

SSB 5080 - S COMM AMD

[4]

By Committee on Ways & Means

1 On page 1, after line 5, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 1. RCW 43.330.540 and 2022 c 16 s 36 are each amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (1) The cannabis social equity technical assistance grant program
5 is established and is to be administered by the department.

6 (2)(a) The cannabis social equity technical assistance grant
7 program must award grants to:

8 (i) Cannabis license applicants who are social equity applicants
9 submitting social equity plans under RCW 69.50.335; and

10 (ii) Cannabis licensees holding a license issued after June 30,
11 2020, and before July 25, 2021, who meet the social equity applicant
12 criteria under RCW 69.50.335.

13 (b) Grant recipients under this subsection (2) must demonstrate
14 completion of their project within 12 months of receiving a grant,
15 unless a grant recipient requests, and the department approves,
16 additional time to complete the project.

17 (3) The department must award grants primarily based on the
18 strength of the social equity plans submitted by cannabis license
19 applicants and cannabis licensees holding a license issued after
20 (~~June 30, 2020~~) April 1, 2023, and before (~~July 25, 2021~~) July 1,
21 2024, but may also consider additional criteria if deemed necessary
22 or appropriate by the department. Technical assistance activities
23 eligible for funding include, but are not limited to:

24 (a) Assistance navigating the cannabis licensure process;

25 (b) Cannabis-business specific education and business plan
26 development;

27 (c) Regulatory compliance training;

28 (d) Financial management training and assistance in seeking
29 financing;

30 (e) Strengthening a social equity plan; and

1 (f) Connecting social equity applicants with established industry
2 members and tribal cannabis enterprises and programs for mentoring
3 and other forms of support.

4 (4) The department may contract to establish a roster of mentors
5 who are available to support and advise social equity applicants and
6 current licensees who meet the social equity applicant criteria under
7 RCW 69.50.335. Contractors under this section must:

8 (a) Have knowledge and experience demonstrating their ability to
9 effectively advise eligible applicants and licensees in navigating
10 the state's licensing and regulatory framework or on producing and
11 processing cannabis;

12 (b) Be a business that is at least 51 percent minority or woman-
13 owned; and

14 (c) Meet department reporting and invoicing requirements.

15 (5) Funding for the cannabis social equity technical assistance
16 grant program must be provided (~~through the dedicated cannabis~~
17 ~~account~~) under RCW 69.50.540. Additionally, the department may
18 solicit, receive, and expend private contributions to support the
19 grant program.

20 (6) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

21 (7) For the purposes of this section, "cannabis" has the meaning
22 provided under RCW 69.50.101."

23 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any
24 internal references accordingly.

25 On page 9, line 17, after "through" strike "December 31, 2029"
26 and insert "July 1, 2032"

27 Beginning on page 12, line 30, after "~~(Determining)~~" strike all
28 material through "69.51A.230" on page 13, line 9 and insert "(a)
29 Except as provided in RCW 69.50.335, determining, in consultation
30 with the office of financial management, the maximum number of retail
31 outlets that may be licensed in each county, taking into
32 consideration:

33 (~~(a)~~) (i) Population distribution;

34 (~~(b)~~) (ii) Security and safety issues;

35 (~~(c)~~) (iii) The provision of adequate access to licensed
36 sources of cannabis concentrates, useable cannabis, and cannabis-
37 infused products to discourage purchases from the illegal market; and

1 ~~((d))~~ (iv) The number of retail outlets holding medical
2 cannabis endorsements necessary to meet the medical needs of
3 qualifying patients. The board must reconsider and increase the
4 maximum number of retail outlets it established before July 24, 2015,
5 and allow for a new license application period and a greater number
6 of retail outlets to be permitted in order to accommodate the medical
7 needs of qualifying patients and designated providers. After January
8 1, 2017, any reconsideration of the maximum number of retail outlets
9 needed to meet the medical needs of qualifying patients must consider
10 information contained in the medical cannabis authorization database
11 established in RCW 69.51A.230.

12 (b) (i) In making the determination under (a) of this subsection,
13 the board must consider written input from an incorporated city or
14 town, or county legislative authority when evaluating concerns
15 related to outlet density.

16 (ii) Nothing in this chapter limits an incorporated city or town,
17 or county legislative authority from enacting an ordinance
18 prescribing outlet density limitations.

19 (iii) The board may adopt rules to identify how local
20 jurisdiction input will be evaluated"

21 Beginning on page 15, line 33, after "~~(Determining)~~" strike all
22 material through "69.51A.230" on page 16, line 14, and insert "(a)
23 Except as provided in RCW 69.50.335, determining, in consultation
24 with the office of financial management, the maximum number of retail
25 outlets that may be licensed in each county, taking into
26 consideration:

27 ~~((a))~~ (i) Population distribution;

28 ~~((b))~~ (ii) Security and safety issues;

29 ~~((c))~~ (iii) The provision of adequate access to licensed
30 sources of cannabis concentrates, useable cannabis, and cannabis-
31 infused products to discourage purchases from the illegal market; and

32 ~~((d))~~ (iv) The number of retail outlets holding medical
33 cannabis endorsements necessary to meet the medical needs of
34 qualifying patients. The board must reconsider and increase the
35 maximum number of retail outlets it established before July 24, 2015,
36 and allow for a new license application period and a greater number
37 of retail outlets to be permitted in order to accommodate the medical
38 needs of qualifying patients and designated providers. After January
39 1, 2017, any reconsideration of the maximum number of retail outlets

1 needed to meet the medical needs of qualifying patients must consider
2 information contained in the medical cannabis authorization database
3 established in RCW 69.51A.230.

4 (b) (i) In making the determination under (a) of this subsection,
5 the board must consider written input from an incorporated city or
6 town, or county legislative authority when evaluating concerns
7 related to outlet density.

8 (ii) Nothing in this chapter limits an incorporated city or town,
9 or county legislative authority from enacting an ordinance
10 prescribing outlet density limitations.

11 (iii) The board may adopt rules to identify how local
12 jurisdiction input will be evaluated"

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13 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "amending RCW" insert
14 "43.330.540,"

EFFECT: (1) Modifies the time period in which a cannabis licensee must have been issued a cannabis license to qualify for a Social Equity Technical Assistance Grant by the Department of Commerce to after April 1, 2023, and before July 1, 2024, rather than after June 30, 2020, and before July 25, 2021.

(2) Waives the annual fee for issuance, reissuance, or renewal of any license under the Social Equity Program through July 1, 2032, to match the extended time period of the Program.

(3) Requires the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) to consider written input from a local jurisdiction when evaluating concerns related to outlet density.

(4) Specifies that nothing in chapter 69.50 RCW limits a local jurisdiction from enacting an ordinance prescribing outlet density limitations.

(5) Permits the LCB to adopt rules identifying how local jurisdiction input on outlet density will be evaluated.

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