

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ROS

L.D. 1669

Date: 5/12/25

(Filing No. S-375)

## VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

### STATE OF MAINE SENATE 132ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 664, L.D. 1669, "An Act to Establish the Cannabis Advisory Council"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 28-B MRSA §115 is enacted to read:

#### §115. Cannabis Advisory Council

1. Appointment; composition. The Cannabis Advisory Council, referred to in this section as "the council" and established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 2-J, consists of 12 members who are appointed as follows:

A. Two members who are registrants under the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act, who are not also licensees under the Cannabis Legalization Act, of which at least one member is a registered caregiver who cultivates cannabis for medical use outdoors, appointed by the President of the Senate. In making the appointments under this paragraph, the President of the Senate shall consider up to 6 recommendations from associations representing the interests of registrants under the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act;

B. Two members who are licensees under the Cannabis Legalization Act, who are not also registrants under the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act, of which at least one member has a cultivation facility license, appointed by the Speaker of the House. In making the appointments under this paragraph, the Speaker of the House shall consider up to 6 recommendations from associations representing the interests of the adult use cannabis industry;

C. Two members who are registrants and licensees under both the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act and the Cannabis Legalization Act, of which at least one member has a manufacturing facility registration certificate or license, appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. In making the appointments under this paragraph, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall consider up to 6 recommendations from associations representing the interests of the cannabis industry;

# COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

ROS

1 D. One public member who is not a registrant under the Maine Medical Use of  
2 Cannabis Act, a licensee under the Cannabis Legalization Act or a lobbyist or lobbyist  
3 associate as defined in Title 3, section 312-A, subsections 10 and 10-A, respectively,  
4 and who has knowledge of and interest in cannabis, appointed by the Speaker of the  
5 House;

6 E. Two members who are municipal officials in municipalities that have ordinances  
7 allowing for all registration types under the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act and  
8 all license types under the Cannabis Legalization Act, appointed by the director;

9 F. Two members who have a demonstrated knowledge of cannabis science, medicine  
10 or research and, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree, appointed by the director. The  
11 director shall make a reasonable effort to appoint a member who has at least 5 years of  
12 relevant experience; and

13 G. One member who is a public health professional, appointed by the director.

14 To the extent practicable, the membership of the council must reflect a geographic  
15 distribution across the State.

16 2. Cannabis business advocate. The cannabis business advocate established by  
17 Public Law 2023, chapter 683 serves as an ex officio nonvoting member of the council.

18 3. Purpose. The council shall make recommendations to the director and the joint  
19 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over cannabis matters  
20 concerning:

21 A. How best to work with state agencies, municipal governments, the medical use  
22 cannabis industry and adult use cannabis industry and citizen groups to make  
23 improvements to and maintain the quality of the State's medical use cannabis industry  
24 and adult use cannabis industry; and

25 B. Matters of interest to the State's medical use cannabis industry and adult use  
26 cannabis industry, including, but not limited to, financial services, taxation, cannabis-  
27 related research and development, environmental and public health protection,  
28 cannabis policy in other states and federal legalization.

29 The council is responsible for bringing forward to the director and the joint standing  
30 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over cannabis matters issues of concern  
31 to the cannabis industry and for assisting in the dissemination of information to members  
32 of the cannabis industry. The council may solicit and consider public comment during its  
33 meetings.

34 4. Terms. The term of a member appointed to the council is 3 years, except that a  
35 vacancy during an unexpired term must be filled in the same manner as for the original  
36 member for the unexpired portion of the member's term. A member may not serve more  
37 than 2 consecutive terms.

38 5. Chair and vice-chair. The council shall elect a member of the council as chair and  
39 a member as vice-chair at the first regular meeting of each year. The term of the chair and  
40 vice-chair is one year.

41 6. Meetings; staffing. The council shall meet at least 4 times a year and, to the extent  
42 practicable, at more than one location throughout the State. It may also meet at other times

ROS

at the call of the chair or the director. The office shall provide administrative and staff support for the council within existing resources.

**7. Compensation.** Council members are entitled to reimbursement for expenses in accordance with Title 5, chapter 379, which is paid in equal proportions from the Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund established in section 1102 and the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund established in Title 22, section 2430.'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following:

**Sec. 5. Cannabis Advisory Council; staggered terms.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-B, section 115, subsection 4, of the initial members appointed to the Cannabis Advisory Council pursuant to Title 28-B, section 115, subsection 1, the first appointments made pursuant to subsection 1, paragraphs A, B, E and F are for one-year terms; the 2nd appointments made pursuant to subsection 1, paragraphs A, B, E and F are for 2-year terms; and all other appointments are for 3-year terms. An initial term of one year may not be considered a full term for the purposes of limiting the number of terms for which a member may serve.

**Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund Z264**

Initiative: Provides funding for reimbursement of expenses for Cannabis Advisory Council members.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$5,877	\$5,877
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$5,877	\$5,877

**Medical Use of Cannabis Fund Z265**

Initiative: Provides funding for reimbursement of expenses for Cannabis Advisory Council members.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$5,877	\$5,877
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$5,877	\$5,877

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL  
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$11,754	\$11,754
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$11,754	\$11,754

ROS

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
2 number to read consecutively.

### 3 SUMMARY

4 This amendment increases the total membership of the Cannabis Advisory Council  
5 established in the bill from 10 members to 12 members. It also adjusts the membership of  
6 the council in the following ways.

7 1. It decreases from 3 to 2 the members who are registrants under the Maine Medical  
8 Use of Cannabis Act and specifies that the one member who must be a registered caregiver  
9 must cultivate cannabis for medical use outdoors. It also clarifies that these members may  
10 not also be licensees under the Cannabis Legalization Act.

11 2. It removes a public member who is a qualifying patient under the Maine Medical  
12 Use of Cannabis Act with knowledge of and interest in the medical use of cannabis.

13 3. It decreases from 3 to 2 the members who are licensees under the Cannabis  
14 Legalization Act and clarifies that these members may not also be registrants under the  
15 Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act.

16 4. It adds 2 members who are registrants and licensees under both the Maine Medical  
17 Use of Cannabis Act and the Cannabis Legalization Act. These members will be appointed  
18 jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, based upon 6  
19 recommendations from associations representing the interests of the cannabis industry.

20 5. It clarifies that the public member with knowledge of and interest in cannabis may  
21 not also be a registrant or licensee under the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act or the  
22 Cannabis Legalization Act or a lobbyist or lobbyist associate.

23 6. It increases from one to 2 the members who are municipal officials in municipalities  
24 that have ordinances allowing for all registration types under the Maine Medical Use of  
25 Cannabis Act and all license types under the Cannabis Legalization Act.

26 7. It increases from one to 2 the members who have a demonstrated knowledge of  
27 cannabis science and research and broadens the criteria to include medicine.

28 8. It adds one member who is a public health professional, to be appointed by the  
29 Director of the Office of Cannabis Policy within the Department of Administrative and  
30 Financial Services.

31 9. It adds the cannabis business advocate as an ex officio nonvoting member of the  
32 council.

33 It also provides for staggered initial terms for members of the council.

34 The amendment also changes the purpose of the council to remove making  
35 recommendations on changing the tracking system contract and including making  
36 recommendations on matters of interest to the cannabis industry related to financial  
37 services, taxation, cannabis-related research and development, environmental health  
38 protection and cannabis policy in other states. It also provides that the council may solicit  
39 and consider public comment during its meetings and that the office must provide  
40 administrative and staff support for the council within existing resources.

ROS

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 664, L.D. 1669 (5-375)

1       The amendment also increases the number of times the council must meet from at least  
2       once a year to at least 4 times a year and includes a requirement that, to the extent  
3       practicable, the council must meet at more than one location throughout the State. It also  
4       removes the provisions specific to a meeting with an organization holding the contract for  
5       the tracking system for cannabis with the State.

6                                   **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

7                                   (See attached)



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1669

LR 1196(02)

## An Act to Establish the Cannabis Advisory Council

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (5-375)  
Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs  
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

---

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$11,754	\$11,754	\$11,754	\$11,754

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes ongoing Other Special Revenue Funds allocations beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 of \$5,877 each to the Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund and the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund within the Office of Cannabis Policy in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. These allocations will be used to reimburse the expenses of advisory council members.