

S.276

Introduced by Senators White and Vyhovsky

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Cannabis; cannabis establishments; general provisions; regulation by
local government; vote to permit licensed cannabis retailer

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require any
municipality that has not held a vote to affirmatively permit the operation of
cannabis establishments within the municipality to vote on that question at the
2026 general election.

An act relating to requiring municipalities to hold a vote concerning the
operation of cannabis establishments

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

Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 863a is added to read:

§ 863a. MUNICIPAL VOTE TO PERMIT OPERATION OF CANNABIS
ESTABLISHMENTS

(a) At the 2026 general election, a city, town, or incorporated village that as
of July 1, 2026, has not voted on the question of whether to affirmatively
permit the operation of cannabis establishments within the municipality shall

1 vote on the article contained in this section. A city, town, or incorporated
2 village shall vote on the article by Australian ballot.

3 (b) The warning for the election shall contain an article providing for a vote
4 upon the following question:

5 Shall licensed cannabis retailers be authorized to operate in this
6 municipality?

7 Yes No

8 (c) A vote to permit the operation of a licensed cannabis retailer or
9 integrated licensee within the municipality may be rescinded pursuant to the
10 provisions of section 863 of this chapter.

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on passage.