

Proposed Amendment to Article VI. Section 6.01.h

h. Temporary and Limited Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments

1. **Statement of Purpose.** This section has been adopted to provide the Commission with the time necessary to consider adoption of potential changes to the Zoning Regulations pursuant to Section 8-2 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Connecticut General Assembly has passed, and the Governor has signed S.B. 1201, An Act Concerning *Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis (the "Act")*, portions of which are effective on July 1, 2021. Said Act contains provisions allowing municipalities to prohibit or place certain restrictions on cannabis establishments with the exception of existing dispensary facilities and producers for medical marijuana as defined in Chapter 420f, C.G.S., *Palliative Use of Marijuana* – legislation passed in 2012 authorizing the use of medical marijuana. This temporary and limited term moratorium has been adopted to provide the Town with the time necessary to develop regulations for cannabis establishments that meet statutory responsibilities and promote the public's general health, safety and welfare.

2. **Definitions.**

- a. *Cannabis.* Marijuana as defined in Section 21a-240, C.G.S.
- b. *Cannabis Establishment.* Producer, dispensary facility, cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer, product packager and or delivery service.
- c. *Cultivator.* A person that is licensed to engage in the cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an establishment with not less than fifteen thousand square feet of grow space.
- d. *Delivery Service.* A person that is licensed to deliver cannabis from (A) micro-cultivators, retailers and hybrid retailers to consumers and research program subjects, and (B) hybrid retailers and dispensary facilities to qualifying patients, caregivers and research program subjects, as defined in Section 21a-408, C.G.S., or to hospices or other inpatient care facilities licensed by the Department of Public Health pursuant to Chapter 368v, C.G.S. that have a protocol for the handling and distribution of cannabis that has been approved by the department, or a combination thereof.
- e. *Dispensary Facility.* Means a place of business where cannabis may be dispensed, sold or distributed in accordance with Chapter 420f, C.G.S. and any regulations adopted thereunder, to qualifying patients and caregivers, and to which the department has issued a dispensary facility license under Chapter 420f, C.G.S. and any regulations adopted thereunder.

- f. *Food and Beverage Manufacturer.* A person that is licensed to own and operate a place of business that acquires cannabis and creates food and beverages.
 - g. *Hybrid Retailer.* A person that is licensed to purchase cannabis and sell cannabis and medical marijuana products.
 - h. *Micro-cultivator.* A person licensed to engage in the cultivation, growing and propagation of the cannabis plant at an establishment containing not less than two thousand square feet and not more than ten thousand square feet of grow space, prior to any expansion authorized by the commissioner.
 - i. *Person.* An individual, partnership, limited liability company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, estate, receiver, trustee, assignee, referee or any other legal entity and any other person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination thereof.
 - j. *Product Manufacturer.* A person, excluding a producer, that is licensed to obtain cannabis, extract and manufacture products exclusive to such license type and who may sell or transfer cannabis and cannabis products to laboratories, research programs and cannabis establishments.
 - k. *Product Packager.* A person that is licensed to package and label cannabis and cannabis products.
 - l. *Retailer.* A person, excluding a dispensary facility that is licensed to purchase cannabis and cannabis products from producers, cultivators, product manufacturers and food and beverage manufacturers and to sell cannabis and cannabis products to consumers and research programs.
 - m. *Transporter.* Means a person licensed to transport cannabis between cannabis establishments, laboratories and research programs.
3. **Applicability.** During this temporary and limited-term moratorium, cannabis establishments shall be prohibited in the Town of Coventry, and any and all applications submitted for the approval of any cannabis establishment shall be denied by the Planning and Zoning Commission or Zoning Enforcement Officer, as may be appropriate.
 4. **Effective Date/Term.** This temporary and limited moratorium shall become effective on September 13, 2021 and shall remain in effect until June 13, 2022.