

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION (INCLUDES THE OFFICE OF THE
HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER)**

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

Rule Identifier: 230-RICR-80-05-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Repeal

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: July 24, 2025

End of Public Comment: August 23, 2025

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 21-28.6-19

21-28.11-10.1

21-28.11-18.1

42-14-17

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

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 is proposing to repeal this regulation because the Acts are no longer under the Department's jurisdiction.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed repeal until August 23, 2025 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Amy Stewart

Department of Business Regulation (includes the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner)

1511 Pontiac Ave, Bldg 68-1

Cranston, RI 02920

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In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the publication of this notice.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

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.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.