



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 630

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H.P. 459

House of Representatives, February 5, 2019

**An Act To Clarify That Food and Food Products Containing Hemp-derived Cannabidiol Produced and Sold within the State Are Not Adulterated and To Match the State's Definition of "Hemp" to the Definition in Federal Law**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative HICKMAN of Winthrop.  
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and  
Representative: JOHANSEN of Monticello, Senator: HERBIG of Waldo.



1 claims that food or food products that contain hemp can treat, cure or prevent any disease  
2 without approval pursuant to federal law. For the purposes of this section, "hemp" has the  
3 same meaning as in Title 7, section 2231, subsection 1.

## 4 PART B

5 **Sec. B-1. 7 MRSA §2231**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 202, §1, is further amended  
6 to read:

### 7 **§2231. Hemp**

8 **1. Definition.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates,  
9 "~~industrial~~ hemp" means any variety of the plant Cannabis sativa L. and any part of that  
10 plant, including the seeds and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts  
11 and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol  
12 concentration ~~that does not exceed~~ of not more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis and that  
13 is grown or possessed by a licensed grower in compliance with this chapter. As used in  
14 this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, "certified seed source" means a  
15 source of hemp seeds that are certified by a 3rd party as producing hemp having a delta-  
16 9-tetrahydrocannabinol concentration ~~that does not exceed~~ of not more than 0.3% on a  
17 dry weight basis.

18 **2. Growing permitted.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may  
19 plant, grow, harvest, possess, process, sell and buy ~~industrial~~ hemp if that person holds a  
20 license issued pursuant to subsection 4. A person licensed pursuant to subsection 4 may  
21 plant, grow and harvest only hemp that is grown from seeds acquired from a certified  
22 seed source. A person licensed pursuant to subsection 4 may acquire hemp seeds directly  
23 from a certified seed source or from a hemp seed distributor licensed in this State  
24 distributing hemp seeds pursuant to subsection 2-A.

25 **2-A. Seed distribution.** The commissioner may issue a license for a hemp seed  
26 distributor if the hemp seeds distributed by the hemp seed distributor are from a certified  
27 seed source. The commissioner may issue a license under this subsection to a holder of a  
28 seed labeling license pursuant to section 1044-A.

29 **3. Application.** A person desiring to grow ~~industrial~~ hemp for commercial purposes  
30 shall apply to the commissioner for a license on a form prescribed by the commissioner.  
31 The application must include the name and address of the applicant, the legal description  
32 of the land area to be used for the production of ~~industrial~~ hemp and a map, an aerial  
33 photograph or global positioning coordinates sufficient for locating the production fields.

34 **4. License issued.** Upon review and approval of an application, the commissioner  
35 shall notify the applicant and request that the application fee determined under subsection  
36 7 be submitted. Upon receipt of the appropriate fee, the commissioner shall issue a  
37 license, which is valid for a period of one year and only for the site or sites specified in  
38 the license.

39 **6. Rules.** The commissioner shall adopt rules to establish an application fee, a  
40 license fee, per acre fees for monitoring, sampling and testing and guidelines for

1 monitoring the growth and harvest of ~~industrial~~ hemp. Rules adopted pursuant to this  
2 subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

3 **7. Fees.** The commissioner shall establish through rulemaking under subsection 6 an  
4 application fee, a license fee and per acre fees for monitoring, sampling and testing that  
5 are reasonable and necessary to cover the costs of the department. The application fee  
6 must be no less than \$50 and no more than \$100, the license fee must be no less than  
7 \$100 and no more than \$500, and the fees for monitoring, sampling and testing must be  
8 no less than \$1 per acre and no more than \$100 per acre.

9 All fees received pursuant to this subsection must be paid to the Treasurer of State and  
10 credited to a separate, nonlapsing account in the department. Money received pursuant to  
11 this subsection must be used for the expenses of administering this chapter.

12 **Sec. B-2. 17-A MRSA §1101, sub-§22,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §1, is  
13 amended to read:

14 **22.** "~~Industrial hemp~~ Hemp" means ~~any variety of the plant~~ Cannabis sativa L. and  
15 any part of that plant, including the seeds and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids,  
16 isomers, acids, salts and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9-  
17 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that does not exceed of not more than 0.3% on a dry  
18 weight basis and that is grown under a federal permit in compliance with the conditions  
19 of that permit.

20 **Sec. B-3. 17-A MRSA §1103, sub-§7,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §2, is  
21 amended to read:

22 **7.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the substance  
23 trafficked in is ~~industrial~~ hemp.

24 **Sec. B-4. 17-A MRSA §1105-A, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §3, is  
25 amended to read:

26 **3.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the substance  
27 trafficked in is ~~industrial~~ hemp.

28 **Sec. B-5. 17-A MRSA §1105-C, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §4, is  
29 amended to read:

30 **3.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the substance  
31 furnished is ~~industrial~~ hemp.

32 **Sec. B-6. 17-A MRSA §1105-D, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §5, is  
33 amended to read:

34 **3.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the substance  
35 cultivated or grown is ~~industrial~~ hemp.

36 **Sec. B-7. 17-A MRSA §1106, sub-§6, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 346, Pt. B,  
37 §1, is amended to read:

1 A. ~~Industrial hemp~~ Hemp; or

2 **Sec. B-8. 17-A MRSA §1107-A, sub-§3, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 430, §4  
3 and affected by §10, is amended to read:

4 A. The substance possessed is ~~industrial~~ hemp; or

5 **Sec. B-9. 17-A MRSA §1107-A, sub-§5, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 346, Pt.  
6 B, §2, is amended to read:

7 A. ~~Industrial hemp~~ Hemp; or

8 **Sec. B-10. 17-A MRSA §1111-A, sub-§10**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §8, is  
9 amended to read:

10 **10.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the drug  
11 paraphernalia used or possessed is used or possessed for the propagation, cultivation or  
12 processing of ~~industrial~~ hemp.

13 **Sec. B-11. 17-A MRSA §1117, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 61, §9, is  
14 amended to read:

15 **3.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the substance  
16 cultivated or grown is ~~industrial~~ hemp.

17 **Sec. B-12. 28-B MRSA §102, sub-§27**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 409, Pt. A, §6,  
18 is amended to read:

19 **27. Marijuana.** "Marijuana" means the leaves, stems, flowers and seeds of a  
20 marijuana plant, whether growing or not. "Marijuana" includes marijuana concentrate but  
21 does not include ~~industrial~~ hemp as defined in Title 7, section 2231, subsection 1 or a  
22 marijuana product.

23 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this  
24 legislation takes effect when approved.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 Part A of this bill provides that food and food products containing hemp-derived  
27 cannabidiol that are produced and sold within the State are not considered to be  
28 "adulterated" under state law, and the production, marketing, sale or distribution of food  
29 or food products containing hemp may not be prohibited.

30 Part B of this bill changes the term in Maine law "industrial hemp" to "hemp" and  
31 defines "hemp" to match the definition of "hemp" in the federal Agriculture Improvement  
32 Act of 2018.