STATE OF NEW YORK

9179

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. BENEDETTO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Economic Development

AN ACT to establish a moratorium on issuing any license, permit or registration for retail dispensaries of cannabis until the cannabis control board reviews and closes businesses which are selling cannabis without a proper license or permit

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Legislative intent. The legislature finds that there has been an increase in the number of unlicensed "Smoke Shops" throughout the state, estimated to exceed 30,000, with approximately 1500 operating illegally in New York City alone. These operations undermine the integrity of our local businesses. These establishments often operate outside the bounds of existing regulations, posing a significant challenge to law enforcement and disrupting the business model that the state has been established for cannabis dispensaries draining the state of important tax revenue.

§ 2. The cannabis control board shall not issue any license, permit or registration for retail dispensaries of cannabis until the cannabis control board or any other authorized entity or law enforcement agency reviews and closes businesses which are selling cannabis without a proper license or permit issued by the office of cannabis management.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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