STATE OF NEW YORK

6470

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 21, 2023

Introduced by Sen. HINCHEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the cannabis law, in relation to authorizing conditional adult-use cultivator licensees to sell their own cannabis products and authorizing the office of cannabis management to create a loan or grant program to help such adult-use cultivator licensees to process cannabis into distillate

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "cannabis crop rescue act".

§ 2. Legislative findings. Chapter 18 of the laws of 2022 created the conditional adult-use cultivator license. Due to a variety of circumstances beyond the control of New York's cannabis farmers, many licensees cannot afford to process their cannabis or sell their finished products. As a result, their 2022 crops are losing value while in storage due to diminished potency, color and aroma. Without sales, many are unable to plant a crop for the upcoming growing season, and are in severe financial stress.

§ 3. Section 68-c of the cannabis law is amended by adding two new subdivisions 16 and 17 to read as follows:

16. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a conditional adult-use cultivator licensee shall be authorized to sell their own or another conditional adult-use cultivator licensee holder's cannabis products directly to consumers until no later than September thirtieth, two thousand twenty-three. Such authority shall allow for on-farm sales of tested, packaged and sealed products. The office is authorized to issue emergency regulations, if necessary, to implement this subdivision.

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

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17. The office is authorized to create a loan or grant program for the purpose of having any cannabis grown under a conditional adult-use cultivator license prior to September thirtieth, two thousand twenty-three processed into distillate. The end-product of such processing shall be returned to the licensee for future use.

§ 4. A conditional adult-use cultivator licensee may select to operate under subdivisions 16 and 17 of section 68-c of the cannabis law until September 30, 2023.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that the amendments to section 68-c of the cannabis law made by section three of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.