



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 6855***

LCO No. 4316



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:  
(GL)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING DRUG CONTROL AND CANNABIS, HEMP AND INFUSED BEVERAGE REGULATION.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
2 section:

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

5 (2) "Hemp flower" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-  
6 426 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

7 (3) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as provided  
8 in section 22-611 of the general statutes;

9 (4) "Moderate-THC hemp product vendor" has the same meaning as  
10 provided in section 21a-426 of the general statutes, as amended by this  
11 act; and

12 (5) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420 of  
13 the general statutes, as amended by this act.

14 (b) (1) Any person who is not a moderate-THC hemp product vendor  
15 or a licensed cannabis establishment shall exclusively sell manufacturer  
16 hemp products and hemp flower through (A) a direct, in-person  
17 exchange on commercial premises which (i) requires such person's  
18 assistance, or the assistance of such person's agent or employee, to  
19 access manufacturer hemp products or hemp flower, and (ii) maintains  
20 all manufacturer hemp products and hemp flower (I) behind a sales  
21 counter that is inaccessible to consumers, or (II) in a locked container, or  
22 (B) delivery, including, but not limited to, delivery made by way of a  
23 transaction conducted on an Internet web site or by mail order.

24 (2) Any person who sells any manufacturer hemp product or hemp  
25 flower pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall ensure that  
26 the age of the individual who purchases and receives such manufacturer  
27 hemp product or hemp flower is verified, prior to purchase and  
28 delivery, with a valid government-issued driver's license or identity  
29 card to establish that such individual is twenty-one years of age or older.

30 Sec. 2. Section 20-627 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

32 (a) As used in sections 20-627 to 20-630, inclusive, as amended by this  
33 act, "nonresident pharmacy" means any pharmacy located outside this  
34 state that ships, mails or delivers, in any manner, legend devices or  
35 legend drugs into this state pursuant to a prescription order.

36 (b) A nonresident pharmacy shall be registered with the department,  
37 upon approval of the commission, and shall:

38 (1) Disclose annually in a report to the commission the location,  
39 names and titles of all principal corporate officers, if applicable, and all  
40 pharmacists who are dispensing drugs or devices to residents of this  
41 state;

42 (2) [A nonresident pharmacy shall file] File a report within ten days  
43 after any change of name, ownership, management, officers or directors.  
44 Such report shall be accompanied by the filing fee set forth in section 20-  
45 601. Any nonresident pharmacy that fails to give notice as required  
46 pursuant to this subdivision within ten days after the change shall pay  
47 the late fee set forth in section 20-601;

48 (3) Comply with all lawful directions and requests for information  
49 from the regulatory or licensing agency of the state in which it is licensed  
50 as well as comply with all requests for information made by the  
51 commission or department pursuant to this section;

52 (4) Disclose to the department whether the nonresident pharmacy is  
53 dispensing sterile pharmaceuticals, as defined in section 20-633b, as  
54 amended by this act, within this state. If any such dispensed sterile  
55 pharmaceutical is not patient-specific, the nonresident pharmacy shall  
56 submit a copy of the manufacturing license or registration issued by the  
57 regulatory or licensing agency of the state in which it is licensed, and a  
58 copy of any registration issued by the federal Food and Drug  
59 Administration to the department;

60 (5) Maintain at all times, a valid unexpired license, permit or  
61 registration to conduct such pharmacy in compliance with the laws of  
62 the state in which the nonresident pharmacy is located;

63 (6) Before receiving a certificate of registration from the department,  
64 submit a copy of the most recent inspection report resulting from an  
65 inspection conducted by the regulatory or licensing agency of the state  
66 in which the nonresident pharmacy is located. If the nonresident  
67 pharmacy is delivering sterile compounded products within this state,  
68 such inspection report shall include a section based on standards  
69 required in the most recent United States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 797,  
70 as amended from time to time. If the state in which the nonresident  
71 pharmacy is located does not conduct inspections based on standards  
72 required in the most recent United States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 797,

73 as amended from time to time, such nonresident pharmacy shall  
74 provide proof to the department that it is in compliance with such  
75 standards;

76 (7) [A nonresident pharmacy shall provide] Provide a toll-free  
77 telephone number to facilitate communication between patients in this  
78 state and a pharmacist at such nonresident pharmacy who has access to  
79 the patient's records at all times. Such toll-free telephone number shall  
80 be disclosed on a label affixed to each container of drugs dispensed to  
81 patients in this state;

82 (8) Notify the department if the nonresident pharmacy has had any  
83 disciplinary action or written advisement or warning by any federal or  
84 state regulatory agency or any accreditation body not later than ten  
85 business days after being notified of such action, advisement or  
86 warning; and

87 (9) Provide to the department the names and addresses of all  
88 residents of this state to whom legend devices or legend drugs have  
89 been delivered, not later than twenty-four hours after the nonresident  
90 pharmacy initiates a recall of any legend devices or legend drugs.

91 (c) If a nonresident pharmacy that is registered with the department  
92 under this section sells, delivers or offers sterile compounded products  
93 in this state, such nonresident pharmacy shall submit to the department  
94 inspection reports, as provided in section 20-633b, as amended by this  
95 act, from a government agency or third-party entity with expertise in  
96 sterile compounding demonstrating that such nonresident pharmacy's  
97 program, processes and facilities comply with the standards required in  
98 the most recent United States Pharmacopeia, Chapter 797, as amended  
99 from time to time.

100 Sec. 3. Subsection (j) of section 20-633b of the general statutes is  
101 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*  
102 *1, 2026*):

103 (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (b)  
104 of this section, a sterile compounding pharmacy that is a nonresident  
105 pharmacy shall [provide] submit to the Department of Consumer  
106 Protection [proof that such nonresident pharmacy has passed an  
107 inspection in such nonresident pharmacy's home state, based on the  
108 USP chapters] inspection reports from government agencies or third-  
109 party entities with expertise in sterile compounding demonstrating that  
110 such sterile compounding pharmacy is in compliance with the  
111 standards required in the most recent United States Pharmacopeia,  
112 Chapter 797, as amended from time to time. Such nonresident pharmacy  
113 shall submit to the [Department of Consumer Protection] department a  
114 copy of the most recent inspection report with such nonresident  
115 pharmacy's initial nonresident pharmacy application, [and] which  
116 inspection report shall be dated by the inspector and indicate that the  
117 inspection was performed during the six-month period immediately  
118 preceding the date of such initial application. Not later than June  
119 thirtieth of each even-numbered calendar year following such initial  
120 application, such nonresident pharmacy shall submit to the department  
121 a [copy of such nonresident pharmacy's most recent] new inspection  
122 report [every two years thereafter. If the state in which such nonresident  
123 pharmacy is located does not conduct inspections based on standards  
124 required in the USP chapters, such nonresident pharmacy shall provide  
125 satisfactory proof to the department that such nonresident pharmacy is  
126 in compliance with the standards required in the USP chapters]  
127 demonstrating that such sterile compounding pharmacy remains in  
128 compliance with the standards required in the most recent United States  
129 Pharmacopeia, Chapter 797, as amended from time to time, which  
130 inspection report shall be dated by the inspector and indicate that the  
131 inspection was performed not earlier than January first of such even-  
132 numbered calendar year.

133 Sec. 4. Section 21a-243 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
134 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

135 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt

136 regulations for the efficient enforcement and operation of sections 21a-  
137 244 to 21a-282, inclusive.

138 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, so far as may be  
139 consistent with sections 21a-244 to 21a-282, inclusive, adopt the  
140 regulations existing under the federal Controlled Substances Act and  
141 pertinent regulations existing under the federal food and drug laws and  
142 conform regulations adopted hereunder with those existing under the  
143 federal Controlled Substances Act and federal food and drug laws.

144 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, acting upon the  
145 advice of the Commission of Pharmacy, may by regulation designate,  
146 after investigation, as a controlled substance, a substance or chemical  
147 composition containing any quantity of a substance which has been  
148 found to have a stimulant, depressant or hallucinogenic effect upon the  
149 higher functions of the central nervous system and having a tendency  
150 to promote abuse or physiological or psychological dependence or both.  
151 Such substances are classifiable as amphetamine-type, barbiturate-type,  
152 cannabis-type, cocaine-type, hallucinogenic, morphine-type and other  
153 stimulant and depressant substances, and specifically exclude alcohol,  
154 caffeine and nicotine. Substances which are designated as controlled  
155 substances shall be classified in schedules I to V by regulations adopted  
156 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

157 (d) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may by regulation  
158 change the schedule in which a substance classified as a controlled  
159 substance in schedules I to V of the controlled substance scheduling  
160 regulations is placed. On or before December 15, 1986, and annually  
161 thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a list of all such schedule  
162 changes to the chairmen and ranking members of the joint standing  
163 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
164 relating to public health.

165 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive,  
166 of this section, not later than January 1, 2013, the Commissioner of

167 Consumer Protection shall submit amendments to sections 21a-243-7  
168 and 21a-243-8 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to the  
169 standing legislative regulation review committee to reclassify marijuana  
170 as a controlled substance in schedule II under the Connecticut  
171 controlled substance scheduling regulations, except that for any  
172 marijuana product that has been approved by the federal Food and  
173 Drug Administration or successor agency to have a medical use and that  
174 is reclassified in any schedule of controlled substances or unscheduled  
175 by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration or successor agency,  
176 the commissioner shall adopt the schedule designated by the Drug  
177 Enforcement Administration or successor agency.

178 (f) A new or amended regulation under this chapter shall be adopted  
179 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

180 (g) In the event of any inconsistency between the contents of  
181 schedules I, II, III, IV and V of the controlled substance scheduling  
182 regulations and schedules I, II, III, IV and V of the federal Controlled  
183 Substances Act, as amended, the provisions of the federal act shall  
184 prevail, except (1) when the provisions of the Connecticut controlled  
185 substance scheduling regulations place a controlled substance in a  
186 schedule with a higher numerical designation, schedule I being the  
187 highest designation, or (2) as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

188 (h) When a drug that is not a controlled substance in schedule I, II,  
189 III, IV or V, as designated in the Connecticut controlled substance  
190 scheduling regulations, is designated to be a controlled substance under  
191 the federal Controlled Substances Act, such drug shall be considered to  
192 be controlled at the state level in the same numerical schedule from the  
193 effective date of the federal classification. Nothing in this section shall  
194 prevent the Commissioner of Consumer Protection from designating a  
195 controlled substance differently in the Connecticut controlled substance  
196 scheduling regulations than such controlled substance is designated in  
197 the federal Controlled Substances Act, as amended from time to time.

198 (i) (1) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, by regulation  
199 adopted pursuant to this section, designate the following substances, by  
200 whatever official, common, usual, chemical or trade name designation,  
201 as controlled substances and classify each such substance in the  
202 appropriate schedule:

203 [(1)] (A) 1-pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole (JWH-018);

204 [(2)] (B) 1-butyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole (JWH-073);

205 [(3)] (C) 1-[2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl]-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole (JWH-  
206 200);

207 [(4)] (D) 5-(1,1-dimethylheptyl)-2-[(1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]-  
208 phenol (CP-47,497);

209 [(5)] (E) 5-(1,1-dimethyloctyl)-2-[(1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]-  
210 phenol (cannabicyclohexanol; CP-47,497 C8 homologue);

211 [(6)] (F) Salvia divinorum; and

212 [(7)] (G) Salvinorum A.

213 (2) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this  
214 section, the commissioner shall, in accordance with the provisions of  
215 chapter 54, amend the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (1)  
216 of this subsection to designate the following substances, by whatever  
217 official, common, usual, chemical or trade name designation, as  
218 controlled substances and classify each such substance in the  
219 appropriate schedule:

220 (i) 7-hydroxymitragynine;

221 (ii) Bromazolam;

222 (iii) Flubromazolam;

223 (iv) Mitragyna speciosa (kratom), including its leaves, stem and any



224 extracts;

225 (v) Nitazenes, including, but not limited to, isotonitazene;

226 (vi) Tianeptine; and

227 (vii) Phenibut.

228 (B) Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172,  
229 inclusive, in order to protect public health and safety, prior to amending  
230 the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection in  
231 accordance with subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the  
232 commissioner shall issue policies and procedures to implement the  
233 provisions of this subdivision that shall have the force and effect of law.  
234 The commissioner shall post all policies and procedures on the  
235 department's Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures  
236 to the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System, at  
237 least fifteen days prior to the effective date of any policy or procedure.  
238 Any such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the  
239 earlier of either the adoption of the policy or procedure as a final  
240 regulation under section 4-172 or forty-eight months from July 1, 2025,  
241 if such regulation has not been submitted to the legislative regulation  
242 review committee for consideration under section 4-170.

243 (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section,  
244 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall designate the following  
245 substances, by whatever official, common, usual, chemical or trade  
246 name designation, as controlled substances in schedule I of the  
247 controlled substances scheduling regulations:

248 (1) Mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone);

249 (2) Synthetic cannabinoids; and

250 (3) MDPV (3,4-methylenedioxypropylvalerone).

251 Sec. 5. Section 21a-408c of the general statutes is repealed and the

252 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

253 (a) (1) A physician, physician assistant or advanced practice  
254 registered nurse may issue a written certification to a qualifying patient  
255 that authorizes the palliative use of marijuana by the qualifying patient.  
256 Such written certification shall be in the form prescribed by the  
257 Department of Consumer Protection and shall include a statement  
258 signed and dated by the qualifying patient's physician, physician  
259 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in such  
260 physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered nurse's  
261 professional opinion, (A) the qualifying patient has a debilitating  
262 medical condition, and (B) the potential benefits of the palliative use of  
263 marijuana would likely outweigh the health risks of such use to the  
264 qualifying patient.

265 ~~[(b) Any] (2) Except as provided in subdivision (5) of this subsection,~~  
266 ~~any written certification [for the palliative use of marijuana] issued by a~~  
267 ~~physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse~~  
268 ~~[under subsection (a) of this section] pursuant to subdivision (1) of this~~  
269 ~~subsection shall be valid for a period not to exceed six months, one year,~~  
270 ~~eighteen months or two years from the date on which such written~~  
271 ~~certification is signed and dated by the physician, physician assistant or~~  
272 ~~advanced practice registered nurse. [Not] Except as provided in~~  
273 ~~subdivision (5) of this subsection, not later than ten calendar days after~~  
274 ~~the expiration of such period, or at any time before the expiration of such~~  
275 ~~period should the qualifying patient no longer wish to possess~~  
276 ~~marijuana for palliative use, the qualifying patient or the caregiver shall~~  
277 ~~destroy all usable marijuana possessed by the qualifying patient and the~~  
278 ~~caregiver for palliative use.~~

279 ~~[(c)] (3)~~ A physician, physician assistant or advanced practice  
280 registered nurse shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized  
281 in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil  
282 penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to,  
283 being subject to any disciplinary action by the Connecticut Medical

284 Examining Board, the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing  
285 or other professional licensing board, for providing a written  
286 certification [for the palliative use of marijuana] under subdivision (1)  
287 of subsection (a) of section 21a-408a if:

288 [(1)] (A) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice  
289 registered nurse has diagnosed the qualifying patient as having a  
290 debilitating medical condition;

291 [(2)] (B) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice  
292 registered nurse has explained the potential risks and benefits of the  
293 palliative use of marijuana to the qualifying patient and, if the  
294 qualifying patient lacks legal capacity, to a parent, guardian or person  
295 having legal custody of, or medical decision-making authority for, the  
296 qualifying patient;

297 [(3)] (C) The written certification issued by the physician, physician  
298 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse is based upon the  
299 physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered nurse's  
300 professional opinion after having completed a medically reasonable  
301 assessment of the qualifying patient's medical history and current  
302 medical condition made in the course of a bona fide health care  
303 professional-patient relationship; and

304 [(4)] (D) The physician, physician assistant or advanced practice  
305 registered nurse has no financial interest in a cannabis establishment,  
306 except for retailers and delivery services, as such terms are defined in  
307 section 21a-420, as amended by this act.

308 [(d)] (4) A physician assistant or nurse shall not be subject to arrest or  
309 prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to,  
310 being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,  
311 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by  
312 the Connecticut Medical Examining Board, Board of Examiners for  
313 Nursing or other professional licensing board, for administering  
314 marijuana to a qualifying patient or research program subject in a

315 hospital or health care facility licensed by the Department of Public  
316 Health.

317 (5) A licensed dispensary may grant a temporary extension of a  
318 written certification issued by a physician, physician assistant or  
319 advanced practice registered nurse pursuant to subdivision (1) of this  
320 subsection for a period not to exceed ninety consecutive days following  
321 expiration of such written certification. If a qualifying patient is granted  
322 a temporary extension but is not issued a new written certification  
323 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection during the term of such  
324 temporary extension, the qualifying patient or the caregiver shall, not  
325 later than ten calendar days after the expiration of such temporary  
326 extension, or at any time before the expiration of such temporary  
327 extension should such qualifying patient no longer wish to possess  
328 marijuana for palliative use, destroy all usable marijuana possessed by  
329 such qualifying patient for palliative use.

330 (b) (1) A licensed dispensary may issue a temporary written  
331 certification to an individual that authorizes the individual to engage in  
332 the palliative use of marijuana as a qualifying patient for a period not to  
333 exceed ninety consecutive days, provided such licensed dispensary has:

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

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

340 (C) Reviewed the electronic prescription drug monitoring program  
341 established pursuant to section 21a-254 and verified that no other  
342 licensed dispensary prescribed or dispensed marijuana to such  
343 individual during the one-year period immediately preceding the date  
344 of such review.

345 (2) Each temporary written certification issued pursuant to  
346 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be in the form prescribed by the  
347 Department of Consumer Protection and shall include a statement  
348 signed and dated by the licensed dispensary stating that, in such  
349 licensed dispensary's professional opinion, (A) the individual has  
350 provided sufficient proof that such individual has a debilitating medical  
351 condition, and (B) the potential benefits the individual would derive  
352 from the palliative use of marijuana likely outweigh the health risks that  
353 such use would pose to such individual.

354 (3) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification  
355 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, or the dispensary facility  
356 or hybrid retailer that employs such licensed dispensary, may impose a  
357 fee for such temporary written certification, which fee shall not exceed  
358 twenty-five dollars. Such licensed dispensary, dispensary facility or  
359 hybrid retailer shall not impose any other fee in connection with such  
360 temporary written certification.

361 (4) If an individual is issued a temporary written certification  
362 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection but is not issued a written  
363 certification pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section  
364 during the term of such temporary written certification, the individual  
365 shall, not later than ten calendar days after the expiration of such  
366 temporary written certification, or at any time before the expiration of  
367 such temporary written certification should such individual no longer  
368 wish to possess marijuana for palliative use, destroy all usable  
369 marijuana possessed by such individual for palliative use.

370 (5) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification  
371 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall maintain all patient  
372 assessment and eligibility documentation concerning such temporary  
373 written certification for a period of at least three years beginning on the  
374 date on which the dispensary issued such temporary written  
375 certification. Such documentation shall be organized and maintained  
376 (A) in hard copy at the dispensary facility or hybrid retailer premises at

377 which the licensed dispensary conducted an in-person assessment of the  
378 patient, or (B) electronically in a system accessible by the licensed  
379 dispensary.

380 (6) A licensed dispensary that issues a temporary written certification  
381 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall ensure that all patient  
382 assessment and eligibility documentation maintained pursuant to  
383 subdivision (5) of this subsection is made readily available to the  
384 department, and shall submit any such documentation to the  
385 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, not  
386 later than forty-eight hours after the department requests such  
387 documentation.

388 (7) A licensed dispensary shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution,  
389 penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to  
390 any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not  
391 limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by the Commission  
392 of Pharmacy or any other professional licensing board, for providing a  
393 temporary written certification pursuant to subdivision (1) of this  
394 subsection if:

395 (A) The licensed dispensary has reasonably determined, after  
396 reviewing the individual's medical history, that the individual is  
397 eighteen years of age or older and has a debilitating medical condition;  
398 and

399 (B) The licensed dispensary has explained the potential risks and  
400 benefits of the palliative use of marijuana to the individual and, if the  
401 individual lacks legal capacity, to a parent, guardian or person having  
402 legal custody of, or medical decision-making authority for, the  
403 individual.

404 [(e)] (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, sections 21a-  
405 408 to 21a-408b, inclusive, and sections 21a-408d to 21a-408o, inclusive,  
406 a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse shall not  
407 issue a written certification to a qualifying patient, and a licensed

408 dispensary shall not issue a temporary written certification to an  
409 individual, when the qualifying patient's or individual's debilitating  
410 medical condition is glaucoma.

411 [(f)] (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any  
412 regulation of Connecticut state agencies concerning the certification of  
413 qualifying patients through telehealth services, a physician, physician  
414 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may issue a written  
415 certification to a qualifying patient and provide any follow-up care  
416 utilizing telehealth services, provided all other requirements for issuing  
417 such written certification to the qualifying patient, including, but not  
418 limited to, all recordkeeping requirements, are satisfied.

419 Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of section 21a-420 of the general statutes is  
420 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
421 *2025*):

422 (1) "Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis  
423 Act" or "RERACA" means this section, sections 2-56j, 7-294kk, 7-294ll,  
424 12-330ll to 12-330nn, inclusive, 14-227p, 21a-278b, 21a-278c, 21a-279c,  
425 21a-279d, 21a-420a to 21a-420j, inclusive, as amended by this act, 21a-  
426 420l to 21a-421r, inclusive, 21a-421aa to 21a-421ff, inclusive, 21a-421aaa  
427 to 21a-421hhh, inclusive, 21a-422 to 21a-422c, inclusive, 21a-422e to 21a-  
428 422g, inclusive, 21a-422j to 21a-422s, inclusive, 22-61n, 23-4b, 47a-9a, 53-  
429 247a, 53a-213a, 53a-213b, 54-33p, 54-56q, 54-56r, 54-125k and 54-142u,  
430 sections 23, 60, 63 to 65, inclusive, 124, 144 and 165 of public act 21-1 of  
431 the June special session, and the amendments in public act 21-1 of the  
432 June special session to sections 7-148, 10-221, 12-30a, 12-35b, 12-412, 12-  
433 650, 12-704d, 14-44k, 14-111e, 14-227a to 14-227c, inclusive, 14-227j, 15-  
434 140q, 15-140r, 18-100h, 19a-342, 19a-342a, 21a-267, 21a-277, 21a-279, 21a-  
435 279a, 21a-408 to 21a-408f, inclusive, 21a-408h to 21a-408p, inclusive, 21a-  
436 408r to 21a-408w, inclusive, 21a-420aa, 21a-421s, 30-89a, 31-40q, 32-39,  
437 46b-120, 51-164n, 53-394, 53a-39c, 54-1m, 54-33g, 54-41b, 54-56e, 54-56g,  
438 54-56i, 54-56k, 54-56n, 54-63d, 54-66a and 54-142e [, section 20 of public  
439 act 23-79\*] and sections 8 and 20 of this act;

440 Sec. 7. Subdivision (2) of section 21a-420 of the general statutes is  
441 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
442 *passage*):

443 (2) "Backer" means any individual with a direct or indirect financial  
444 interest in a cannabis establishment. "Backer" does not include (A) a  
445 bank, bank and trust company, bank holding company, Connecticut  
446 bank, Connecticut credit union, federal bank, federal branch, federal  
447 credit union, financial institution, foreign bank, holding company, out-  
448 of-state bank, out-of-state credit union, out-of-state trust company,  
449 savings and loan association, savings bank or savings and loan holding  
450 company, as said terms are defined in section 36a-2, or a wholly-owned  
451 subsidiary thereof, that provides nonequity financing to a cannabis  
452 establishment and does not directly participate in the control,  
453 management or operation of the cannabis establishment, or (B) an  
454 individual with an investment interest in a cannabis establishment if  
455 [(A)] (i) the interest held by such individual and such individual's  
456 spouse, parent or child, in the aggregate, does not exceed five per cent  
457 of the total ownership or interest rights in such cannabis establishment,  
458 and [(B)] (ii) such individual does not participate directly or indirectly  
459 in the control, management or operation of the cannabis establishment;

460 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

461 (1) "Court appointee" (A) means a person, appointed or designated  
462 as part of a court supervised proceeding, to exercise court oversight with  
463 respect to the property, assets, management or operations of a cannabis  
464 establishment, and (B) includes, but is not limited to, a receiver,  
465 custodian, guardian or trustee or the executor or administrator of an  
466 estate; and

467 (2) "Court supervised proceeding" means a proceeding in which a  
468 court of competent jurisdiction appoints or designates a court appointee  
469 to exercise court oversight with respect to the property, assets,  
470 management or operations of a cannabis establishment.



471 (b) (1) The Department of Consumer Protection may, upon  
472 application and payment of the fee required under subsection (c) of this  
473 section, issue a temporary cannabis operator license to a court appointee  
474 to operate a cannabis establishment for a period (A) not to exceed sixty  
475 days, or (B) longer than sixty days, provided the Commissioner of  
476 Consumer Protection, in the commissioner's sole discretion, deems such  
477 longer period reasonably necessary to allow for the orderly disposition  
478 of (i) the cannabis establishment in the court supervised proceeding, or  
479 (ii) any delinquencies or deficiencies identified by the court.

480 (2) The department may recommend that a person be appointed or  
481 designated as the court appointee as part of any court supervised  
482 proceeding before any court of competent jurisdiction in this state.

483 (3) Each court appointee who is licensed as a temporary cannabis  
484 operator under this section shall comply with all applicable provisions  
485 of the general statutes and all applicable regulations, policies and  
486 procedures adopted or promulgated thereunder.

487 (c) (1) A court appointee shall submit to the department, in a form  
488 and manner prescribed by the commissioner, an application for a  
489 temporary cannabis operator license. Such application shall include, but  
490 need not be limited to:

491 (A) The contact information for such court appointee;

492 (B) Proof that such court appointee has been appointed or designated  
493 to exercise court oversight with respect to the property, assets,  
494 management or operations of the relevant cannabis establishment;

495 (C) The requested duration of the temporary cannabis operator  
496 license; and

497 (D) A summary of the circumstances necessitating such application.

498 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no court  
499 appointee who applies for a temporary cannabis operator license

500 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be required to submit  
501 to or pass a criminal history records check or financial history check.

502 (3) Each application submitted to the department pursuant to  
503 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be accompanied by a  
504 nonrefundable application fee in the amount of five hundred dollars.  
505 All application fees collected by the department under this subdivision  
506 shall be paid to the State Treasurer and credited to the General Fund.

507 (d) A court appointee may submit to the department, in a form and  
508 manner prescribed by the commissioner, a request to extend the term of  
509 a temporary cannabis operator license issued pursuant to this section.  
510 The department may grant an extension request submitted pursuant to  
511 this subsection if the commissioner determines, in the commissioner's  
512 discretion, that such extension is reasonably necessary to allow for  
513 resolution of the court supervised proceeding. Such extension shall be  
514 granted in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner.

515 (e) The commissioner may refuse to issue or extend, or revoke, a  
516 temporary cannabis operator license issued pursuant to this section:

517 (1) If the court appointee does not propose to begin operating the  
518 cannabis establishment immediately upon issuance of the temporary  
519 cannabis operator license, or does not begin operating the cannabis  
520 establishment immediately upon issuance of such license, unless the  
521 commissioner, in the commissioner's discretion and in writing, waives  
522 such requirement and extends the period during which the court  
523 appointee shall begin operating such cannabis establishment;

524 (2) For sufficient cause, as set forth in subsection (b) of section 21a-  
525 421p of the general statutes;

526 (3) If the court appointee operates the cannabis establishment in  
527 violation of any applicable provision of the general statutes or any  
528 regulation, policy or procedure adopted or promulgated thereunder; or

529 (4) If the term of such temporary cannabis operator license has  
530 expired.

531 Sec. 9. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420p of the general statutes is  
532 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
533 *passage*):

534 (e) A micro-cultivator may sell, transfer or transport its cannabis to a  
535 [dispensary facility, hybrid retailer, retailer, delivery service, food and  
536 beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer,] cannabis  
537 establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or research program,  
538 [cannabis testing laboratory or product packager,] provided the  
539 cannabis is cultivated, grown and propagated at the micro-cultivator's  
540 licensed establishment and transported utilizing the micro-cultivator's  
541 own employees or a transporter. A micro-cultivator shall not gift or  
542 transfer cannabis or cannabis products at no cost to a consumer as part  
543 of a commercial transaction.

544 Sec. 10. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420r of the general statutes is  
545 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
546 *passage*):

547 (b) A retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-cultivator,  
548 producer, product packager, food and beverage manufacturer, product  
549 manufacturer or transporter or an undeliverable return from a delivery  
550 service. A retailer may sell, transport or transfer cannabis or cannabis  
551 products to a [delivery service,] cannabis establishment, cannabis  
552 testing laboratory or research program. A retailer may sell cannabis to a  
553 consumer or research program. A retailer may not conduct sales of  
554 medical marijuana products nor offer discounts or other inducements to  
555 qualifying patients or caregivers. A retailer shall not gift or transfer  
556 cannabis at no cost to a consumer as part of a commercial transaction.

557 Sec. 11. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420s of the general statutes is  
558 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
559 *passage*):

560 (b) A hybrid retailer may obtain cannabis from a cultivator, micro-  
561 cultivator, producer, product packager, food and beverage  
562 manufacturer, product manufacturer or transporter. In addition to the  
563 activities authorized under section 21a-420t, a hybrid retailer may sell,  
564 transport or transfer cannabis to a [delivery service,] cannabis  
565 establishment, cannabis testing laboratory or research program. A  
566 hybrid retailer may sell cannabis products to a consumer or research  
567 program. A hybrid retailer shall not gift or transfer cannabis at no cost  
568 to a consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver as part of a commercial  
569 transaction.

570 Sec. 12. Subsections (e) and (f) of section 21a-420j of the general  
571 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
572 (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

573 [(e) Equity joint ventures that are retailers or hybrid retailers that  
574 share a common cultivator backer or owner shall not be located within  
575 twenty miles of each other.]

576 [(f)] (e) An equity joint venture applicant shall pay fifty per cent of  
577 the amount of any applicable fee specified in subsection (c) of section  
578 21a-420e for the first three renewal cycles of the applicable cannabis  
579 establishment license applied for, and shall pay the full amount of such  
580 fee thereafter.

581 Sec. 13. Subsections (f) to (i), inclusive, of section 21a-420m of the  
582 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
583 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

584 [(f) Equity joint ventures that are retailers or hybrid retailers that  
585 share a common producer backer or owner shall not be located within  
586 twenty miles of each other.]

587 [(g)] (f) If a producer has paid a reduced conversion fee, as described  
588 in subsection (b) of section 21a-420l, and subsequently did not create  
589 two equity joint ventures under this section that, not later than fourteen

590 months after the Department of Consumer Protection approved the  
591 producer's license expansion application under section 21a-420l, each  
592 received a final license from the department, the producer shall be liable  
593 for the full conversion fee of three million dollars established in section  
594 21a-420l minus such paid reduced conversion fee.

595 [(h)] (g) No producer that receives license expansion authorization  
596 under section 21a-420l shall create more than two equity joint ventures.  
597 No such producer shall apply for, or create, any additional equity joint  
598 venture if, on July 1, 2021, such producer has created at least two equity  
599 joint ventures that have each received a provisional license.

600 [(i)] (h) An equity joint venture applicant shall pay fifty per cent of  
601 the amount of any applicable fee specified in subsection (c) of section  
602 21a-420e for the first three renewal cycles of the applicable cannabis  
603 establishment license applied for, and shall pay the full amount of such  
604 fee thereafter.

605 Sec. 14. Subsections (f) to (i), inclusive, of section 21a-420u of the  
606 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
607 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

608 [(f)] Equity joint ventures that are retailers or hybrid retailers that  
609 share a common dispensary facility backer or owner, or hybrid retailer  
610 backer or owner, shall not be located within twenty miles of each other.]

611 [(g)] (f) If a dispensary facility has paid the reduced conversion fee,  
612 in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, and did not  
613 subsequently create one equity joint venture under this section that, not  
614 later than fourteen months after the Department of Consumer  
615 Protection approved the dispensary facility's license conversion  
616 application under section 21a-420t, receives a final license from the  
617 department, the dispensary facility shall be liable for the full conversion  
618 fee of one million dollars established in section 21a-420e minus such  
619 paid reduced conversion fee.

620 [(h)] (g) No dispensary facility that receives approval to convert the  
621 dispensary facility's license to a hybrid-retailer license under section  
622 21a-420t shall create more than two equity joint ventures. No such  
623 dispensary facility shall apply for, or create, any additional equity joint  
624 venture if, on July 1, 2021, such dispensary facility has created at least  
625 two equity joint ventures that have each received a provisional license.

626 [(i)] (h) An equity joint venture applicant shall pay fifty per cent of  
627 the amount of any applicable fee specified in subsection (c) of section  
628 21a-420e for the first three renewal cycles of the applicable cannabis  
629 establishment license applied for, and shall pay the full amount of such  
630 fee thereafter.

631 Sec. 15. Section 21a-421a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
632 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

633 (a) Each employee of a cannabis establishment, cannabis testing  
634 laboratory or research program, other than a key employee, shall  
635 annually apply for and obtain a registration, on a form and in a manner  
636 prescribed by the commissioner, prior to commencing employment at  
637 the cannabis establishment business.

638 (b) No person shall act as a backer or key employee, or represent that  
639 such person is a backer or key employee, unless such person has  
640 obtained a license from the department pursuant to this subsection.  
641 Such person shall apply for a license on a form and in a manner  
642 prescribed by the commissioner. Such form may require the applicant  
643 to: (1) [Submit] Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section,  
644 submit to a state and national criminal history records check conducted  
645 in accordance with section 29-17a, which may include a financial history  
646 check if requested by the commissioner, to determine the character and  
647 fitness of the applicant for the license, (2) provide information sufficient  
648 for the department to assess whether the applicant has an ownership  
649 interest in any other cannabis establishment, cannabis establishment  
650 applicant or cannabis-related business nationally or internationally, (3)

651 provide demographic information, and (4) obtain such other  
652 information as the department determines is consistent with the  
653 requirements of RERACA or chapter 420f. A backer or key employee  
654 shall be denied a license in the event his or her background check reveals  
655 a disqualifying conviction.

656 (c) If a person listed in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of section  
657 21a-420, as amended by this act, holds any security interest in a cannabis  
658 establishment and appoints an authorized representative to temporarily  
659 engage in the control, management or operation of the cannabis  
660 establishment due to any failure to comply with the terms of the security  
661 instrument that created such security interest, such authorized  
662 representative shall obtain a key employee license from the department  
663 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section before temporarily engaging  
664 in the control, management or operation of such cannabis  
665 establishment. Such authorized representative shall apply for a key  
666 employee license in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of  
667 this section, except such authorized representative shall not be required  
668 to submit to a state and national criminal history records check  
669 conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The provisions of this  
670 subsection shall not apply to an authorized representative who is a court  
671 appointee, as defined in section 8 of this act.

672 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) Except as provided in subsection ~~[(d)]~~ (e) of this section, any  
673 person who receives a cannabis establishment license, backer or key  
674 employee license or employee registration issued pursuant to  
675 subsection (a) of this section shall notify the department, in writing, of  
676 any changes to the information supplied on the application for such  
677 license or registration not later than five business days after such  
678 change.

679 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Any person who receives a cannabis establishment license or  
680 backer or key employee license shall notify the department, in a manner  
681 prescribed by the department, of any arrest or conviction of such person  
682 for an offense that would constitute a disqualifying conviction, as

683 defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act, not later than forty-  
684 eight hours after such arrest or conviction.

685 [(e)] (f) The department may adopt regulations in accordance with  
686 the provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section,  
687 or may adopt policies and procedures as set forth in section 21a-421j,  
688 prior to adopting such final regulations.

689 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 21a-421ccc of the general statutes is  
690 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
691 *passage*):

692 (a) No person having possession of, or exercising dominion and  
693 control over, any dwelling unit or private property shall: (1) Knowingly  
694 or recklessly permit any person under twenty-one years of age to  
695 possess cannabis in violation of section [21-279a] 21a-279a, in such  
696 dwelling unit or on such private property, or (2) knowing that any  
697 person under twenty-one years of age possesses cannabis in violation of  
698 section [21-279a] 21a-279a, in such dwelling unit or on such private  
699 property, fail to make reasonable efforts to halt such possession.

700 Sec. 17. Section 21a-425 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
701 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

702 For the purposes of this section and sections 21a-425a and 21a-425b:

703 (1) "Cannabis" means marijuana, as defined in section 21a-240;

704 (2) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in  
705 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

706 (3) "Cannabis product" has the same meaning as provided in section  
707 21a-420, as amended by this act;

708 (4) "Cannabis testing laboratory" has the same meaning as provided  
709 in section 21a-408;



710 (5) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer  
711 Protection;

712 (6) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,  
713 as amended by this act;

714 (7) "Container" (A) means [an object] a child-resistant can or bottle  
715 that is offered, intended for sale or sold to a consumer and directly  
716 contains an infused beverage, and (B) does not include an object or  
717 packaging that indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for transportation  
718 purposes, an infused beverage;

719 (8) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,  
720 as amended by this act;

721 (9) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

722 (10) "Dispensary facility" has the same meaning as provided in  
723 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

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

726 (12) "Hemp" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-61l;

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

728 (14) "Hemp products" has the same meaning as provided in section  
729 22-61l;

730 (15) "Hybrid retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section  
731 21a-420, as amended by this act;

732 (16) "Infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an alcoholic  
733 beverage, as defined in section 30-1, (B) is intended for human  
734 consumption, and (C) contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for  
735 sale as containing, total THC that is not greater than three milligrams  
736 per container;

737 (17) "Infused beverage manufacturer" means a person licensed by the  
738 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 21a-425a;

739 (18) "Legacy infused beverage" means a beverage that (A) is not an  
740 alcoholic beverage, as defined in section 30-1, (B) is intended for human  
741 consumption, (C) contains, or is advertised, labeled or offered for sale  
742 as containing, THC, as defined in section 21a-240, and (D) as of June 30,  
743 2024, is in compliance with (i) the provisions of RERACA, as defined in  
744 section 21a-420, as amended by this act, and (ii) the policies and  
745 procedures issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to  
746 implement, and any regulations adopted pursuant to, RERACA, as  
747 defined in section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

748 (19) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section  
749 21a-420, as amended by this act;

750 (20) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as  
751 provided in section 22-61l;

752 (21) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,  
753 as amended by this act;

754 (22) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in  
755 section 21a-420, as amended by this act;

756 (23) "Retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,  
757 as amended by this act; and

758 (24) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-  
759 240.

760 Sec. 18. Section 21a-426 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
761 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

762 (a) As used in this section:

763 (1) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in

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

765 (2) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420,  
766 as amended by this act;

767 (3) "Container" (A) means an object that is offered, intended for sale  
768 or sold to a consumer and directly contains (i) a manufacturer hemp  
769 product, or (ii) a moderate-THC hemp product, and (B) does not include  
770 an object or packaging that indirectly contains, or contains in bulk for  
771 transportation purposes, (i) a manufacturer hemp product, or (ii) a  
772 moderate-THC hemp product;

773 (4) "Hemp flower" (A) means the flower, including, but not limited  
774 to, any abnormal or immature flower, of hemp, as defined in section 22-  
775 61l, and (B) does not include the leaves or stem of hemp, as defined in  
776 said section 22-61l;

777 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) "Manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in section  
778 22-61l;

779 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) "Manufacturer hemp product" has the same meaning as  
780 provided in section 22-61l;

781 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) "Moderate-THC hemp product" (A) means a manufacturer  
782 hemp product that has total THC, as defined in section 21a-240, of not  
783 less than one-half of one milligram, and not more than five milligrams,  
784 on a per-container basis, and (B) does not include (i) an infused  
785 beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as amended by this act, or (ii) a  
786 legacy infused beverage, as defined in section 21a-425, as amended by  
787 this act; and

788 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) "Moderate-THC hemp product vendor" means a person that  
789 (A) holds a certificate of registration issued by the Commissioner of  
790 Consumer Protection pursuant to this section, and (B) is not a cannabis  
791 establishment.

792 (b) Beginning on January 1, 2025, no person shall sell or offer to sell,

793 at retail, any moderate-THC hemp product in the state to consumers  
794 unless such person is a cannabis establishment or holds a certificate of  
795 registration issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection  
796 pursuant to this section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to  
797 the wholesale or commercial distribution of moderate-THC hemp  
798 products for resale.

799 (c) (1) (A) Beginning on January 1, 2025, a person seeking a certificate  
800 of registration as a moderate-THC hemp product vendor shall submit  
801 to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner  
802 prescribed by the commissioner, an application accompanied by a  
803 nonrefundable application fee in the amount of two thousand dollars or,  
804 if the applicant actively holds a manufacturer license, in the amount of  
805 one thousand dollars. Such application shall, at a minimum, disclose:

806 (i) The location in the state where such person currently sells or offers  
807 to sell, or proposes to sell or offer to sell, at retail, moderate-THC hemp  
808 products to consumers; and

809 (ii) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision,  
810 information sufficient for the commissioner to determine that:

811 (I) During the preceding year, at least eighty-five per cent of the  
812 average monthly gross revenue generated at such existing retail location  
813 was derived from sales, at retail, of moderate-THC hemp products to  
814 consumers; or

815 (II) It is reasonably likely that at least eighty-five per cent of the  
816 average monthly gross revenue to be generated at such proposed retail  
817 location will be derived from sales, at retail, of moderate-THC hemp  
818 products to consumers.

819 (B) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, the  
820 commissioner shall not issue a certificate of registration as a moderate-  
821 THC hemp product vendor unless the commissioner has determined  
822 that the applicant satisfies, or is reasonably likely to satisfy, the

823 minimum sales threshold established in subparagraph (A) of this  
824 subdivision. Each such certificate shall expire annually, and shall allow  
825 the moderate-THC hemp product vendor to sell and offer to sell, at  
826 retail, hemp flower and moderate-THC hemp products to consumers at  
827 such location.

828 (C) (i) No person seeking a certificate of registration as a moderate-  
829 THC hemp product vendor shall be required to disclose information  
830 sufficient for the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to determine  
831 that such person satisfies, or is reasonably likely to satisfy, the minimum  
832 sales threshold established in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision if  
833 such person (I) manufactures moderate-THC hemp products at the  
834 location in the state where such person sells or offers to sell, or proposes  
835 to sell or offer to sell, at retail, moderate-THC hemp products to  
836 consumers, or (II) is actively licensed as a manufacturer and sells or  
837 offers to sell, or proposes to sell or offer to sell, at retail, to consumers  
838 moderate-THC hemp products manufactured by such manufacturer.

839 (ii) The commissioner may issue a certificate of registration as a  
840 moderate-THC hemp product vendor to a person that satisfies the  
841 criteria set forth in subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision even if such  
842 person does not satisfy the minimum sales threshold established in  
843 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

844 (2) (A) Each certificate issued pursuant to this section shall be  
845 renewable for additional one-year periods. Each moderate-THC hemp  
846 product vendor seeking renewal shall submit to the Commissioner of  
847 Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the  
848 commissioner, a renewal application accompanied by a nonrefundable  
849 renewal application fee in the amount of two thousand dollars or, if the  
850 moderate-THC hemp product vendor actively holds a manufacturer  
851 license, in the amount of one thousand dollars. Such application shall,  
852 at a minimum and except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this  
853 subdivision, disclose information sufficient for the commissioner to  
854 determine that, during the preceding registration year, at least eighty-

855 five per cent of the average monthly gross revenue generated at the  
856 moderate-THC hemp product vendor's registered retail location was  
857 derived from sales, at retail, of moderate-THC hemp products to  
858 consumers. Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,  
859 the commissioner shall not issue a renewal to a moderate-THC hemp  
860 product vendor unless the commissioner has determined that the  
861 moderate-THC hemp product vendor satisfied such minimum sales  
862 threshold.

863 (B) (i) No moderate-THC hemp product vendor seeking renewal of a  
864 certificate issued pursuant to this section shall be required to disclose  
865 information sufficient for the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to  
866 determine that such moderate-THC hemp product vendor satisfied the  
867 minimum sales threshold established in subparagraph (A) of this  
868 subdivision if (I) such moderate-THC hemp product vendor  
869 manufactures moderate-THC hemp products at such moderate-THC  
870 hemp product vendor's registered retail location, or (II) is actively  
871 licensed as a manufacturer and sells or offers to sell, at retail, to  
872 consumers moderate-THC hemp products manufactured by such  
873 manufacturer.

874 (ii) The commissioner may issue a renewal to a moderate-THC hemp  
875 product vendor that satisfies the criteria set forth in subparagraph (B)(i)  
876 of this subdivision even if the moderate-THC hemp product vendor did  
877 not satisfy the minimum sales threshold established in subparagraph  
878 (A) of this subdivision.

879 (3) All fees collected by the department under this section shall be  
880 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established  
881 in section 21a-8a.

882 (d) No person may act as a moderate-THC hemp product vendor, or  
883 represent that such person is a moderate-THC hemp product vendor,  
884 unless such person has obtained and actively holds a certificate of  
885 registration as a moderate-THC hemp product vendor issued by the

886 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.

887 (e) No cannabis establishment or moderate-THC hemp product  
888 vendor, or agent or employee of a cannabis establishment or moderate-  
889 THC hemp product vendor, shall sell a moderate-THC hemp product  
890 or hemp flower to any individual who is younger than twenty-one years  
891 of age. Prior to selling any moderate-THC hemp product or hemp  
892 flower to an individual, the cannabis establishment, moderate-THC  
893 hemp product vendor, agent or employee shall first verify the  
894 individual's age with a valid government-issued driver's license or  
895 identity card to establish that such individual is twenty-one years of age  
896 or older. If a moderate-THC hemp product vendor sells any moderate-  
897 THC hemp product or hemp flower by any means other than in an in-  
898 person transaction conducted at the moderate-THC hemp product  
899 vendor's registered retail location, including, but not limited to, by way  
900 of an Internet web site or mail order, such moderate-THC hemp product  
901 vendor shall ensure that the age of the individual who receives such  
902 moderate-THC hemp product or hemp flower is verified prior to  
903 delivery with a valid government-issued driver's license or identity card  
904 to establish that such individual is twenty-one years of age or older.

905 (f) No person shall sell any moderate-THC hemp product intended  
906 for human ingestion in packaging that includes more than two  
907 containers.

908 (g) All moderate-THC hemp products shall meet the standards set  
909 forth for manufacturer hemp products in subsections (v), (w) and (x) of  
910 section 22-61m, as amended by this act.

911 (h) All moderate-THC hemp products shall meet (1) the testing  
912 standards for manufacturer hemp products established in, and any  
913 regulations adopted pursuant to, section 22-61m, as amended by this  
914 act, or (2) such other testing standards for manufacturer hemp products  
915 as the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in the commissioner's  
916 discretion, may designate.

917 (i) Each moderate-THC hemp product container shall prominently  
918 display a symbol, in a size of not less than one-half inch by one-half inch  
919 and in a format approved by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,  
920 that indicates that such moderate-THC hemp product is not legal or safe  
921 for individuals younger than twenty-one years of age.

922 (j) No cannabis establishment or moderate-THC hemp product  
923 vendor, or agent or employee of a cannabis establishment or moderate-  
924 THC hemp product vendor, shall gift or transfer any moderate-THC  
925 hemp product at no cost to a consumer as part of a commercial  
926 transaction.

927 (k) Each moderate-THC hemp product vendor shall be subject to the  
928 investigation and enforcement provisions set forth in section 21a-421p.

929 (l) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt  
930 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to  
931 implement the provisions of this section. Notwithstanding the  
932 requirements of sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, the commissioner  
933 shall, prior to adopting such regulations and in order to effectuate the  
934 provisions of this section, issue policies and procedures to implement  
935 the provisions of this section that shall have the force and effect of law.  
936 The commissioner shall post all policies and procedures on the  
937 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site, and submit  
938 such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for posting on  
939 the eRegulations System, at least fifteen days prior to the effective date  
940 of any policy or procedure. Any such policy or procedure shall no longer  
941 be effective upon the earlier of either the adoption of the policy or  
942 procedure as a final regulation under section 4-172 or forty-eight  
943 months from July 1, 2024, if such regulations have not been submitted  
944 to the legislative regulation review committee for consideration under  
945 section 4-170.

946 (m) Following a hearing conducted in accordance with chapter 54,  
947 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection may impose an



948 administrative civil penalty, not to exceed five thousand dollars per  
949 violation, and suspend, revoke or place conditions upon any moderate-  
950 THC hemp product vendor that violates any provision of this section or  
951 any regulation adopted pursuant to subsection (l) of this section. Any  
952 administrative civil penalty collected under this subsection shall be  
953 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established  
954 in section 21a-8a.

955 Sec. 19. Subsection (s) of section 22-61m of the general statutes is  
956 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
957 *1, 2025*):

958 (s) Any claim of health impacts, medical effects or physical or mental  
959 benefits shall be prohibited on any advertising for, labeling of or  
960 marketing of manufacturer hemp products or hemp flower, as defined  
961 in section 21a-426, as amended by this act, regardless of whether such  
962 manufacturer hemp products were manufactured, or hemp flower was  
963 cultivated, in this state or another jurisdiction. Any violation of this  
964 subsection shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under  
965 subsection (a) of section 42-110b.

966 Sec. 20. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) During the period beginning July 1,  
967 2025, and ending October 1, 2026, the Department of Consumer  
968 Protection shall, not later than the first day of February, May, August  
969 and November, submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of  
970 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and the joint  
971 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
972 matters relating to consumer protection. Each report shall contain the  
973 following:

974 (1) For each fiscal quarter, (A) the number of applicants that were  
975 selected from the lottery, broken down by license type, (B) the number  
976 of provisional licenses that the department issued pursuant to  
977 RERACA, broken down by license type, (C) the number of final licenses  
978 that the department issued pursuant to RERACA, broken down by

979 license type and town, and (D) the mechanism by which the department  
 980 issued each final license pursuant to RERACA, including, but not  
 981 limited to, by way of the lottery, to equity joint ventures and to  
 982 cultivators located in disproportionately impacted areas;

983 (2) For the previous four fiscal quarters, a chart demonstrating the  
 984 increase or decrease in the number of cannabis establishment licenses  
 985 issued for each license type per fiscal quarter; and

986 (3) Any other information the department, in the department's  
 987 discretion, may deem appropriate.

988 Sec. 21. Section 20 of public act 23-79 is repealed. (*Effective June 30,*  
 989 *2025*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	20-627
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	20-633b(j)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	21a-243
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	21a-408c
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420(1)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420(2)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420p(e)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420r(b)
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	21a-420s(b)
Sec. 12	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	21a-420j(e) and (f)
Sec. 13	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	21a-420m(f) to (i)
Sec. 14	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	21a-420u(f) to (i)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-421a
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	21a-421ccc(a)
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-425
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-426
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22-61m(s)
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>June 30, 2025</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) establish additional requirements concerning manufacturer hemp products and hemp flower, (2) require certain sterile compounding pharmacies to submit inspection reports, (3) require the Department of Consumer Protection to adopt regulations, policies and procedures designating additional substances as controlled substances, (4) modify the duration of written certifications for the palliative use of marijuana and authorize certain pharmacists to (A) temporarily extend such certifications, and (B) issue temporary written certifications, (5) modify certain requirements concerning a quarterly report submitted by the department, (6) redefine "backer", (7) establish a temporary cannabis operator license, (8) expand the variety of establishments to which certain cannabis establishments may sell, transport or transfer cannabis, (9) eliminate minimum separation requirements concerning certain equity joint ventures, (10) require additional persons to obtain a key employee license, and (11) redefine "container" for purposes of infused beverages.

*[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.]*