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H.386

Introduced by Representatives Christie of Hartford, Bluemle of Burlington,  
Cina of Burlington, Coffey of Guilford, Cordes of Lincoln, Elder of  
Starksboro, James of Manchester, Killacky of South Burlington, Mrowicki of  
Putney, Patt of Worcester, Stebbins of Burlington, Surprenant of Barnard,  
Vyhovsky of Essex, Walz of Barre City, and Wood of Waterbury  
Referred to Committee on  
Date:  
Subject: Cannabis; Cannabis Advisory Committee; social equity  
Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add two  
persons, an Indigenous Native American of Vermont and a person of color, to  
the Cannabis Control Board’s advisory committee and direct the Board and the  
advisory committee to consider the report of the Social Equity Caucus Work  
Group regarding cannabis and to report to the General Assembly and the  
Governor on or before November 1, 2021 comprehensive, actionable  
recommendations for addressing issues raised in the report.

An act relating to social equity recommendations for the regulated cannabis  
industry

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 843 is amended to read:

3 § 843. CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD; DUTIES; MEMBERS

4 \* \* \*

5 (h) Advisory committee.

6 (1) There is an advisory committee established within the Board that  
7 shall be composed of members with expertise and knowledge relevant to the  
8 Board's mission. The advisory committee shall be composed of the following  
9 ~~12~~ 14 members:

10 (A) one member with an expertise in public health, appointed by the  
11 Governor;

12 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets or designee;

13 (C) one member with an expertise in laboratory science or  
14 toxicology, appointed by the Governor;

15 (D) one member with an expertise in systemic social justice and  
16 equity issues, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

17 (E) one member with an expertise in ~~women~~ women and ~~minority-~~  
18 ~~owned~~ Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color business ownership, appointed  
19 by the Speaker of the House;

20 (F) one member with an expertise in substance misuse prevention,  
21 appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees;

1 (G) one member with an expertise in the cannabis industry, appointed  
2 by the Senate Committee on Committees;

3 (H) one member with an expertise in business management or  
4 regulatory compliance, appointed by the Treasurer;

5 (I) one member with an expertise in municipal issues, appointed by  
6 the Treasurer;

7 (J) one member with an expertise in public safety, appointed by the  
8 Attorney General;

9 (K) one member with an expertise in criminal justice reform,  
10 appointed by the Attorney General; ~~and~~

11 (L) the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee;

12 (M) one member who is a person of color, appointed by the Speaker  
13 of the House; and

14 (N) one member who is an Indigenous Native American of Vermont,  
15 appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees.

16 (2) Initial appointments to the advisory committee as provided in  
17 subdivision (1) of this subsection (h) shall be made on or before May 1, 2021.

18 (3) The Board may establish subcommittees within the advisory  
19 committee to accomplish its work.

20 (4) Members of the advisory committee who are not otherwise  
21 compensated by the member's employer for attendance at meetings shall be

1 entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted  
2 under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than six meetings annually. These  
3 payments shall be made from the Cannabis Regulation Fund.

4 Sec. 2. SOCIAL EQUITY RECOMMENDATIONS

5 The Cannabis Control Board and its advisory committee shall consider the  
6 January 6, 2021 Social Equity Caucus Work Group Report of Policy  
7 Recommendations related to cannabis for the purpose of developing  
8 comprehensive, actionable proposals to address issues raised in the report. The  
9 Board shall submit its recommendations and any proposed legislation to the  
10 General Assembly and the Governor on or before November 1, 2021.

11 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on passage.