

Summary of Senate Finance Amendments to
Senate Judiciary Amendments to S.241

1. Revision to education and prevention section to include DOH collaboration with other departments, focus on youth under 21 years of age, strategies aimed at high-risk youth, and implementation deadline of September 15, 2017.
2. Addition of section addressing civil liability in cases of selling or furnishing to a person under 21 years of age.
3. Technical clarification to authority of municipalities to regulate marijuana establishments by requiring a local permit.
4. Technical amendment changing title of a subchapter to reflect the expansion of regulatory to include the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (Agency).
5. Adds authority for the Agency to do rulemaking, inspection of cultivators, testing of marijuana, and prevention of contaminated or adulterate marijuana from being offered for sale. Establishes a Marijuana Advisory Board for the purpose of advising the Department on policy and implementation of the act.
6. Technical amendment correcting typo.
7. Technical amendment regarding who is subject to criminal background check.
8. Moves rules regarding seed to sale tracking of marijuana into section for rules for all marijuana establishments, not just cultivators.
9. Removes seed to sale tracking, pesticide regulation, and cultivation methods from Department cultivator rules.
10. Removes quality assurance from Department testing lab rules.
11. Requires the Agency to adopt rules on pesticide regulation and cultivation methods for cultivators, and quality assurance and reporting requirements for testing labs, and inspection requirements for cultivators and testing labs.
12. Moves the date of first retail sales from January 1, 2018 to January 2, 2018.
13. Modifies the timing of issuance of initial licenses, expanding the roll-out to two stages and extending it an additional year. Eliminates the largest cultivator licenses in favor of additional smaller licenses.
14. Requires an applicant for a cultivator license to include a proposal for energy efficiency in its operating plan.
15. Limits disqualifying drug-related offenses to criminal offenses (employees of marijuana establishment).
16. Technical amendment cross-reference related to Agency rules and inclusion of process for Agency to address issue of contaminated marijuana.
17. Reduces the amount a retailer can sell in a single transaction to a Vermonter from one ounce to one-half ounce.
18. Establishes fees.
19. Deletes tax subchapter in 18 VSA chapter 87.
20. Requires one of the governor's appointees to Commission to have experience in public health.
21. Expands issues for Commission to study.
22. Adopts marijuana taxation chapter in Title 32, including a 25% retail excise tax.

23. Allows dispensaries and commercial marijuana establishments to deduct business expenses at the state level that are prohibited at the federal level.
24. Exempts medical and retail marijuana from sales tax. See #22.
25. Eliminates the requirement that a dispensary operate as a nonprofit.
26. Limits disqualifying drug-related offenses to criminal offenses (employees of dispensary.)
27. Allows agriculture testing laboratory to possess marijuana.
28. Adds effective dates for new sections and taxes.

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