



Draft Packaging and Labeling Regulations

Presentation by: CCC

July 30, 2024

Changes to Future Packaging Requirements

- Transfer authority to Cannabis Control Commission from Department of Business Regulation
- Require tamper-evident packaging
- Allow all colors excluding fluorescent and neon
 - Removed requirement of neutral colors
- All cannabis product (medical and AU) shall adhere to these requirements



Packaging: Ongoing Regulatory Requirements

- Certified child resistant packaging and resealable when applicable
- Small container guidance will remain in external guidance document

Cannabis Licensee Compliance



- Within 90 days from the effective date of the rules and regulation promulgation
- All cannabis product (medical and adult use) shall adhere to these requirements
- Applies to all cannabis establishment licensees

Packaging: Policy considerations for changes

- ▶ Allowing color provides for more branding freedom for licensees
 - ▶ Aligned with Cannabis Advisory Board recommendation
- ▶ Brings Rhode Island in line with other states adult-use requirements (MA, VT, ME, NY, CT*)
- ▶ Brands can be more competitive with neighboring states

*CT: Allows single-color, opaque packaging with a black and white label + one logo up to 3 colors. Edible packaging, including logo, can only be black and white.

Changes to Future Labeling Requirements

- Transfer authority to Cannabis Control Commission from Department of Business Regulation
- Removes requirement of Cannabis Office pre-approval of logos and/or graphics
- Allows all colored text, excluding neon, as long as it is legible and clearly visible
- Allows the use of data matrix (e.g., QR code), with prior Commission approval
- Allow but not require the labeling of remediation and method used



Changes to Future Labeling Requirements continued

- Addition of specific warning: “Use of cannabis may impair your ability to operate a vehicle or machinery”
 - Removes requirement of generalized rotating warnings
 - Require name of testing facility that conducted product testing and its pass date
 - Require identifying Cannabinoid profile and removes labeling just THC/CBD content
- ❖ Protecting children remains top priority by maintaining requirements like the 1”x1” sized THC symbol, resealable certified child resistant packaging, and prohibitions on attractive child-like cartoons.



Labeling: Continued Regulatory Requirements

- Requirement that logo and/or graphic not be larger than the THC universal symbol
 - Ex: 1"x1" THC symbol = 1"x1" Graphic and/or Logo
 - Deviation from CAB recommendation, which recommended allowing for logo and/or graphic sizes to increase once THC symbol reached 1"x1"
- Required warnings must be placed in bright yellow box
- Prohibition on shape of cannabis products (animals, cartoons, fruit) and any other labeling that clearly appeals to children
- Prohibition on imitating or resemblance to any existing branded consumer products (foods, snacks, candies)
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Next steps...

- August and September CCC meetings will include presentations on key topics to the Commission that will preview the content of draft regulations
- Anticipated future meeting presentations on draft regulations:
 - Licensing Selection Process Part I and II
 - Social Equity Licensing and Social Equity Assistance Fund
 - Additional regulatory topics to be determined



Questions?

