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A BILL
24-694

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on an emergency basis, the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Amendment Act of 2010 to provide that the number of testing laboratories allowed in an election ward cannot exceed 2, provide that no person who has a felony conviction for a crime of violence, gun offense, tax evasion, fraud, or credit card fraud that occurred within 3 years preceding the filing of an application shall be eligible to be a director, owner, officer, or agent of a dispensary, cultivation center, or testing laboratory, and remove the prohibition preventing an individual with a felony conviction from working at a dispensary, cultivation center, or testing laboratory.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Medical Cannabis Temporary Amendment Act of 2022”.

Sec. 2. The Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Amendment Act of 2010, effective February 25, 2010 (D.C. Law 13-315; D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

(a) Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.01) is amended by adding a new paragraph (20A) to read as follows:

“(20A) “Straw ownership” means nominal ownership without the attendant benefits and risks of genuine ownership, where someone, often for a fee, allows themselves to be named on documents or purports in writing to be an owner, in whole or in part, for the purpose of satisfying a government regulatory requirement.”.

30 (b) Section 7 (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.06) is amended as follows:

31 (1) Subsection (d) is amended as follows:

32 (A) Paragraph (3)(A) is amended to read as follows:

33 "(3)(A) The total number of cultivation centers that may be registered to operate
34 within an election ward, established by the Council in section 4 of the Redistricting Procedure
35 Act of 1981, effective March 16, 1982 (D.C. Law 4-87; D.C. Official Code § 1-1041.03), shall
36 not exceed 6 and the total number of testing laboratories that may be registered to operate within
37 an election ward shall not exceed 2."

38 (B) Paragraph (5) is amended by striking the phrase “, or applicant eligible
39 to be a medical cannabis certified business enterprise,”.

40 (2) Subsection (j) is amended to read as follows:

41 “(j)(1) No person seeking to be a director, officer, member, incorporator, or agent of a
42 dispensary, cultivation center, or testing laboratory who has access to the medical cannabis at the
43 dispensary, cultivation center, or testing laboratory shall have had a felony conviction for a crime
44 of violence, a gun offense, tax evasion, fraud, or credit card fraud within the 3 years preceding
45 the date the application for licensure is filed with ABRA.

46 “(2) The ABC Board shall not disqualify an employee of a dispensary, cultivation
47 center, or testing laboratory who has access to medical cannabis at the dispensary, cultivation
48 center, or testing laboratory from working at the dispensary, cultivation center, or testing
49 laboratory solely because the person has been convicted of a felony before filing the application.

50 “(3) The ABC Board may establish additional criminal background requirements
51 by rulemaking for testing laboratory agents that are responsible for testing cannabis and cannabis
52 products and consult with other District agencies regarding an applicant’s record of adherence to
53 other regulatory requirements before granting an application.”.

54 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

55 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact
56 statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975, approved
57 October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

58 Sec. 4. Effective date.

59 (a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by
60 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review
61 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved
62 December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the
63 District of Columbia Register.

64 (b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.