

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend Title 25 of the District of Columbia Official Code to establish a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement and to authorize the holders of an alcohol manufacturer’s license class A or B to apply for a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement; to amend the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999 to establish a medical cannabinoids import endorsement to authorize the import into the District of certain cannabinoids; to amend the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999 to permit couriers to deliver medical cannabis to licensed medical cannabis businesses or holders of a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement; and to amend title 47 of the District of Columbia Official Code to clarify certain provisions regarding the taxation of medical cannabis and medical cannabis products.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Medical Cannabis Beverage Product Amendment Act of 2026”.

Sec. 2. Title 25 of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended as follows:

(a) Chapter 1 is amended as follows:

(1) The table of contents is amended by adding a new section designation to read as follows:

“25-132. Medical cannabis beverage production endorsement.”.

(2) A new section 25-132 is added to read as follows:

“§ 25-132. Medical cannabis beverage production endorsement.

“(a) A licensee under a manufacturer’s license class A or B shall be eligible to apply to the Board for a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement.

37 “(b) A medical cannabis beverage production endorsement shall authorize the licensee to,
38 pursuant to a written agreement with a licensed medical cannabis manufacturer:

39 “(1) Receive cannabis or THC from the licensed medical cannabis manufacturer
40 for the purpose of producing medical cannabis beverages;

41 “(2) Produce medical cannabis beverages with the cannabis or THC received from
42 the licensed medical cannabis manufacturer; and

43 “(3) Deliver the medical cannabis beverages to the licensed medical cannabis
44 manufacturer.

45 “(c) Medical cannabis beverages produced by the holder of a medical cannabis beverage
46 production endorsement shall not contain alcohol.

47 “(d) The holder of a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement shall deliver the
48 medical cannabis beverages it produces only to the licensed medical cannabis manufacturer that
49 provided the holder with cannabis or THC pursuant to a written agreement executed pursuant to
50 subsection (b) of this section and shall not deliver such beverages to another medical cannabis
51 manufacturer, a medical cannabis retailer, a medical cannabis internet retailer, or any other
52 person.

53 “(e) The holder of a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement shall comply
54 with the testing, electronic tracking, and reporting requirements of Chapter 16B of Title 7 for the
55 production and delivery of medical cannabis beverages.

56 “(f) Any cannabis or THC received by a holder of a medical cannabis beverage
57 production endorsement under this section that is not used by the holder of the medical cannabis
58 beverage production endorsement to produce medical cannabis beverages (“excess cannabis or
59 THC”) shall be returned by the holder of the medical cannabis beverage production endorsement

60 to the licensed medical cannabis manufacturer with which it has a written agreement before the
61 expiration or termination of the agreement.

62 “(g) The holder of a medical cannabis beverage production endorsement may use a
63 courier licensed under Chapter 16B of Title 7 to transport the medical cannabis beverages it
64 produces and any excess cannabis or THC to the licensed medical cannabis manufacturer with
65 which it has a written agreement pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

66 “(h) The minimum annual licensing fee for a medical cannabis beverage production
67 endorsement shall be \$500.

68 “(i) For the purposes of this section, the terms “medical cannabis,” “medical cannabis
69 beverage,” and “THC” shall have the meanings ascribed to them in § 7-1671.01.”.

70 (b) Section 25-822 is amended by adding a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

71 “(c) The holder of a manufacturer’s license class A or B shall not be in violation of
72 subsection (a)(2) of this section if the licensee has been issued a medical cannabis beverage
73 production endorsement in accordance with § 25-132 and engages in conduct related to the
74 distribution, production, and sale of medical cannabis beverages in accordance with the terms of
75 the endorsement.”.

76 Sec. 3. The Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999, effective
77 February 25, 2010 (D.C. Law 13-315; D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.01 *et seq.*), is amended as
78 follows:

79 (a) Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.01) is amended to read as follows:

80 (1) Paragraph (2A) is redesignated as paragraph (2B).

81 (2) A new paragraph (2A) is added to read as follows:

82 “(2A) “Cannabinoid” means:

83 “(A) A chemical compound derived from cannabis, or from hemp, as that
84 term is defined in 7 U.S.C. § 1639o(1)) (collectively, “natural cannabinoids”); or

85 “(B) A synthetic cannabinoid.”.

86 (3) Paragraphs (12A) and (12B) are redesignated as paragraphs (12B) and (12C).

87 (4) A new paragraph (12A) is added to read as follows:

88 “(12A) “Medical cannabis beverage” means a liquid capable of consumption by a
89 human that contains medical cannabis.”.

90 (5) Paragraph (17) is redesignated as paragraph (17A).

91 (6) A new paragraph (17) is added to read as follows:

92 “(17) “Qualified import source” means a medical cannabis facility licensed under
93 federal or state law to manufacture cannabinoids for lawful medical use and that complies with
94 laboratory testing, product safety, and quality assurance standards set by ABCA.”.

95 (7) A new paragraph (20E) is added to read as follows:

96 “(20E) “Synthetic cannabinoid” means a substance with a similar chemical
97 structure and pharmacological activity to a natural cannabinoid, but which is not extracted or
98 derived from cannabis or hemp and is instead created or produced by chemical or biochemical
99 synthesis.”.

100 (8) A new paragraph (21A) is added to read as follows:

101 “(21A) “THC” means tetrahydrocannabinol.”.

102 (b) Section 6a (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.05a) is amended as follows:

103 (1) Subsections (a) and (b) are amended to read as follows:

104 “(a) A courier license shall be required for a third party to deliver:

105 “(1) Medical cannabis, medical cannabis concentrates, medical cannabis-infused
106 products, or paraphernalia on behalf of a licensed medical cannabis retailer or internet retailer to
107 a qualifying patient or caregiver, as provided in section 7e(c)(6);

108 “(2) Medical cannabis, medical cannabis concentrates, medical cannabis-infused
109 products, or paraphernalia to a licensed medical cannabis business on behalf of another licensed
110 medical cannabis business if the transfer of the medical cannabis, medical cannabis concentrates,
111 medical cannabis-infused products, or paraphernalia between the businesses is authorized by this
112 act; or

113 “(3) Cannabis, THC, or medical cannabis beverages between a medical cannabis
114 beverage production endorsement holder and a licensed medical cannabis manufacturer, as
115 provided in D.C. Official Code § 25-132.

116 “(b) The services of a courier authorized by subsection (a) of this section may be
117 requested by telephone, internet, mobile application, or other electronic means.”.

118 (2) Subsection (c) is repealed.

119 (3) Subsections (d) and (e) are amended to read as follows:

120 “(d) A holder of a courier license shall, with respect to all deliveries:

121 “(1) Deliver only to the address provided by the qualifying patient, qualifying
122 patient’s caregiver, licensed medical cannabis business, or medical cannabis beverage production
123 endorsement holder;

124 “(2) Deliver only to a residential or commercial building address located in the
125 District that is not on District government or Federal property or on public or private school
126 grounds, with the exception of deliveries to qualifying patients or caregivers at colleges and
127 universities who are 21 years of age or older.

128 “(3) Travel only through the District of Columbia and not any surrounding
129 jurisdiction to make deliveries;

130 “(4) Abide by any rules posted by a landlord or property owner with respect to
131 prohibitions on cannabis deliveries on its property;

132 “(5) Abide by any rules issued by the Mayor concerning overnight storage of any
133 product, and store such product overnight only if necessary;

134 “(6) Use only its employees or independent contractors to make authorized
135 deliveries;

136 “(7) Abide by any rules issued by the Mayor concerning the operation and
137 number of vehicles allowed;

138 “(8) When a delivery to a licensed medical cannabis business, a qualifying
139 patient, or a qualifying patient’s caregiver is requested through the courier by a medical cannabis
140 licensed business, a qualifying patient, or qualifying patient’s caregiver that will receive the
141 order, require the individual or entity requesting the order to provide information necessary to
142 verify their qualifications to purchase and receive a delivery in accordance with this act and rules
143 issued in accordance with section 14.

144 “(e) In addition to the requirements in subsection (d) of this section, a holder of a courier
145 license shall, with respect to deliveries to a qualifying patient or the qualifying patient's
146 caregiver:

147 “(1) Abide by any rules issued by the Mayor concerning the frequency of
148 deliveries to a single patient or caregiver in a day, week, or month;

149 “(2) Not offer or provide curbside pick-up to qualifying patients or caregivers or
150 from a retailer or internet retailer;

151 “(3) Before transferring possession of the order to a qualifying patient or to a
152 qualifying patient’s caregiver, inspect the person’s government-issued identification card and
153 ABCA registration issued pursuant to this act to verify the identity of the individual, verify the
154 possession of a valid registration, and confirm that the information provided at the time the order
155 was placed matches the information listed on the government-issued identification card and
156 ABCA registration.”.

157 (4) Subsection (f) is repealed.

158 (5) Subsection (g) is amended to read as follows:

159 “(g)(1) A courier vehicle shall:

160 “(A) Contain a global positioning system (“GPS”) device that identifies
161 the geographic location of the courier vehicle and that shall:

162 “(i) Be either permanently or temporarily affixed to the courier
163 vehicle while the courier vehicle is in operation; and

164 “(ii) Remain active and in the possession of the delivery employee
165 at all times during the delivery;

166 “(B) Not bear any markings, images, words, or phrases that would indicate
167 the vehicle is used to deliver medical cannabis, including the name of the courier or cannabis-
168 related related images; and

169 “(C) Have a secure, locked storage compartment for purposes of
170 transporting and securing cash used as payment and a separate secure, locked storage
171 compartment for purposes of transporting and securing medical cannabis and medical cannabis
172 products.

173 “(2) A holder of a courier license shall not store cash and medical cannabis or
174 medical cannabis products in the same storage compartments in a vehicle.”.

175 (c) A new section 6b is added to read as follows:

176 “Sec. 6b. Medical cannabinoids import endorsement.

177 “(a) The holder of a medical cannabis manufacturer license or medical cannabis
178 cultivation center license may apply to the Board for a medical cannabinoids import endorsement
179 to import cannabinoids into the District for the purpose of producing medical cannabis products
180 from a qualified import source.

181 “(b) The holder of a medical cannabinoids import endorsement shall not redistribute or
182 resell the imported cannabinoids to any third party but may distribute medical cannabis products
183 produced with or using any imported cannabinoid authorized under the endorsement to a medical
184 cannabis retailer or internet retailer licensed by the Board.

185 “(c) Cannabinoids imported by the holder of a medical cannabinoids import endorsement
186 shall:

187 “(1) Originate from a qualified import source;

188 “(2) Be in compliance with and permitted under federal law;

189 “(3) Contain 0% THC or a non-detectable amount of THC;

190 “(4) Be used exclusively for the production of medical cannabis products;

191 “(5) Be accompanied by a certificate of analysis from a District-licensed testing
192 laboratory verifying the absence of contaminants and THC before being imported into the
193 District of Columbia.

194 “(d) The holder of a medical cannabinoids import endorsement shall maintain records of
195 all importation transactions for a period of 5 years and make such records available for

196 inspection upon request by ABCA.”

197 “(e) The minimum annual fee for a medical cannabinoids import endorsement shall be
198 \$1,000.”.

199 (d) Section 7e(c)(6) (D.C. Official Code 7-1671.06e(c)(6)) is amended by striking the
200 phrase “medical cannabis or medical cannabis products” and inserting the phrase “medical
201 cannabis, medical cannabis concentrates, medical cannabis-infused products, or medical
202 cannabis paraphernalia” in its place.

203 Sec. 4. Title 47 of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended as follows:

204 (a) Section 47-2002(a)(7) is amended by striking the phrase “medical marijuana” and
205 inserting the phrase “medical cannabis and medical cannabis products” in its place.

206 (b) Section 47-2202(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph (3D) to read as follows:

207 “(3D) The rate of tax shall be 6% of the gross receipts from the sale of or charges
208 for medical cannabis and medical cannabis products, as defined in § 7-1671.01.”.

209 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

210 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
211 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
212 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

213 Sec. 6. Effective date.

214 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
215 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
216 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
217 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
218 Columbia Register.