

# Cannabis Bill Tracker

Updated: April 10, 2017

As the cannabis industry anxiously awaits direction from the White House, it appears that states are not going to be as patient. As more states move forward with cannabis bills, we'll continue providing relevant updates that affect our industry and your business. Something we missed? Let us know here and we'll make sure to include it in next week's update!

## Arkansas

A Special Privilege Tax has been proposed to offset the costs associated with reviewing medical cannabis business license applications in Arkansas. **HB 1580** calls for a 4% tax on all cannabis related sales. With the hundreds, and sometimes thousands, of business license applications being received by states, this would be an effective solution to account for the significant time and money invested into reviewing applications.

For official licensing information check out our [Arkansas](#) page!

## California

A number of bills in California are moving from committee to Senate hearings. **SB 311** would implement testing requirements for medical and non-medical cannabis, which is an important step considering the state currently has no requirements as it relates to testing product for pesticides and potential contaminants. Another bill related to testing, **AB 1627**, would transfer testing authority from the Department of Public Health to the Bureau of Marijuana Control. Lastly, **SB 148** seeks to create provisions that would allow the state to more easily accept funds from licensed cannabis businesses by amending current tax laws.

For official licensing information check out our [California](#) page!

## Maryland

In response to accusations of a lack of minority ownership, the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission **announced 5 additional licenses**. An accompanying legislative component, **HB 1443** would empower the Natalie M LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission to conduct outreach to identify potential minority licensees.

For official licensing information check out our [Maryland](#) page!

## Massachusetts

There are currently **10 medical marijuana treatment centers** in Massachusetts. If passed, **House Bill 1058** would grant them the authority to sell recreational cannabis beginning July 1, 2017. Additionally, **HB 2383**, which would authorize the Alcoholic Beverages Control Board to regulate the cannabis industry, has moved to a joint committee. Also being heard this week, **HB 3164** addresses zoning regulations for retail cannabis facilities.

For official licensing information check out our [Massachusetts](#) page!

## Nevada

Nevada's **SB 508** would increase the excise tax on retail cannabis sales from 2% to 10%. The additional funds would be given to the State Distributive School Account, part of the State General Fund.

For official licensing information check out our [Nevada](#) page!

## New Hampshire

Legislation designed to reduce resources spent on enforcing penalties for low amounts of cannabis possession have progressed to the Senate Judiciary Committee. **House Bill 640** would allow officers to give out citations which are payable by mail instead of lengthy processing times and trials. **HB 472**, which would permit home cultivation for qualifying patients, is currently being reviewed by the Health and Human Services Committee.

## North Carolina

In addition to the Catherine A Zanga Bill, a bill to legalize medical cannabis, **S 648**, was filed last week. The bill seeks to create the North Carolina Medical Cannabis Act. This would establish a structured medical cannabis program.

## Rhode Island

The Adult Use of Cannabis act, **H 5555**, has a House Judiciary Hearing this week. The Act would legalize cannabis use for adults 21 and over as well as establish a system to

regulate cannabis cultivation and taxation. Also making progress, [H 5865](#), which would increase the number of compassion centers from 3 to 6, will be heard this week.

## Washington

Legislation originally introduced in January 2017 has made its way to a second Senate reading. The bill, [HB 1462](#), would grant the Department of Agriculture the authority to regulate the processing of cannabis-infused edibles. With the increased demand for cannabis-infused edibles, implementing consumer safety focused protocols will help prevent exposure to contaminants and further expand the types of infused products available. Washington is also discussing increasing application fees for new licensees, [SB 5130](#) has been referred to the Department of Commerce and Gaming.

For official licensing information check out our [Washington](#) page!