

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON CANNABIS POLICY
2025-2026 (194th) BILL SUMMARY**

Bill Number:	H.158
Title:	An Act for cannabis market modernization
Sponsor(s):	Rep. Meghan K. Kilcoyne (<i>Clinton</i>)
Hearing Date:	April 9, 2025
Reporting Deadline:	June 8, 2025
Prior History:	No prior history
Similar Matters:	S.99 (Sen. Jacob R. Oliveira – Identical)

SUMMARY:

Sections 1 and 8 amend sections 1 and 12 of chapter 94G to codify the Cannabis Control Commission’s (CCC) regulation requiring that the agents of cannabis licensees be registered with the Commission, but provides that the CCC shall issue the registration card to the individual agent, as opposed to the existing practice of issuing a registration under a single licensee. The registration is valid for seven years and there shall not be a fee for social equity business employees.

Sections 2, 3, and 10 amend sections 1 and 16 of chapter 94G to alter the existing limit on the number of licenses that a person or entity can control. Sections 2 and 3 amend section 1 of chapter 94G to codify Cannabis Control Commission regulations interpreting the statutory term “licensee” to mean a person or entity with direct and/or indirect control of a license (935 CMR 500.002), except that it alters the qualification threshold such that making major decisions and executing significant contracts are no longer considered, and an entity must have 25% equity interest or earn 25% profits, as opposed to the current 10%. Section 10 amends section 16 of chapter 94G to raise the limit on the number of retailers an entity can control from three to nine, except that an entity controlling three retail licenses may only acquire additional licenses by gaining ownership or control over existing licenses.

Section 4 amends section 4 of chapter 94G to impose restrictions on the CCC’s directive to prohibit advertising using promotional items, such that it may not prohibit sales, discounts, and customer loyalty programs within a cannabis business licensee, their website, or opt-in email marketing.

Section 5 amends section 4 of chapter 94G to prohibit CCC regulations from requiring cannabis retailers to check customer identification at any location except at point of sale.

Section 6 amends section 6 of chapter 94G to prohibit the CCC from renewing or extending a license's expiration date if the licensee has not provided a certificate of good standing and tax compliance from the department of revenue.

Section 7 amends section 7 of chapter 94G to increase the purchase and possession limit to 2 ounces, inclusive of cannabis flower and the equivalent amount of marijuana concentrate and marijuana infused products.

Section 9 amends section 15 of chapter 94G to restrict the minimum batch size the CCC may institute for the tracking and sampling of marijuana to 40 pounds.

Section 11 adds a new section to chapter 94G that prohibits the CCC from issuing new retailer, cultivator, or product manufacturer licenses until 180 days after the Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy publishes a study analyzing the number of licenses appropriate for the Massachusetts cannabis industry.

Section 12 adds two sections to chapter 94G defining various terms related to hemp-derived products and requires that anyone selling such products obtain an intoxicating hemp endorsement from the CCC, violation punishable by a fine of \$25,000 per day or no more than one year imprisonment, or both. Section 14 adds a section to chapter 128 to empower the attorney general and instituting a private right of action to enforce the restriction on the sale of hemp-derived products.

Section 13 adds a section to chapter 94G to prohibits credit periods of more than sixty days for cannabis sales between CCC licensees. The CCC must be notified in the instance that a licensee becomes delinquent and must publish a list of all delinquent licensees. Licensees may not sell marijuana to delinquent licensees except for payment in cash on delivery, and the CCC may not authorize change of ownership or control of delinquent licensees, except for receivership or creditor assignment.