

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred Senate Bill No. 54
3 entitled “An act relating to the regulation of cannabis” respectfully reports that
4 it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended as
5 follows:

6 First: In Sec. 2 (7 V.S.A. chapter 31), in § 841, by striking out subdivision
7 (c)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8 (1) The Board shall consist of three members who shall be appointed as
9 follows:

10 (A) one member to serve as chair who shall be appointed by the
11 Governor and who shall have a background in business management or
12 regulatory compliance;

13 (B) one member who shall be appointed by the Senate Committee on
14 Committees and who shall have a background in agriculture, horticulture, or
15 plant science; and

16 (C) one member who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House
17 and who shall have a background in systemic social justice and equity issues.

18 Second: In Sec. 2 (7 V.S.A. chapter 31), in § 841(c), by striking out
19 subdivision (5) in its entirety.

20 Third: In Sec. 2 (7 V.S.A. chapter 31), in § 841(e), by striking out the
21 second sentence in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1 The Chair shall receive compensation equal to two-thirds that of a Superior
2 Court Judge and other members shall receive compensation equal to one-half
3 that of a Superior Court Judge.

4 Fourth: In Sec. 2 (7 V.S.A. chapter 31), in § 841(f), in the first sentence,
5 after “Executive Director” by inserting “who shall be an attorney with
6 experience in legislative or regulatory matters”

7 Fifth: In Sec. 3 (implementation of the Cannabis Control Board), by
8 striking out subdivision (c)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the
9 following:

10 (c)(1) In order to stagger the terms of the members of the Board, the initial
11 terms of those members shall be as follows:

12 (A) the Governor shall appoint the Chair for a three-year term;

13 (B) the Senate Committee on Committees shall appoint one member
14 for a two-year term; and

15 (D) the Speaker of the House shall appoint one member for a two-
16 year term.

17 Sixth: In Sec. 5 (Cannabis Control Board; fees; report), in subsection (a),
18 after the last sentence, by adding the following:

19 The fees submitted in accordance with this subsection (a) are projected, at a
20 minimum, to equal the cost of application and license fees for marijuana
21 establishments in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that are collected by

1 the Cannabis Control Commission. The Board may recommend fees that are
2 lower or higher provided they are designed to provide sufficient funding to
3 meet the duties of the Cannabis Control Board as provided in 7 V.S.A.
4 § 841(b).

5 Seventh: In Sec. 5 (Cannabis Control Board; fees; report), in
6 subsection (b), by adding a new subdivision (4) to read as follows:

7 (4) Whether monies expected to be generated by fees identified in
8 subsection (a) of this section are sufficient to support the statutory duties of the
9 Board and whether any portion of the tax established pursuant to 32 V.S.A.
10 § 7901 should be allocated to the Cannabis Regulation Fund to ensure these
11 duties are met.

12 Eighth: In Sec. 6 (Cannabis Control Board; positions), in subdivision (1), by
13 striking out “Five” and inserting in lieu thereof Three

14 Ninth: By adding four new sections to be Secs. 6b – d to read as follows:
15 Sec. 6b. APPROPRIATION

16 In fiscal year 2020, \$810,000.00 is appropriated from the Cannabis
17 Regulation Fund to the Cannabis Control Board. This appropriation is made in
18 anticipation of receipts in the fund.

