

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

Bill Number:	H.160
Title:	An Act to promote equity joint venture partnerships
Sponsor(s):	Rep. Samantha Montaña (<i>Boston</i>)
Hearing Date:	April 9, 2025
Reporting Deadline:	June 8, 2025
Prior History:	No prior history
Similar Matters:	H.49 (Rep. Mark J. Cusack); H.158 (Rep. Meghan K. Kilcoyne); H.171 (Rep. Dawne Shand); H.174 (Rep. Michael J. Soter); S.75 (Sen. William N. Brownsberger); S.78 (Sen. James B. Eldridge); S.99 (Sen. Jacob R. Oliveira)

CURRENT LAW:

Section 1 of Chapter 94G of the Massachusetts General Laws defines a licensee as a person or entity licensed by the Cannabis Control Commission to operate a marijuana business.

Section 16 of Chapter 94G prohibits any licensee from being granted more than three of each of the following marijuana license types: retailer, medical marijuana treatment center, product manufacturer, or cultivator, though a licensee is permitted to hold up to three of each type.

SUMMARY:

The bill amends sections 1 and 16 of chapter 94G to alter the existing limit on the number of cannabis licenses that a person or entity can control.

Sections 1 and 2 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 by no longer considering whether the person makes major decisions and executes significant contracts.

Section 3 amends section 16 of chapter 94G to allow a licensee to possess interest in four additional retail licenses on top of the existing limit of three, so long as the interest in each additional license

is no more than 35% and the additional licenses are majority owned by a social equity businesses, economic empowerment businesses, Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Women Business Enterprises (WBE), or Veteran Business Enterprises (VBE).