



Press Release

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Cannabis Control Commission's Cannabis Advisory Board Begins 2025 Study Topics

WARWICK, RI – The Cannabis Control Commission's [Cannabis Advisory Board](#) (CAB) will begin its study topics for 2025, continuing its commitment to support thoughtful recommendations for future cannabis regulation.

Each year, the Commission directs the CAB to research and provide recommendations on issues that impact the state's regulated cannabis market and its communities. For 2025, the Cannabis Advisory Board will focus on the following Commission-directed topics:

- **Conditions for Social Consumption Establishments**
Studied by the Public Safety and Community Mitigation Subcommittee (continuation from 2024)
 - The CAB will continue its in-depth review of policies and best practices around social consumption establishments, with a particular emphasis on public safety considerations.
- **Conditions for Outdoor Grows**
Studied by the Public Health & Cannabis Industry Subcommittees
 - This topic will explore environmental, industry, and health-related considerations for outdoor cannabis cultivation in Rhode Island. The state does not currently allow outdoor cannabis grows, and this study will help inform any future policy discussions on the matter.
- **Veteran Involvement in the Cannabis Industry**
Studied by the Market Participation and Social Equity Subcommittees
 - The CAB will examine opportunities and barriers for veteran participation in the industry, including licensing access, support services, and workforce development.

"The Cannabis Advisory Board plays a vital role in advising our Commission on cannabis policy that reflects the needs and values of Rhode Islanders," said **Kim Ahern**, Chair of the Cannabis Control Commission. "By studying these important topics, from ensuring public safety in potential social consumption settings to expanding opportunities for veterans, the Board is helping us build a safe, equitable and transparent cannabis program."

"Our focus this year is on practical, forward-thinking policy," added **Ron Crosson**, Chair of the Cannabis Advisory Board. "We're asking the hard questions about what comes next for cannabis in Rhode Island, whether it's how social use can be

implemented responsibly, how we ensure veterans are part of this growing industry, or how we can help make capital more accessible.”

The **Cannabis Advisory Board** includes representatives from public health, public safety, government, community organizations, and the cannabis industry. The Board’s recommendations will be submitted to the Commission by the end of the calendar year.

For more information about the Cannabis Advisory Board and meeting dates, visit <https://ccc.ri.gov/about-ccc/cannabis-advisory-board>.

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About the Rhode Island Cannabis Control Commission

The Cannabis Control Commission is an independent regulatory body established under the Rhode Island Cannabis Act of 2022. The CCC is responsible for licensing, regulation, and enforcement of both adult-use and medical cannabis in the state. With the transition from the Department of Business Regulation now complete, the newly formed Cannabis Office serves as the operational arm of the Commission, supporting the safe, equitable, and effective regulation of cannabis in Rhode Island.



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