

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

Bill Number: H.146

Title: An Act to create efficient cannabis testing standards

Sponsor(s): Rep. Rob Consalvo (Boston)

Hearing Date: May 7, 2025

Reporting Deadline: July 6, 2025

Prior History:

2023-2024 (H.105): Reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing, recommended ought to pass; Referred to House Ways and Means.

Similar Matters: None.

CURRENT LAW:

Section 15 of Chapter 94G of the Massachusetts General Laws requires that all cannabis and cannabis products sold in Massachusetts be tested. It further requires the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) to establish testing protocols for the sampling, testing, and analysis of marijuana. Section 4 of Chapter 94G of the Massachusetts General Laws requires that the CCC promulgate regulations requiring that cannabis labels include “a unique batch number identifying the production batch associated with manufacturing, processing, and cultivating.” In addition to fulfilling the labeling regulations requirement, the CCC has incorporated the use of batches into its testing program under its adult use (935 CMR 500) and medical use (935 CMR 501) regulations.

Section 15 of Chapter 94G requires the CCC to establish regulations for cannabis testing, including biological and chemical contaminants introduced through the cultivation of marijuana plants. CCC regulations 935 CMR 500.120(7) and 935 CMR 501.120(8) require that soil for cannabis cultivation meet federal standards, including the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry’s Environmental Medical Evaluation Guidelines.

SUMMARY:

Section 1 amends Section 15 of Chapter 94G to explicitly prohibit the CCC from instituting a batch size used to sample, test, and analyze cannabis pursuant to chapter 94G § 15 that is smaller than 25 pounds.

Section 2 amends Section 15 of Chapter 94G to require the CCC to review and report on its testing regulations on a biannual basis in collaboration with MDAR, the Cannabis Advisory Board, Independent Testing Laboratories, and Marijuana Establishments.

Section 3 amends Section 15 of Chapter 94G to explicitly prohibit the CCC from requiring testing of environmental media.

Section 4 adds a section to chapter 94G that requires the CCC to publish data collected by Independent Testing Laboratories and to investigate and publicly report on significant outliers identified in the data. It requires the data to include both the industry average and per license average of failure rates for contaminants and total THC stratified by product type. The first report must present all previously collected data per Independent Testing Laboratory, per quarter of reports, and subsequent reports published on a quarterly basis.

Section 5 requires the CCC to promulgate or amend regulations consistent with the bill no later than one year from its effective date.