

To: EAIC From: Montana Cannabis Industry Association (MTCIA) Re: Legislative Issues for 2025

Statutory Changes Regarding Cannabis Regulation

- Modify and extend moratorium
- Restructure M licenses
- Distinguish between cannabis and hemp-derived synthetic cannabinoids
- Advertising
- Create requirement for distance between new hemp fields and cannabis outdoor grows
- Strike language inserted during the 2023 legislative session that requires physicians who reach making 39 referrals for medical cannabis to be reviewed by the MT Board of Medical Examiners

<u>Issues Related to Proper Government Infrastructure for Regulation (appropriations-related needs)</u>

- CCD staffing
- DOJ staffing
- A contracted study on cannabis testing

Montana has a high sales tax rate on cannabis. The MTCIA recognizes that the effort to lower the cannabis sales tax would unlikely be successful. So, the MTCIA would encourage using the tax to shore up regulation and enforcement against the illegal market prior to appropriating it to unrelated government services.

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