

Policies to Limit the Availability or Accessibility of Cannabis for Youth

WORKING DOCUMENT

Domain Area	Strength of Current Laws	Suggested Recommendation, Policy or Best Practice discussed	Impact	Possible Recommendations to ADPC
Public Health & Safety Prevention of Underage Purchase and Use	<p>Sec 3 (b) of Public Act 21-1 Possession/purchase of cannabis by persons under age 21 is prohibited and provides a graduated consequences based on age, number of offenses and amount of cannabis.</p> <p>Possession under 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First offense receives a written warning and referral to Youth Service Bureau • Second offense is a referral to Youth Service Bureau • Third offense or with more than 5 oz. of cannabis is referred to Juvenile Court <p>Possession between age 18-20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession <5 oz.: Fine between \$50-\$150 or community service • Possession of 5+ oz.: Fine \$500 - Class D misdemeanor (30 days jail/\$250) • All are required to sign statement regarding knowing the health effects of cannabis use and includes a 60-day license suspension 	<p>1. Recommend monitoring patterns of use, methods of consumption, source of purchase, number and types of cannabis offenses, and general perceptions of cannabis and its related risk among adolescents and young adult populations.</p> <p>2. Move minimum age from 21 to 25.</p>	<p>Medical marijuana purchase and use by persons ages 18 and older continues to be allowed under PA 21-1, as well as possession of up to six marijuana plants, it is likely that this avenue to underage access to cannabis will continue. Monitoring is need to understand whether youth use increases and source of access (i.e. home-grown products, diversion from the legal marketplace, illicit marketplace, etc.)</p> <p>The Youth Risk Behavior Survey and National Survey on Drug Use and Health can monitor trends in youth risk behaviors and adults, respectively.</p> <p>A recommendation to increase minimum age was based on how the brain develops from early adolescence through the mid-to late 20s. Developing brains are more susceptible than the brains of adults and creates a more distinct risk for immediate and lasting harm for substance use and misuse.</p> <p>Current minimum age mirrors alcohol laws. No jurisdictions have increased the minimum age from</p>	<p>Yes (Under Data and Evaluation)</p> <p>No</p>

			<p>21 to 25 for cannabis, alcohol or tobacco.</p> <p>By increasing minimum age, this may have a negative counter effect by possibly increasing cross state purchases or increase the illicit market access for those between 21- 24 year-olds.</p>	
		<p>3. Recommend engaging with Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs) to ensure partnership in local prevention coalitions and to identify supports for towns not served by YSBs</p>	<p>YSB provides resources and opportunities for youth and their families as well as provides direct services and programs. YSBs often serve on local substance abuse prevention coalitions. There are 103 member youth service bureaus serving 137 towns across Connecticut (7/27/22 CYSA website). It is important to keep the social justice focus as well. We know that criminal justice encounters at a young age are also not good for long-term health and impact many aspects of a person's future wellbeing.</p> <p>At this time, DCF is in the process of a landscape analysis to assess needs, reach and capacity. Engaging with YSBs is underway.</p>	No
<p>Limiting Underage Access to Cannabis</p>	<p>Current Law has penalties in place to deter violations for establishments:</p> <p>Sec 35 of Public Act 21-1: Licensees required to have written policies for preventing diversion & sales to underage persons</p> <p>Sec 105 of Public Act 21-1: Misdemeanor penalties for establishment/employee sales/deliveries of cannabis to underage persons. This is a Class A misdemeanor</p>	<p>4. Address the gap where persons age 21-22 to sell, deliver or give cannabis to underage persons.</p>	<p>The best practice from tobacco control is to focus on the entity that is supplying and/or diverting cannabis, not to focus on the youth purchasing or the young adults selling small quantities. Sec. 163 was written to prevent young adults between the ages of 21 and 22 from getting a permanent record because youths between the ages of 18- 20 were present</p>	No

	<p>Sec 106 of Public Act 21-1: Employee can photograph person & get copy of ID of persons whose age is of question</p> <p>Sec 107 of Public Act 21-1: Class A misdemeanor penalty for inducing underage person to buy cannabis</p> <p>Sec 108 of Public Act 21-1: Penalties for minors who misrepresent their age or use another's ID to purchase. First offense is \$250 and second offense is a Class D misdemeanor</p> <p>Sec 109 of Public Act 21-1: Class A misdemeanor for someone in control of a home/private property to allow minor to possess cannabis</p> <p>Sec 163 of Public Act 21-1: Class A misdemeanor for person 23 or older to sell, deliver or give cannabis to underage person</p>	<p>5. Recommend DMHAS a policy requiring licensees to take an online training to prevent diversion & sales to underage persons (including on substance misuse training, training on the effects of cannabis on youth, information on potencies and difference of products).</p>	<p>and/or participating in cannabis use. Additionally, DCF youth are in care until the age of 23.</p> <p>Many states require training for those who serve alcohol to (1) ensure they check the person's age (2) identify people at risk of excess, and (3) understand their legal responsibilities and risks as servers. This has crossed-over for cannabis as well.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Compliance Checks</p>	<p>Current law states that compliance with minors purchasing should be monitored.</p> <p>Sec 35 of Public Act 21-1: DCP & Social Equity Council review applications</p> <p>Sec 108(c) of Public Act 21-1: Implies persons under 21 can be used for enforcement of age verification</p>	<p>6. Agency {DCP} responsible for enforcement should be clearly designated and adequately resourced for random statewide inspections of cannabis establishments and possibly other establishments where cannabis is suspected to be sold including possible targeted inspections, police partnered inspections and random inspections. Also to work in collaboration with other compliance programs throughout the state.</p> <p>7. Recommend creating a distinct program modeled</p>	<p>The primary regulatory agency, DCP, is responsible for monitoring compliance.</p> <p>Section 108c implies that persons less than 21 years of age can be used for enforcement of age verification, but it does not say which agency will be responsible for overseeing that compliance check activity.</p> <p>A distinct education program to increased prevention education</p>	<p>No</p> <p>Yes</p>

Commented [SS1]: Confirm with DCP if this is a planned activity

		after the SYNAR Tobacco Prevention and Enforcement Program to increase retailer awareness in preventing youth access cannabis products, conduct compliance inspections, and create a secret shopper program.	efforts with cannabis retailers and adjacent non-cannabis retailers.	
Placement/Access				
Public Possession	<p>Sec 3(a) of Public Act 21-1: Adults are permitted to possess up to 1.5 of marijuana flower in public and up to 5 oz. at home or in their vehicle in a locked container.</p> <p>Sec 28(c) of Public Act 21-1: Retailer cannot sell more than 1 oz. to consumer per day; Hybrid or dispensary can sell up to 5 oz. to qualifying patients per day.</p>	<p>8. Recommend lowering the total amount of cannabis from 1.5 oz. to 1.0 oz.</p> <p>9. Recommend maximum amount allowed to be locked in vehicle or in person's residence be changed to reflect amount allowed to be purchased or in personal possession to 1.0 oz. <i>Exception: if individual has a medical marijuana card, then they can have the allowable amount.</i></p>	<p>In Connecticut, Medical Marijuana patients may possess up to 2.5 oz. of cannabis while individuals may possess up to 1.5 oz. of cannabis for adult use.</p> <p>The following states have limited possession up to one ounce: AK, AZ, CA, MA, MT, NV, OR, SD, VT, VA</p> <p>With that said, surrounding states permit higher possession limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NY: Adults permitted up to 3 oz. of marijuana flower, up to 24 grams of concentrates and Medical Marijuana patients may possess up to 60 day supply • NJ: Adults permitted to possess up to 6 oz. of cannabis • MA: Adults permitted to possess up to 1 oz. on cannabis flower (of which 5 grams of concentrate) in public and 10 oz. at home and amounts 	TBD

			greater than 1 oz. must be secured/locked. Additional monitoring is necessary to identify if there is a relationship between higher possessions leading to more diversion.	
		10. Additional monitoring is necessary to identify if there is a relationship between higher possessions leading to more diversion.		Yes Data under data and evaluation
Public Use	<p>Sec 86 of Public Act 21-1: Public Use is generally prohibited wherever public use of combustible tobacco and ENDS is prohibited</p> <p>This requires all work places must be smoke and vape free, no longer allowed to designate a smoking room. Smoking or vaping within 25 feet of any doorway, window or vent is prohibited. Smoking and vaping is not allowed in any hotel, motel or similar lodging or correctional facility and/ or halfway house. Public use is also banned in state parks and beaches, restaurants and prohibited in vehicles. Landlords may also prohibit smoking and vaping.</p> <p>Sec 84 (h) of Public Act 21-1: Municipalities with populations of over 50,000 must include a designation where public consumption is permitted. It allows municipalities to ban cannabis smoking (including e-cigarette use) at outdoor restaurants. Through regulations, municipalities may set fines for violations by individuals up to \$50 and up to \$1,000 for businesses.</p> <p>Sec 60: On-site consumption is not permitted at this time. Not later than January 1, 2023, the department will make written recommendations concerning allowing on-site consumption and</p>	<p>11. Recommend that State agencies collaborate with local programs and tobaccos taxes to include broad education about the Clean Indoor Air Act to educate workplaces, property owners, and employers/employees of their rights related to consumption, possession and/or cultivation.</p> <p>12. In addition to referencing the Clean Air Act, policy should include specific language about the dangers of exposure to second-hand smoke and passive consumption. "Please consider the risks to children and other people with respiratory concerns, especially when smoking cannabis indoors."</p> <p>13. Recommend supporting school districts to revise tobacco free policies to</p>	<p>CT has a Clean Indoor Air Act which regulates where tobacco products can be smoked. PA 21-1 includes a significant update to the Clean Indoor Act since 2004 and incorporates language for cannabis, hemp, and tobacco and covers vaping in addition to smoking.</p> <p>Opportunity to educate workplaces, property owners and employers on cannabis legislation and to update current policies.</p> <p>Opportunity to revise tobacco free policies to strengthen drug-free policies that reflect current laws.</p> <p>As school districts revise Tobacco-Free school policies, it is an opportune time to discuss</p>	<p>TBD</p> <p>Yes</p>

Commented [SS2]: Confirm with DCP

	<p>whether to establish a cannabis on-site consumption or event license.</p>	<p>update and/or strengthen their drugs/ cannabis policies to reflect current laws.</p>	<p>updating/ strengthening their drug/marijuana policies to reflect current cannabis laws.</p> <p>School boards are required by law to have policies for dealing with student's use, sale or possession of alcohol and drugs on school grounds. Sec. 19 prohibits polices from giving students greater discipline, or sanctions for cannabis use, possession or sale than they would for alcohol.</p>	
	<p>14. Recommend municipalities with a population over 50,000 to designate a public consumption which is 1,500 feet away from schools, public parks, playgrounds, places of worship, sports fields, recreational facilities, amusement parks, malls, and other locations where children and adolescents congregate.</p>		<p>Cannabis is permitted wherever tobacco smoking is permitted. Local ordinances can restrict this but are required to provide at least one public consumption site if the municipality has a population over 50,000. There are nineteen municipalities that have a population over 50,000 are: Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hamden, Hartford, Manchester, Meriden, Milford, New Britain, New Haven, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Waterbury, West Hartford, West Haven.</p>	<p>TBD</p>
	<p>Recommendation to limit capacity at public consumption sites, consideration to limit to non-combusted methods or Recommend public consumption sites that are adjacent to retail outlets.</p>		<p>Designating public consumption sites is decided upon local zoning ordinances. A required distance from certain buildings, may eliminate public consumption sites entirely. Limiting capacity or type of non-combusted methods in public consumption sites may limit secondhand smoke.</p> <p>The Public Act does not contain any specific distance requirements,</p>	<p>TBD</p>

Commented [SS3]: DCF recommends to prohibit public consumption outright


Commented [SS4]: "Reasonably distanced from"....

			<p>unless restrictions are imposed by the municipality. Municipalities has the authority to establish restrictions on the proximity of cannabis establishments to the following: churches, schools, charitable institutions, hospitals, etc.</p> <p>Having limited public consumption environments minimizes public health risks and developing exceptions for consumptions in public or rented housing.</p>	
Retail Outlets	Sec 110 of Public Act 21-I: No retailer or hybrid retailer shall permit individuals under 21 to loiter on his or her premises where cannabis is kept for sale or be in any room on such presence where cannabis is consumed except employees or if accompanied by parent or guardian	15. Recommend no entry to anywhere that has cannabis for sale if under 21 and to include signage outside of retailers	This is addressed within legislation	No
		16. Monitor retailers. Deter with high fines, frequent inspections and sanctions.	This is addressed within legislation	No
Days/Hours	Sec 148 of Public Act 21-I: Municipal Zoning Authority & Approval Requirements - Allows municipalities to reasonably restrict cannabis establishments' hours and signage; or restrict their proximity to religious institutions, schools, charitable institutions, hospitals, veteran's homes, or certain military establishments..	17. Recommend cannabis establishment hours limit hours of operation similar to alcohol establishments which is 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Sundays.	This defines the hours of operation for cannabis establishments, while providing municipalities to consider stricter hours of operations, if necessary.	Yes(Under Data and Evaluation)
Density	<p>Sec 148 of Public Act 21-I: Municipal Zoning Authority and Approval requirements required density caps.</p> <p>Sec 9 of Public Act 22-102: removed the density caps for the number of retailers and micro-cultivators in a municipality.</p>	<p>18. Proximity of outlets to one another should be considered.</p> <p>Commission a study to examine the association between density of cannabis establishments with cannabis use over</p>	<p>Section 9 of Public Act 22-103 removed the population cap for the number of retailers and micro-cultivators in a municipality initially included in Section 148 of Public Act 21-I.</p> <p>It is recognized that areas with higher alcohol outlet density have</p>	Under Data and Evaluation

Commented [SS5]: Add to a larger recommendation on Data and Evaluation

		time by youth and young adults.	<p>higher levels of heavy drinking and alcohol-related problems, including violence, crime, alcohol-involved traffic crashes and injuries. Regulating the number of physical locations in which alcoholic beverages are available is an effective strategy for reducing excessive consumption and associated harms. Additionally, States with density limits have commissioned studies to help set limits as well as to allocate a certain number of outlets per county or distance between outlets</p> <p>Municipalities have local control to determine proximity to outlets.</p> <p>CT Insider developed a data visualization map to showcase municipality's regulations around cannabis establishments. Data visualization was last updated on 9/29/22, more info here: https://www.ctinsider.com/projects/2022/cannabis-legalization-cannabis-ct/</p>	
Age of Employees	Sec 3 of Public Act 21-1: Must be 21 to hold a cannabis establishment license or be a backer or key employee. However, it also states that one can be 18 to be an employee of a cannabis establishment.	19. Recommend that all employees of a cannabis establishment should be 21.	<p>Law states that retailers shall not permit individuals under 21 to loiter on premises where is kept for sale or where cannabis is consumed.</p> <p>Sec 3 is consistent with other employee laws in which individuals 18 years of age can work within bars/liquor stores.</p>	No

Direct Shipping/Internet Sales	Sec 41-43 of Public Act 21-I: Delivery services may deliver cannabis and cannabis products from cannabis establishments to consumers or qualifying patient/ caregiver. Delivery services are not licensed to sell cannabis directly and each individual order of cannabis must be delivered within a 24 hour period. DCP may require the use online ID and age verification system for internet sales and sites selling cannabis products.	20. Recommend DCP require an online ID and verification system.	Current Legislation includes use of an online ID and age verification system.	No
		21. Recommend that online orders to be part of analytics and information such as geographic area of retailer and consumer, amount, type of product and additional information be tracked and aggregated for agency and or public review.	Understanding the online cannabis marketplace will aid in identifying the scale and growth trajectory of cannabis products, consumer purchase trends, and support informed decision-making around targeted awareness, education and prevention activities.	TBD
Home Grows	Sec 162 of Public Act 21-I: Beginning July 1, 2023, all adults over 21 can cultivate up to 3 mature plants and 3 immature plants at primary residence provided plants are secure from access by anyone but the individual and no more than 12 plants per household at a given time. (Medical marijuana patients 18 years and older permitted to cultivate from October, 2021)	22. Recommend to limit each household to 6 to 8 plants at any given time. Possibly develop a tagging system similar to RI for home-grow plants.	At this time, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey allow the same number of plants to be cultivated. Rhode Island has created a tagging system for home grow plants for medical marijuana. If a tagging system is established, cost of system and enforcement should be considered. One medium sized healthy plant can produce 112 g of cannabis which can last approximately 4 months based on 1 gram per day usage. This may increase access and/or diversion of cannabis to youth.	TBD

Retailer and Employee Education	<p>There is no specific training requirements delineated for staff selling or dispensing cannabis to consumers.</p>	<p>23. Recommend {DMHAS} to develop a “responsible vendor” training for retailers and their employees. This may include substance misuse training, training on the effects of cannabis on youth, information on potencies and difference of products.</p>	<p>Gap - retail and employee awareness in preventing youth access to cannabis and its products as well as identifying substance misuse.</p> <p>As part of the trainings, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include flyers or pamphlets with information available in the store, including information on treatment services • Potency information on posters in store that include information on what chemicals are added to increase potency, if synthetic THC is present 	<p>Yes</p>
Products/Potency Cannabis Packaging and Labeling requirements	<p>Sec 32 of Public Act 21-1: Connecticut has established a strong approach to packaging and labeling, as well as limitations to serving size, dosage and potency that are consistent with evidence based practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packaging to be child-resistant and opaque. • Individually wrapped edibles • Restricting brand names, flavors, shapes, images of people / animals or cartoons that appeal to individuals under 21, including those similar to non-cannabis products. • Concentrations of THC and CBD must be clearly marked on packaging or labels along with symbols and warning labels.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package must be clearly labeled with the following warning statement outlined by a red box: “This product is not FDA approved, may 	<p>24. Recommend {DMHAS in partnership with DCP} to provide harm reduction information to cannabis establishments. This will include information for lower risk cannabis consumption.</p>	<p>Public Act 21-1 as well as Public Act 22-103 outlines a very strong approach to cannabis packaging and labeling requirements.</p> <p>DCP is developing materials to inform the general public on how to safely store, dispose and identify the signs of accidental ingestion of cannabis. This material will be posted on ct.gov/cannabis</p> <p>DMHAS is developing an awareness and education campaign to increase awareness on the new laws, impacts of cannabis use among target populations and deliver prevention messages and strategies, services and support related to cannabis misuse.</p>	<p>TBD</p>

	<p>be intoxicating, cause long term physical and mental health problems, and have delayed side effects. It is illegal to operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of cannabis. Keep away from children.”</p> <p>and at least one of the following, (extended content label will include all four):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Warning: Frequent and prolonged use of cannabis can contribute to mental health problems over time, including anxiety, depression, stunted brain development and impaired memory. ○ Warning: Consumption while pregnant or breastfeeding may be harmful. ○ Warning: Cannabis has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming and addictive. ○ Warning: Consuming more than the recommended amount may result in adverse effects requiring medical attention. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cannabis products must be reviewed by the DCP when registering their brand to ensure product compliance before permitted for sale. • Additionally, current law prohibits cannabis establishments from advertising in a way that targets or is designed to appeal to individuals under age 21. PA 22-103 specifies that the prohibition includes using a business name or logo. 		<p>Current research does not provide suggested limits of use (e.g. start slow, limit frequency, use without combining other substances, risk of sharing, health effects for different methods of consumption, etc.)</p> <p>This recommendation encompassed into current messaging.</p>	
<p>Health Claims – prohibit all or scientifically unsubstantiated health claims</p>	<p>Sec 33 of Public Act 21-1: Cannabis and cannabis products cannot be advertised as having curative or therapeutic effects unless supported by substantial evidence or clinical data.</p> <p>Employees cannot promote cannabis for a wellness purpose unless such claims are substantiated in the regulations or verbally conveyed by a licensed pharmacist or other licensed medical practitioner.</p>	<p>25. Recommend DCP require review process for packaging to aid in enforcement.</p>	<p>Public Act 21-1 outlines a very strong approach to prohibiting advertising cannabis products and services having therapeutic effects. This falls under prohibitive advertisements and violations under CUPTA.</p> <p>Nevada, Oregon and Washington have a review process in place.</p>	<p>TBD</p>

	Signage outside a cannabis establishment and advertisements cannot have the words "drug store", "pharmacy", "apothecary", "drug", "drugs" or "medicine shop" or any combination that would indicate that the establishment is a pharmacy.		Massachusetts has an optional review.	
High Potency Products	<p>Connecticut has established a strong approach to packaging and labeling, as well as limitations to serving size, dosage and potency that are consistent with evidence based practices.</p> <p>Sec 32 of Public Act 21-1: DCP Commissioner to adopt regulations, policies, and procedures for such issues as serving size limits, labeling & packaging, consumer health information, lab standards, and prohibitions related to minors, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dosage limitations: 30% THC for flowers and 60% THC for all other products except prefilled vape cartridges which cannot have more than 300 mg of total THC. • A standard serving size of edible cannabis product cannot contain >5 milligrams of THC • Products with synthetic flavors/ odors banned • THC-infused edibles allowed • Prohibits packaging that might appeal to children • Standard, uniform and child-resistant packaging • Prominent graphic marijuana warning label with varied & rotating warnings on packaged products required • Health & therapeutic claims for cannabis products prohibited unless scientifically supported • Prohibits advertising that portrays anyone under 21 or uses a figure, symbol or language associated with persons under 21 • Most proposed regulations are consistent with evidence-based best practices 	26. Banning THC-infused edibles & beverages.	<p>Vermont and Connecticut have imposed caps on THC concentration while surrounding states do not have a cap in place.</p> <p>By banning THC-infused edibles & beverages, residents may cross state borders to acquire such products.</p>	No
		<p>27. Recommend monitoring of cross state purchasing of THC concentrates, illicit market sourcing of concentrates, and home manufacture of concentrates.</p> <p>28. Reevaluate potency limits as more data becomes available.</p>	<p>Vermont and Connecticut have imposed potency limits on THC concentration while surrounding states do not have a cap in place. Most states base sale limits on product weight and product type. Cross state purchasing of THC concentrates, illicit market sourcing and home manufacturing of concentrates have potential negative outcomes. The international Cannabis Policy Study can be used as a data source, coupled with enforcement data from police can support monitoring concentrates.</p> <p>Prolonged use of high-potency cannabis products have health consequences - impaired cognitive functions, short-term memory and coordination issues, increased risks of anxiety, depression and dependence and psychosis.</p> <p>As more research and data becomes available, reevaluating</p>	TBD (Under Data and Evaluation)

			potency limits should be considered as well as restricting the amount of cannabis that a retailer can sell to an individual in a single transaction or over a period of time.	
Alcohol/Tobacco Warning Signs/Statements – Required health warnings on labels; point of sale and store signage	<p>As mentioned under “Cannabis Packaging and Labeling requirements,” packages must clearly labeled with a warning statements</p> <p>Additionally, cannabis establishment advertisements must contain the warning: “Do not use cannabis if you are under twenty one years of age. Keep cannabis out of the reach of children.”</p> <p>The commissioner, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, will issue policies and procedures that include establishing consumer health materials that shall be posted or distributed by cannabis establishments. Consumer health materials may include pamphlets, packaging inserts, signage, online and printed advertisements and advisories and printed health materials.</p>	See recommendation for Retailer and Employee Education		
Promotions/ Advertising				
Limitations on cannabis advertising and marketing	<p>Sec 33 of Public Act 21-01: Cannabis establishments prohibit to advertise on television, radio, billboards, outdoor signage, print publication, internet, mobile applications, social media or other electronic communication unless they have reliable evidence that at least 90% of the audience is expected to be 21 years of age or older.</p> <p>Cannabis establishments must maintain a log of all advertisements and their medium, location and date range of use.</p> <p>Advertising cannot appeal to, or target, individuals under the age of 21. There are restrictions on</p>	29. Recommend excluding cannabis treatment services from “cannabis services advertisement regulations”.	Advertising of cannabis treatment services is also prohibited as it falls under “cannabis services”.	Yes
		30. Recommend an agency to enforce advertising and marketing requirements.	Prohibitive advertising will be considered a violation of Connecticut’s Unfair Trade Practice Acts (CUTPA), in which DCP has the authority under the law to conduct an investigation.	No

	<p>advertising in media, locations, and events where more than 10% of the audience is under 21.</p> <p>Prohibits establishments from using any image or other visual representation of the cannabis plant or part of the plant, including the leaf, in displays or advertisements.</p> <p>Sec 8 of Public Act 22-103: Prohibits out-of-state entities and individuals from advertising any cannabis or services. Limits cannabis advertisements to Connecticut cannabis establishment licensees.</p> <p>Outdoor signs: Exempts certain outdoor business signs posted at a cannabis establishment from existing law's required warning against underage use and audience requirement. To qualify an outdoor sign must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contain only the name and logo of cannabis establishment • Have no image or other visual representation of the cannabis plant or part of the plant, including the leaf • Have no more than three colors • Be located on the cannabis establishment's premises or commercial property occupied by multiple tenants including such cannabis establishment <p>Billboards: Prohibits advertisement on an electronic or illuminated billboard between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.</p>			
--	---	--	--	--

Distance Requirements	Public Act 22-103: Increases minimum distance so that no advertising of cannabis or cannabis paraphernalia is visible from 500 to 1,500 feet from certain buildings including elementary or secondary school grounds, recreation centers or facilities, child care centers, playgrounds, public parks, or libraries. Legislation also adds houses of worship as part of the distance requirement.	31. Include substance use disorder treatment centers as part of the buildings distance requirement for advertising.	Substance use disorder treatment centers are not specifically identified as facilities requiring a buffer zone for the advertising of cannabis or cannabis paraphernalia. A list of licensed treatment centers is available through the Department of Public Health and locations for treatment centers are easily identifiable.	TBD
		32. Limit the number of advertisements in Disproportionately Impacted Areas (DIAs) so as not to flood impacted communities with cannabis messaging as they have already been adversely impacted by the war on drugs.		
Promotions and Sponsorships	<p>Sec 33, 41- 43, 60 Public Act 21-01:There are restrictions for the display or promotion and sponsorships based on audience in the setting in which there cannot be more than 10% of the audience under the legal age to purchase cannabis.</p> <p>Retailers cannot sell medical marijuana products nor offer discounts or other inducements to qualifying patients or caregivers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A retailer cannot gift or transfer cannabis at no cost to a consumer as part of a commercial transaction. • Hybrid retailers, delivery services and micro-cultivators cannot gift or transfer cannabis at no cost to a consumer, qualifying patient or caregiver as part of a commercial transaction. <p>Cannabis establishments cannot sponsor or advertise at charitable, sports, musical, artistic,</p>	33. Recommendation restrict promotional items and giveaways to venues which require patrons to be over the age of 21 (e.g. bars, gambling areas).	Legislation requires DCP to make written recommendations to the governor and legislature on whether to allow on-site consumption or events that allow cannabis usage.	TBD
		34. Recommendation restrict special events and tastings to venues which require patrons to be over the age of 21 (e.g. bars, gambling areas).		

	<p>cultural, social or other similar events where it is expected that over 10% of the attendees will be under 21.</p> <p>Public Act 22-103 Prohibits individuals from gifting, selling, or transferring cannabis to another person to induce, or in exchange for, any donation for any purpose, including any charitable donation or any donation made to gain admission to any event.</p> <p>At any location, other than a dispensary facility, retailer, or hybrid-retailer, (a) where a consumer may purchase any item other than cannabis, a cannabis product, or services related to cannabis, or (b) that requires consideration, including membership in any club, to gain admission to the location; or,</p> <p>As part of any giveaway associated with attendance at any event, including a door prize, goodie bag, or swag bag.</p> <p>The bill allows people with a bona fide social relationship to give cannabis to one another if the gift is made without consideration and is not associated with a commercial transaction.</p>			
Gifting	<p>Sec 47 of Public Act 21-01: Law previously allowed consumers over the age of 21 to give cannabis to other consumers for free (i.e., without compensation or consideration) if the giver reasonably believes the other person may possess the cannabis without exceeding the possession limit.</p> <p>Public Act 22-103. Limits this allowance by prohibiting individuals from gifting, selling, or transferring cannabis to another person: To induce, or in exchange for, any donation for any purpose, including any charitable donation or any donation made to gain admission to any event;</p>	Strong approach	Public Act 21-1 and amended in Public Act 22-103 outlines a strong approach to cannabis gifting	No

Price/Taxation				
<p>Taxes Imposed</p>	<p>Sec 125(b) and 126 of Public Act 21-01: Taxes on cannabis material and products, as described in the law, are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.625 cents per milligram of total THC for cannabis plant material; • 2.75 cents per milligram of total THC for cannabis edible products • 0.9 cents per milligram of total THC for other cannabis products <p>Sec 126: Imposes a 3% municipal sales tax on the sale of cannabis that applies in addition to the state's 6.35% sales tax and the state cannabis tax established as well as specifying the purposes for which the municipalities may use the tax revenue.</p> <p>The town must use this revenue for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetscape improvements and other neighborhood developments in communities where cannabis establishments are located • Education programs or youth employment & training programs in town • Services for town residents who were released from custody, probation, or parole • Mental health or addiction services • Youth service bureaus & municipal juvenile review boards • Community civic engagement efforts 	<p>35. Recommend municipalities earmark a minimum percentage of revenue from imposed taxes and/or fines related to cannabis for prevention & treatment</p>	<p>THC-based tax is considered a strong approach.</p> <p>The tax rate is expected to be approximately 20 percent of the retail price of cannabis which is in line with the tax rates in Massachusetts.</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Economic Factors</p>		<p>36. Support SAFE Banking legislation. Would allow banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions to offer banking services to legally-operating cannabis businesses without fear of punishment by federal regulators.</p>	<p>Outside the purview of this group</p>	<p>No</p>

		37. Support Clarifying Law Around Insurance of Marijuana (CLAIM) Act	Outside the purview of this group	No
		38. Prohibit penalizing or discouraging an insurer from providing coverage to a state-sanctioned and regulated cannabis business, or an associated business.	Outside the purview of this group	No
Other/Considerations				
Increased Enforcement of Laws	<p>The new cannabis law includes mandates for police training. As part of the new cannabis legislation, Drug Recognition Expert (DREs) are mandated.</p> <p>ARIDE Training will be mandated and will take effect in 2022. There are currently 52 DREs in CT.</p> <p>Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)</p>	39. Follow the 2023 Statewide Impaired Driving Strategic Plan developed by the Impaired Driving Taskforce recommendations as it relates to increase education and training for police.		TBD
General Education and Prevention Campaign		<p>40. Recommend DMHAS to lead and support the following activities to support general education and prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include retailers on the importance of preventing youth access • Support regional trainings for local prevention programs implementing positive youth development strategies • Coordinate to align key messaging across state agencies and integration of 	<p>As the lead agency for mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention and treatment, DMHAS has strong partnerships to lead and support the development of education, trainings and align with other state agencies around cannabis awareness and education.</p> <p>DMHAS co-chairs the Alcohol and Drug Policy Council which is comprised of representatives from government, consumer and advocacy groups, private service providers, individuals in recovery from addictions, and other stakeholders.</p>	Yes

Commented [SS6]: Confirm with DOT

		information and campaign and website.		
General Education and Prevention Campaign Effectiveness – Data/Evaluation	DMHAS was tasked to develop an education and awareness campaign to increase awareness in laws and health effects	41. Evaluate awareness and education campaign to understand targeted short-term outcomes (e.g., reach and recognition), intermediate outcomes (e.g., knowledge, attitudes, self-efficacy, behavioral intentions), and ultimate desired outcomes (e.g., cannabis use patterns)	Evaluation of media campaigns can demonstrate curbing use and misuse of cannabis through identifying effective messaging for target populations, impact on behavior change, and data inform future campaigns and prevention efforts.	Yes
Data/Surveillance	The current CT DPH administered surveys are designed to identify demographic differences and trends in health-related behaviors, monitor the effectiveness of health interventions and services and address critical and emerging health issues.	42. Recommend utilizing the SEOW as a means to connect with data surveillance bodies across the state to monitor changes in drug use patterns, monitoring hospitalizations and use of health care services related to cannabis, as well as diagnosis of admissions to treatment for cannabis use disorder. Additionally, monitoring of penalties, arrests, prosecutions, distributions or trafficking of cannabis products, including age, race, gender, country or origin, state geographic region and average sanctions of the persons charged. 43. Fund to participate in International Cannabis Policy Study to supplement	State Agencies, such as DMHAS, DCP, DPH, and SDE are monitoring different aspects of cannabis within the state. The State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup is an existing workgroup that currently has state agencies, academic universities, and data-driven representatives that supports bringing Connecticut's epidemiological data together to support a comprehensive public health approach to substance abuse prevention and health promotion. The International Cannabis Policy Study to supplement population based data sources- this study occurs more frequently, data is available sooner and it is solely focused on cannabis and includes more than 100 cannabis related questions.	Yes

		population-based data sources since it is more frequent and data is available sooner. This survey is solely focused on cannabis and largely of cannabis consumers.		
--	--	--	--	--

DRAFT