

Concise Explanatory Statement

Rhode Island Government Register

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6, following is a concise explanatory statement:

AGENCY: Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation

RULE IDENTIFIER: 230-RICR-80-05-1

REGULATION TITLE: Rules and Regulations Related to the Medical Marijuana Program Administered by the Office of Cannabis Regulation at the Department of Business Regulation

RULEMAKING ACTION: Full Rulemaking, Repeal

COMMENT PERIOD: July 24, 2025, to August 23, 2025

A. Statement of Purpose of the Amendments

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 21-28.6-19, 21-28.11-10.1(g)(1) and 21-28.11-18.1, upon final issuance of the Rhode Island Cannabis Control Commission's ("CCC") rules and regulations, all powers, duties and responsibilities of the Department of Business Regulation ("DBR") and the Office of Cannabis Regulation ("OCR") with respect to regulation, administration and enforcement of The Edward O. Hawkins and Thomas C. Slater Medical Marijuana Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 21-28.6-1, et seq., and the Rhode Island Cannabis Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 21-28.11-1, et seq., (the "Acts") were transferred to the CCC.

The CCC's rules and regulations, RICR Title 560, became final and effective on May 1, 2025. The powers, duties and responsibilities with respect to the regulation, administration and enforcement of the Acts have transferred to the CCC. Accordingly, the Department proposed to repeal this regulation because the Acts are no longer under the Department's jurisdiction.

B. Summary of the Regulatory Analysis

The Department is repealing a regulation that was issued pursuant to statutory enactments that are no longer within the jurisdictional purview of the Department. The repeal prevents confusion on which regulations are in effect for the cannabis industry in RI.

In the development of the proposed amendment consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.

C. No Comments Received/No Post-Comment Changes

No comments were received. No changes were made. The final rule will be the same as proposed, which was the repeal of this regulation in its entirety.