

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Craig Hickman, Chair
Representative Laura Supica, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Senator Joseph Baldacci, Chair
Representative Michele Meyer, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Cannabis Advisory Commission Staff

DATE: January 17, 2023

SUBJ: Cannabis Advisory Commission annual report pursuant to Title 28-B, section 903, subsection 5

During the Second Regular Session, the 130th Legislature passed a number of significant changes to Maine's cannabis laws requiring the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy, to amend rules governing the adult use and medical cannabis programs. Implementing many of these changes will require the adoption of major substantive rules, subject to review by the Legislature in the upcoming session. These circumstances were a contributing factor to the Cannabis Advisory Commission not meeting during 2022. Although the Cannabis Advisory Commission did not meet or issue a report in 2022, this memo is submitted to provide information on important items which are normally included in an annual report required under Title 28-B, section 903, subsection 5.

1. Last session the Legislature passed Public Law 2021, Chapter 669, replacing the term "marijuana" with the term "cannabis" in the Maine Revised Statutes. Because the Commission was established in statute under Title 28-B, Chapter 1, subchapter 9, the passage of that law changed the name of the Commission. Documents and records regarding the Commission's work prior to this change will remain labeled "Marijuana Advisory Commission," since that was the name of the Commission at the time the work was conducted.
2. Pursuant to the annual requirement under Title 28-B, section 903, subsection 2, the Commission solicited public comment regarding: "contacts between law enforcement officers and citizens following the initiation of an adult use cannabis market in the State that involve the personal adult use of cannabis and cannabis products and the home

cultivation of cannabis for personal adult use.” As in the previous year, the Commission also requested input from the public regarding how this statutorily required solicitation of information could be improved or otherwise amended to obtain better data or to better address the concerns for which this solicitation was originally designed. The Commission provided a period of one month, from 11/2/22 to 12/2/22 for members of the public to provide feedback. The Commission did not receive any responses to this solicitation.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us directly or through our Office of Policy and Legal Analysis staff, Sam Praver.

Enc.

cc: Members, Cannabis Advisory Commission
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis