuana and marijuana products, including by weight, volume, or tetrahydrocannabinol potency. The commission shall file the results of this study together with any recommendations for changes to marijuana tax policy with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, who shall forward the recommendations to the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on marijuana policy and the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on revenue not later than April 1, 2018.

981 SECTION 61. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the 982 comptroller shall report on the incoming receipts and expenditures and any other activities of the 983 Marijuana Regulation Fund, established in section 14 of chapter 94G of the General Laws, every 984 6 months. The report shall be submitted to the clerks of the senate and the house of 985 representatives and the senate and house committees on ways and means. 986 SECTION 62. The regulations required in clause (20) of subsection (a) of section 4 of 987 chapter 94G of the General Laws shall be adopted not later than July 1, 2019. 988 SECTION 63. Section 61 is hereby repealed. 989 SECTION 64. Section 61 shall take effect on July 1, 2018. 990 SECTION 65. Section 63 shall take effect on July1, 2023.