STATE OF NEW YORK

4360

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the cannabis law, in relation to enacting the "cannabis oversight and official engagement act"

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "cannabis oversight and official engagement act".

§ 2. The cannabis law is amended by adding a new section 76-a to read as follows:

§ 76-a. Notification to elected officials of adult-use retail dispensary license. 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Adult-use retail dispensary license" means an adult-use retail dispensary license issued pursuant to section seventy-two of this article.

(b) "Elected official" means the elected member of the assembly or senate representing a legislative district.

(c) "Legislative district" means an assembly or senate district in the state, as designated by the most recently approved districting or redistricting plan.

2. Notice requirement. (a) Prior to the approval of any application for an adult-use retail dispensary license, the office shall notify the elected officials representing the legislative districts within which the proposed adult-use retail dispensary would be located of such application. Such notice shall be sent no later than thirty days before a decision is made regarding such application. Such notice shall be sent by certified mail, electronic mail, or any other method deemed reliable by the office.

(b) The notice required under paragraph (a) of this subdivision shall include:

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

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(i) the trade name and address of the proposed adult-use retail dispensary;

(ii) the full name and contact information of the applicant;

(iii) a summary of the proposed operation and business model of the proposed adult-use retail dispensary;

(iv) the date, to be determined by the office, by which the elected officials may submit any comments or objections regarding the application for an adult-use retail dispensary license; and

(v) any other information as may be determined by the office.

3. Response from elected officials. Elected officials may submit to the office any written feedback, support, concerns, or objections they may have regarding an application for an adult-use retail dispensary license within twenty days of receipt of the notice sent pursuant to subdivision two of this section. The office shall consider any such written feedback, support, concerns, or objections submitted by elected officials in making its decision to approve or reject an application for an adult-use retail dispensary license.

4. Record and transparency. All communications between the office and elected officials pursuant to this section shall be a part of the public record, subject to any applicable state or federal laws concerning privacy and confidentiality. The office shall publish all such communications and its final decision regarding any application for an adult-use retail dispensary on its website.

5. Rules and regulations. The office is authorized to promulgate any rules and/or regulations necessary to effectuate the provisions of this section.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall apply to all applications for adult-use retail dispensary licenses submitted to the office of cannabis management on or after such date.