

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

Date: 5-24-21

To: Veterans & Legal Affairs Committee

From: Sam Praver, Legislative Analyst

LD 1589, An Act To Ensure Equity in the Cannabis Industry

Summary This amendment changes the membership of the Marijuana Advisory Commission established under Title 28-B, section 901, increasing the number of members from 15 to 21 and specifies additional members representing certain interests.

LD 1589

Current Law

Amend the title of the bill to read:

An Act to Ensure Equity in the Membership of the Marijuana Advisory Commission

28-B MRSA §902

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

Sec. 7. 28-B MRSA §902, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 409, Pt. A, §6, is amended to read:

1. Membership. The commission consists of the following ~~15~~ 21 members:

A. Two members of the Senate, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature, appointed by the President of the Senate;

B. Two members of the House of Representatives, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

C. The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services or the commissioner's designee;

D. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry or the commissioner's designee;

E. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;

F. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee;

G. The Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee;

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H. The following ~~3~~ 6 members, appointed by the President of the Senate:

- (1) A representative of a statewide association representing prosecutors;
- (2) A representative of a statewide association representing the medical marijuana industry; ~~and~~
- (3) A member of the public; ~~and~~
- (4) A member of the public with demonstrated expertise in the cultivation of marijuana or the manufacturing of marijuana concentrate and marijuana products;
- (5) A representative of a statewide association representing defense attorneys; and
- (6) A representative of a statewide civil rights organization with a primary mission to advance racial equity and racial justice; and

I. The following ~~3~~ 6 members, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

- (1) A representative of a statewide association representing the adult use marijuana industry;
- (2) A member of the public with demonstrated expertise and credentials in public health policy; ~~and~~
- (3) A member of the public;
- (4) A qualifying patient;
- (5) A member of a federally recognized Indian tribe in the State; and
- (6) A representative of the Maine chapter of a national civil liberties organization.

For all appointments under this subsection an effort must be made to represent the racial and gender diversity of the State of Maine.

Sec. 8. 28-B MRSA §902, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 409, Pt. A, §6, is amended to read:

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5. Quorum. A quorum of the commission consists of § 11 members.

Notes Changes proposed in this bill are similar to those proposed in [LD 2091 from the 129th Second Special](#).

Fiscal Impact Fiscal impact information not available at time of writing.