SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Directs Oregon Liquor Control Commission to establish Cannabis Social Equity Program to provide discounted recreational marijuana licensure fees and other support to program participants.] [Becomes operative January 1, 2021.] [Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.]

Establishes Task Force to Promote Social Equity in the Cannabis Industry. Directs task force to identify barriers to entry in cannabis industry, recommend investments in communities impacted by marijuana criminalization and recommend solutions, including legislation for cannabis social equity program.


Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to a cannabis social equity program; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force to Promote Social Equity in the Cannabis Industry is established.

(2) The task force consists of 11 members appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among the members of the Senate;

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among the members of the House of Representatives;

(c) The Governor shall appoint nine members as follows:

(A) One member who represents the Oregon Liquor Control Commission and who has expertise in marijuana regulated by the commission;

(B) One member who represents the City of Portland’s Cannabis Program;

(C) One member who represents an Oregon-based nonprofit focused on minority inclusion in the cannabis industry;

(D) One member who represents a business association focused on serving minority cannabis entrepreneurs;

(E) One member who represents an Oregon-based cannabis business association;

(F) Three members who represent minority-owned licensed cannabis businesses in Oregon; and

(G) One member who represents a culturally specific community development organization in Oregon.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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(3) The task force shall:
   (a) Identify barriers to starting and growing businesses in the legal cannabis industry for
       people of color, low-income people and people with previous cannabis-related convictions;
   (b) Recommend additional community investments in areas disproportionately impacted
       by marijuana criminalization; and
   (c) Recommend solutions, including legislation and funding sources to establish a
       cannabis social equity program, that will:
       (A) Increase the number of people of color, low-income people and people with previous
           cannabis-related convictions receiving licenses for legal cannabis businesses; and
       (B) Address barriers identified by the task force.

(4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
    transaction of business.

(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
    members of the task force.

(6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
    ment to become immediately effective.

(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
    or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

(10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
    may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative
    Assembly related to economic development no later than November 1, 2020.

(11) The Legislative Policy and Research Office shall provide staff support to the task
    force.

(12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
    members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

(13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
    entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other
    expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and
    amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions
    of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the task force.

(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
    the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted
    by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
    force consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2020 Act is repealed on December 31, 2020.

SECTION 3. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect
on its passage.