

HOUSE No. 166

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Hannah Kane

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to a social equity training and technical assistance fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2021</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2021</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 166

By Mrs. Kane of Shrewsbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 166) of Hannah Kane and others for legislation to establish a social equity and technical assistance trust fund to encourage and facilitate assistance to social equity applicants seeking to enter the cannabis industry. Cannabis Policy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to a social equity training and technical assistance fund.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after Section 35LLL the following section:

3 Section 35MMM. There shall be a Social Equity and Technical Assistance Trust Fund to
4 encourage and facilitate assistance to social equity applicants seeking to enter the cannabis
5 industry in Massachusetts. For the purpose of this trust fund, social equity applicants shall be
6 defined as certified economic empowerment applicants and social equity program participants, as
7 determined by the cannabis control commission. Funds may be expended, without appropriation,
8 for assistance, training, and inclusion into the cannabis industry into which shall be deposited: (i)
9 any revenues or other financing sources directed to the fund by appropriation; (ii) bond revenues
10 or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the
11 fund; (iii) any income derived from the investment of amounts credited to the fund or repayment
12 of loans from the fund; (iv) funds from public or private sources including, but not limited to,

13 gifts, federal or private grants, donations, rebates and settlements received by the commonwealth
14 that are specifically designated and authorized to be credited to the fund, including, but not
15 limited to, funds donated by licensees of the cannabis control commission pursuant to the
16 licensee's positive impact plan; and (v) all other amounts credited or transferred to the fund from
17 any other source. The fund shall be administered by the secretary of housing and economic
18 development in consultation with the cannabis control commission.

19 Any balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund,
20 but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. Annually, not later than
21 December 1, the secretary of housing and economic development shall report on the activities of
22 the fund to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, to the house and senate
23 committees on ways and means, and to the joint committee on cannabis policy. The report shall
24 include an accounting of expenditures made from the fund and shall include a description of the
25 authorized purpose of each expenditure, an accounting of the amounts credited to the fund and
26 any unexpended balance remaining in the fund.