

General Assembly Raised Bill No. ____

January Session, 2027 LCO No. ____

Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by: (GL)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL CANNABIS CULTIVATING CAREGIVER LICENSE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Words in CAPITALS are added to existing statute. Words in [brackets] are deleted. Sections 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 are new sections and are set in ordinary type.

Section 1. Legislative findings. (NEW · Effective October 1, 2027)

1 The General Assembly finds that:

2 (1) Registered qualifying patients in the state's palliative use cannabis program declined from
3 approximately fifty-four thousand in October 2021 to thirty thousand five hundred five in July 2026.

4 (2) Registered caregivers declined from four thousand three hundred seventy-two in January 2023
5 to two thousand five hundred ninety-one in July 2026, while certifying practitioners increased from one
6 thousand six hundred forty-three to two thousand nine.

7 (3) Subsection (b) of section 21a-408d of the general statutes authorizes a qualifying patient
8 eighteen years of age or older to cultivate cannabis in the patient's primary residence and permits access
9 to such plants by the patient's caregiver, and section 21a-421j-39 of the policies and procedures issued
10 by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection provides that a qualifying patient's caregiver may assist
11 with the cultivation and preparation of such plants for use by the qualifying patient.

12 (4) Such caregiver assistance is authorized by a policy and procedure rather than by statute, is not
13 among the acts for which subsection (b) of section 21a-408b affords protection from arrest, and is
14 limited by subsection (a) of section 21a-408b to a single qualifying patient except where an enumerated
15 relationship exists.

16 (5) Under subsection (b) of section 21a-421j, policies and procedures issued by the commissioner
17 have the force and effect of law and cease to be effective on July 1, 2028 unless adopted as final
18 regulations under section 4-172.

19 (6) Neither section 21a-278c nor subsection (b) of section 21a-408d of the general statutes contains
20 an express requirement that cannabis be cultivated indoors or any requirement concerning visibility, and
21 both requirements are established by said section 21a-421j-39.

22 (7) Subsection (b) of section 21a-408d authorizes a qualifying patient to cultivate three immature
23 cannabis plants without defining that term, and subsection (d) of said section 21a-421j-39 provides that
24 an immature cannabis plant shall be non-flowering and not taller than eight inches and not wider than
25 eight inches.

Sec. 2. Patient cultivation. (Amends CGS § 21a-408d(b) · Effective October 1, 2027)

26 Subsection (b) of section 21a-408d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
27 substituted in lieu thereof:

28 (b) (1) [Any] ANY qualifying patient who is eighteen years of age or older may cultivate up to
 29 [three] SIX mature cannabis plants and [three] TWELVE immature cannabis plants in the patient's
 30 primary residence at any given time, provided such plants are secure from access by any individual other
 31 than the patient, the patient's caregiver OR THE PATIENT'S CULTIVATING CAREGIVER, and no
 32 more than [twelve] TWENTY-FOUR cannabis plants may be grown per household BY QUALIFYING
 33 PATIENTS.

34 (2) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, CULTIVATION “IN THE PATIENT'S
 35 PRIMARY RESIDENCE” INCLUDES CULTIVATION IN AN AREA ON THE GROUNDS OF
 36 SUCH PRIMARY RESIDENCE THAT IS (A) ENCLOSED BY A FENCE, WALL, HEDGE OR
 37 SIMILAR BARRIER OF NOT LESS THAN SIX FEET IN HEIGHT, OR BY AN ACCESSORY
 38 STRUCTURE, GREENHOUSE OR SIMILAR ENCLOSURE, SECURED BY A LOCK OR
 39 COMPARABLE DEVICE AGAINST ENTRY BY ANY INDIVIDUAL OTHER THAN A RESIDENT
 40 OF SUCH PRIMARY RESIDENCE, THE PATIENT'S CAREGIVER OR THE PATIENT'S
 41 CULTIVATING CAREGIVER; AND (B) LOCATED ON REAL PROPERTY THAT THE PATIENT
 42 OWNS, OR WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THE PATIENT HAS OBTAINED THE WRITTEN
 43 CONSENT OF THE OWNER OR THE OWNER'S AGENT.

44 (3) CULTIVATION IN AN AREA DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION
 45 SHALL BE DEEMED TO SATISFY ANY REQUIREMENT, HOWEVER IMPOSED, THAT
 46 CANNABIS PLANTS NOT BE VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC VIEW.

47 (4) CANNABIS PLANTS CULTIVATED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION
 48 SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A NUISANCE SOLELY BY REASON OF THE ODOR OF SUCH
 49 PLANTS. A QUALIFYING PATIENT CULTIVATING CANNABIS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION
 50 SHALL TAKE REASONABLE MEASURES TO MITIGATE ODOR, INCLUDING SITING AND,
 51 FOR INDOOR CULTIVATION, FILTRATION.

52 (5) NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO LIMIT THE
 53 AUTHORITY OF A MUNICIPALITY TO ENFORCE GENERALLY APPLICABLE ORDINANCES
 54 CONCERNING FENCES, ACCESSORY STRUCTURES OR SETBACKS, PROVIDED NO
 55 MUNICIPALITY SHALL ADOPT OR ENFORCE ANY ORDINANCE THAT PROHIBITS
 56 CULTIVATION AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

57 (6) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SECTION 21a-408a, “IMMATURE
 58 CANNABIS PLANT” AND “MATURE CANNABIS PLANT” HAVE THE MEANINGS PROVIDED
 59 IN SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REGULATION, POLICY OR
 60 PROCEDURE ADOPTED OR ISSUED UNDER SECTION 21a-408m, 21a-421j OR 21a-421k.

61 (7) PROPAGULES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT, SHALL NOT BE COUNTED
 62 TOWARD ANY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY THIS SUBSECTION.

63 (8) CANNABIS PLANT MATERIAL DERIVED FROM PLANTS CULTIVATED UNDER THIS
 64 SUBSECTION SHALL NOT BE INCLUDED IN CALCULATING ANY PERSONAL POSSESSION
 65 LIMIT, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 21a-279a, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT.

Sec. 3. Departmental authority over plant location. (Amends CGS § 21a-408m(b)(4) · Effective October 1, 2027)

66 Subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 21a-408m of the general statutes is repealed and the
 67 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

68 (4) Establish requirements for the growing of cannabis plants by a qualifying patient in his or her
 69 primary residence as authorized under section 21a-408d, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT, including

70 requirements for securing such plants to prevent access by any individual other than the patient[,] OR
 71 the patient's caregiver, THE PATIENT'S CULTIVATING CAREGIVER [, the location of such plants]
 72 and any other requirements necessary to protect public health or safety, PROVIDED
 73 NOTWITHSTANDING SECTIONS 21a-421j, 21a-421k AND 21a-420z, NO REGULATION,
 74 POLICY OR PROCEDURE ADOPTED OR ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER, INCLUDING
 75 SECTION 21a-421j-39 OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ISSUED UNDER SECTION
 76 21a-421j, SHALL PROHIBIT OR CONDITION CULTIVATION OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED
 77 UNDER SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 21a-408d, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT, ON THE
 78 GROUND THAT SUCH CULTIVATION OCCURS OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF A DWELLING
 79 UNIT OR THAT THE PLANTS ARE VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC VIEW.

Sec. 4. Cultivating caregiver license; definitions. (NEW · Effective October 1, 2027)

80 (a) As used in this section and sections 5 to 9, inclusive, of this act:

81 (1) “Caregiver”, “cultivation”, “qualifying patient” and “usable cannabis” have the same meanings
 82 as provided in section 21a-408 of the general statutes.

83 (2) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

84 (3) “Cultivating caregiver” means a caregiver who holds a current cultivating caregiver license
 85 issued under subsection (c) of this section.

86 (4) “Designated qualifying patient” means a qualifying patient who has designated a cultivating
 87 caregiver under subsection (d) of this section.

88 (5) “Plant canopy” means the total surface area within a cultivation area dedicated to the cultivation
 89 of mature cannabis plants, calculated in square feet and measured using the outside boundaries of such
 90 area, provided that if such surface area consists of noncontiguous areas each component area shall be
 91 separated by identifiable boundaries, that if a tiered or shelving system is used the surface area of each
 92 tier or shelf shall be included, and that plant canopy does not include any area used solely to cultivate
 93 immature cannabis plants or propagules.

94 (6) “Incidental cannabis material” means cannabis seeds, propagules, stalks, stems, fan leaves, root
 95 material and other cannabis plant material that is not usable cannabis.

96 (7) “Propagule” means a cannabis seed or an unrooted cutting taken from a cannabis plant.

97 (8) “Immature cannabis plant” means a rooted cannabis plant that is not flowering and does not
 98 exceed eighteen inches in height.

99 (9) “Mature cannabis plant” means a cannabis plant that is flowering or that exceeds eighteen
 100 inches in height.

101 (10) “First responder” has the meaning provided in any uniform statutory definition of that term
 102 enacted by the General Assembly. Until such a definition is enacted, “first responder” means a
 103 firefighter, law enforcement officer, paramedic, emergency medical technician or other individual,
 104 including a member of a legally organized volunteer organization whether compensated or not, who in
 105 the course of such individual's duties responds to fire, medical, hazardous material or similar
 106 emergencies, and includes any such individual who is retired from such service.

107 (11) “Direct care health care worker” means an individual who provides hands-on care, treatment
 108 or personal assistance directly to patients in a hospital, nursing home, residential care home, home health
 109 agency, hospice or emergency medical services setting.

110 (12) “Veteran” has the same meaning as provided in section 27-103 of the general statutes.

Authorized conduct.

- 111 (b) A cultivating caregiver license is a state-issued license to cultivate, manufacture and distribute
 112 cannabis for medical purposes. A cultivating caregiver may, for the palliative use of cannabis by a
 113 designated qualifying patient:
- 114 (1) Cultivate cannabis plants on behalf of not more than five designated qualifying patients;
 - 115 (2) cultivate not more than six mature cannabis plants and twelve immature cannabis plants per
 116 designated qualifying patient, provided the total plant canopy maintained by such cultivating caregiver
 117 shall not exceed five hundred square feet;
 - 118 (3) manufacture cannabis for medical use without the use of any inherently hazardous substance;
 - 119 (4) possess cannabis harvested from plants lawfully cultivated under this section, provided such
 120 cannabis is stored at the cultivation site and is secured from access by any individual other than the
 121 cultivating caregiver, a resident of such residence or a designated qualifying patient. The quantity of
 122 cannabis a cultivating caregiver may possess under this subdivision is limited by the number of plants
 123 such cultivating caregiver is authorized to cultivate under subdivision (2) of this subsection, and no
 124 additional quantity may be acquired from any other source for distribution under subdivision (5) of this
 125 subsection;
 - 126 (5) distribute cannabis derived from such plants to a designated qualifying patient or to such
 127 patient's caregiver, provided no consideration is transferred in return except as permitted under
 128 subsection (f) of this section;
 - 129 (6) transport cannabis plants and cannabis between the cultivation site and the residence of a
 130 designated qualifying patient, provided such cannabis is in a locked container and not visible from
 131 outside the vehicle; and
 - 132 (7) possess and furnish cannabis paraphernalia to a designated qualifying patient.

Eligibility and application.

- 133 (c) The commissioner shall establish a cultivating caregiver license. An applicant shall:
- 134 (1) Be twenty-one years of age or older;
 - 135 (2) be a resident of this state;
 - 136 (3) submit to a state and national criminal history records check conducted in accordance with
 137 section 29-17a of the general statutes, and not have been convicted of (A) a felony an element of which
 138 is the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, or (B) a felony
 139 involving the unlawful use, possession, sale or transfer of a firearm;
 - 140 (4) identify the address of the cultivation site and certify that such site complies with subsection (e)
 141 of this section;
 - 142 (5) complete a cultivation, handling and storage education module made available by the
 143 department at no cost; and
 - 144 (6) pay the annual fee prescribed in section 5 of this act.
- 145 No conviction for an offense involving a controlled substance shall constitute a basis for denial,
 146 suspension or revocation of a license under this section.
- 147 License information shall be confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure under section 1-210
 148 of the general statutes, except that the department may disclose to a law enforcement officer, upon
 149 inquiry concerning a specific address or individual, solely whether a current license exists.

Designation, site, reimbursement and prohibitions.

- 150 (d) A qualifying patient may designate one cultivating caregiver by written designation filed with
 151 the department. A qualifying patient who has designated a cultivating caregiver may continue to

152 cultivate under subsection (b) of section 21a-408d, as amended by this act, and may continue to obtain
 153 cannabis from a dispensary facility or hybrid retailer. A designation may be revoked by the qualifying
 154 patient at any time and shall take effect upon filing.

155 (e) A cultivation site shall be (1) the primary residence of the cultivating caregiver or of a
 156 designated qualifying patient, (2) secure from access by any individual other than the cultivating
 157 caregiver, a resident of such residence or a designated qualifying patient, and (3) if located outside the
 158 walls of a dwelling unit, in compliance with subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (b) of section
 159 21a-408d, as amended by this act.

160 (f) A cultivating caregiver may receive reimbursement for documented costs actually incurred in
 161 cultivating cannabis on behalf of a designated qualifying patient. Such reimbursement shall not
 162 constitute the sale of a controlled substance. A cultivating caregiver shall retain records of such costs for
 163 two years and shall provide such records to the department upon written request.

164 (g) No cultivating caregiver shall (1) distribute cannabis to any person other than a designated
 165 qualifying patient or such patient's caregiver, (2) advertise or offer cannabis for sale, (3) hold a
 166 cultivator, micro-cultivator, producer, retailer, hybrid retailer or dispensary facility license, or (4)
 167 cultivate at more than one cultivation site.

168 (h) Incidental cannabis material possessed by a qualifying patient, caregiver or cultivating caregiver
 169 shall not be included in calculating any possession limit or any plant count limit under chapter 420f of
 170 the general statutes.

Sec. 5. Fees; disposition of fee revenue. (NEW · Effective October 1, 2027)

171 (a) The annual fee for a cultivating caregiver license, and for each renewal thereof, shall be:

172 (1) Two hundred forty dollars for authority to cultivate not more than six mature and twelve
 173 immature cannabis plants;

174 (2) four hundred eighty dollars for not more than twelve mature and twenty-four immature plants;

175 (3) seven hundred twenty dollars for not more than eighteen mature and thirty-six immature plants;

176 (4) nine hundred sixty dollars for not more than twenty-four mature and forty-eight immature
 177 plants;

178 (5) one thousand two hundred dollars for not more than thirty mature and sixty immature plants; or

179 (6) in lieu of a plant count, one thousand five hundred dollars for authority to maintain not more
 180 than five hundred square feet of mature plant canopy and one thousand square feet of immature plant
 181 canopy.

182 (b) No fee under this section shall exceed one thousand five hundred dollars. Fees collected under
 183 this section shall be deposited as follows: (1) Fifty per cent to the department for administration of the
 184 licensing program established under sections 4 and 5 of this act and the testing program established
 185 under section 6 of this act, provided the amount retained under this subdivision shall not exceed the
 186 department's documented cost of such administration and any excess shall be transferred under
 187 subdivision (2) of this subsection; and (2) fifty per cent to the Connecticut Compassionate Care Fund
 188 established under section 9 of this act.

189 No fee collected under this section shall be used for enforcement.

190 (c) The commissioner shall waive the fee under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section for
 191 any cultivating caregiver who is a veteran, a first responder, a direct care health care worker, or a
 192 designated qualifying patient's spouse, parent, child or legal guardian.

Sec. 6. Voluntary laboratory testing program. (NEW · Effective July 1, 2027)

193 (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the Cannabis Ombudsman, shall establish a voluntary
 194 testing program under which a qualifying patient, caregiver or cultivating caregiver may submit a
 195 sample of personally cultivated cannabis to a laboratory licensed under this chapter. The program shall
 196 pay such laboratory the difference between its usual fee and a participant copayment, which shall not
 197 exceed fifty dollars per sample, limited to four samples per person per calendar year.

198 (b) Results obtained under this section shall be inadmissible in, and shall not serve as the basis for,
 199 any criminal prosecution, civil enforcement action, administrative proceeding or forfeiture proceeding
 200 against the participant.

201 (c) A laboratory shall report results to the participant and shall report de-identified aggregate results
 202 to the Cannabis Ombudsman, who shall publish an annual summary.

Sec. 7. Enforcement, penalties and limits on entry. (NEW · Effective October 1, 2027)

203 (a) The commissioner may suspend or revoke a cultivating caregiver license after notice and a
 204 hearing conducted in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes.

205 (b) A violation of the site or security requirements of subsection (e) of section 4 of this act shall
 206 carry a civil penalty of one hundred dollars for a first violation together with a written warning, two
 207 hundred dollars for a second violation and three hundred dollars for a third violation. A fourth violation
 208 within a twenty-four-month period shall result in revocation of the license for six months.

209 (c) Unlawful distribution or advertising in violation of subsection (g) of section 4 of this act shall
 210 be subject to penalties under section 21a-278b of the general statutes.

211 (d) Nothing in sections 4 to 9, inclusive, of this act authorizes entry into a dwelling or onto its
 212 curtilage by the department without a warrant issued upon probable cause or the voluntary written
 213 consent of a resident.

214 (e) Nothing in sections 4 to 9, inclusive, of this act requires a licensee to seek any federal
 215 registration, and any such application shall be voluntary. Possession of, or application for, a license
 216 under this act is not evidence of unlawful conduct and shall not support the issuance of a search warrant.

217 (f) The commissioner shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the General
 218 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law, beginning January 1, 2029, on licenses
 219 issued, suspended and revoked, the number of designated qualifying patients, fees collected and their
 220 disposition under subsection (b) of section 5 of this act, and enforcement actions taken.

Sec. 8. Anti-discrimination. (Amends CGS § 21a-408p · Effective October 1, 2027)

221 Section 21a-408p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

222 (a) For the purposes of this section: Subdivisions (1) to (11), inclusive, remain as provided in this
 223 section, and there is added: (12) “CULTIVATING CAREGIVER” HAS THE MEANING PROVIDED
 224 IN SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT.

225 (b) Unless required by federal law or required to obtain federal funding: (1) No school may refuse
 226 to enroll any person or discriminate against any student solely on the basis of such person's or student's
 227 status as a qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver, CULTIVATING CAREGIVER
 228 or qualifying out-of-state caregiver under sections 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive; (2) no landlord may
 229 refuse to rent a dwelling unit to a person or take action against a tenant solely on the basis of such
 230 person's or tenant's status as a qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state patient, caregiver,
 231 CULTIVATING CAREGIVER or qualifying out-of-state caregiver under said sections, PROVIDED
 232 NOTHING IN THIS SUBDIVISION REQUIRES A LANDLORD TO PERMIT CULTIVATION ON

233 THE PREMISES IN VIOLATION OF A WRITTEN LEASE TERM OF GENERAL APPLICATION;
 234 and (3) no employer may refuse to hire a person or may discharge, penalize or threaten an employee
 235 solely on the basis of such person's or employee's status as a qualifying patient, qualifying out-of-state
 236 patient, caregiver, CULTIVATING CAREGIVER or qualifying out-of-state caregiver under said
 237 sections. Nothing in this subdivision shall restrict an employer's ability to prohibit the use of intoxicating
 238 substances during work hours or restrict an employer's ability to discipline an employee for being under
 239 the influence of intoxicating substances during work hours.

240 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the palliative use of cannabis in violation of
 241 subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-408a.

242 (d) NO COURT SHALL CONSIDER STATUS AS A QUALIFYING PATIENT, CAREGIVER
 243 OR CULTIVATING CAREGIVER, STANDING ALONE, AS A FACTOR ADVERSE TO A PARTY
 244 IN ANY PROCEEDING CONCERNING CUSTODY OF OR VISITATION WITH A CHILD.

245 (e) NO STATE OR MUNICIPAL AGENCY SHALL DENY A LICENSE, PERMIT, BENEFIT
 246 OR PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF SUCH STATUS.

Sec. 9. Connecticut Compassionate Care Fund. (NEW · Effective July 1, 2027)

247 (a) There is established a fund to be known as the “Connecticut Compassionate Care Fund”, which
 248 shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The fund shall contain moneys required
 249 by law to be deposited in the fund and may receive gifts, grants and donations from public or private
 250 sources. Moneys in the fund shall be expended only for the purposes set forth in this section and shall
 251 not be transferred, diverted or appropriated for any other purpose.

252 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall administer the fund to assist qualifying
 253 patients, caregivers and cultivating caregivers who demonstrate financial need with (1) the cost of a
 254 criminal history records check required under subsection (c) of section 4 of this act, (2) the annual fee
 255 prescribed in section 5 of this act, (3) the participant copayment under section 6 of this act, and (4) the
 256 cost of cannabis obtained from a dispensary facility or hybrid retailer.

257 (c) Financial need shall be presumed for any person who is enrolled in the Medicaid program, is a
 258 recipient of benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, or is a recipient of
 259 Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance. The commissioner may establish
 260 additional criteria by which financial need may be demonstrated.

261 (d) In administering the fund the commissioner shall give priority to a qualifying patient who is a
 262 veteran, a first responder or a direct care health care worker.

263 (e) Not more than ten per cent of amounts expended from the fund in any fiscal year may be used
 264 for administration of the fund.

265 (f) The commissioner shall report annually, beginning January 1, 2029, to the joint standing
 266 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law and to
 267 appropriations, on deposits to and expenditures from the fund, the number of persons assisted, and the
 268 categories of assistance provided.

Sec. 10. Federal contingency. (NEW · Effective from passage)

269 No provision of this act shall be construed to require any person to violate federal law. If any
 270 federal statute, regulation or order is amended, repealed or judicially invalidated in a manner that affects
 271 the classification of cannabis, the provisions of this act shall remain in full force and effect according to
 272 their terms as a matter of state law.

Sec. 11. Construction; limitation on administrative modification. (NEW · Effective October 1, 2027)

273 The rights and limits established by sections 2, 4 and 5 of this act shall not be narrowed,
274 conditioned or suspended by any regulation, policy or procedure adopted or issued under section
275 21a-408m, 21a-421j, 21a-421k or 21a-420z of the general statutes, including section 21a-421j-39 of the
276 policies and procedures issued under said section 21a-421j. This section applies without regard to
277 whether such policies and procedures have been adopted as final regulations under section 4-172 or have
278 ceased to be effective under subsection (b) of said section 21a-421j. Nothing in this section limits the
279 commissioner's authority to adopt requirements that are consistent with, and do not restrict, the authority
280 granted by this act.

Sec. 12. Personal possession limit. (Amends CGS § 21a-279a(a) · Effective October 1, 2027)

281 The last sentence of subsection (a) of section 21a-279a of the general statutes is repealed and the
282 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

283 On and after July 1, 2023, a person's personal possession limit does not include any live plant or
284 cannabis plant material derived from any live plant cultivated by such person in accordance with the
285 provisions of section 21a-278c OR SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 21a-408d, AS AMENDED BY
286 THIS ACT.

Sec. 13. Sale of seeds, seedlings and immature plants. (Amends CGS § 21a-420p(f) · Effective October 1, 2027)

287 Subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 21a-420p of the general statutes is repealed and the
288 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

289 (1) A micro-cultivator may sell cannabis seedlings cultivated at its micro-cultivator establishment
290 directly to consumers, [excluding qualifying patients, qualifying out-of-state patients, caregivers and
291 qualifying out-of-state caregivers,] solely through delivery by either utilizing a delivery service or its
292 own employees OR AT ITS LICENSED PREMISES, subject to the requirements of subsection (c) of
293 section 21a-420c. A DISPENSARY FACILITY, HYBRID RETAILER, RETAILER, CULTIVATOR,
294 MICRO-CULTIVATOR OR PRODUCER MAY SELL CANNABIS SEEDS, SEEDLINGS AND
295 IMMATURE CANNABIS PLANTS TO A CONSUMER, QUALIFYING PATIENT, CAREGIVER
296 OR CULTIVATING CAREGIVER AT ITS LICENSED PREMISES OR THROUGH A DELIVERY
297 SERVICE, AND MAY ACQUIRE SUCH SEEDS, SEEDLINGS AND IMMATURE PLANTS AT
298 WHOLESALE FROM ANY LICENSED CULTIVATOR, MICRO-CULTIVATOR OR PRODUCER.
299 [No cannabis establishment other than a micro-cultivator shall sell cannabis seedlings to consumers, and
300 no cannabis establishment other than a delivery service or a micro-cultivator utilizing its own employees
301 shall deliver cannabis seedlings cultivated and sold by a micro-cultivator to consumers.]

302 (4) ALL SALES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE
303 SEED-TO-SALE TRACKING SYSTEM ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 21a-421n.
304 NOTWITHSTANDING SUBDIVISION (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION AS IT APPLIES TO
305 CONSUMERS, THE QUANTITY A QUALIFYING PATIENT, CAREGIVER OR CULTIVATING
306 CAREGIVER MAY PURCHASE SHALL NOT EXCEED THE NUMBER OF PLANTS SUCH
307 PERSON IS AUTHORIZED TO CULTIVATE UNDER SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 21a-408d,
308 AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT, OR SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT, AS APPLICABLE, AND THE
309 LIMIT OF THREE CANNABIS SEEDLINGS IN ANY SIX-MONTH PERIOD SHALL NOT APPLY
310 TO SUCH PURCHASES. NO LIMIT SHALL APPLY TO THE PURCHASE OF CANNABIS SEEDS.

311 (5) A SALE OF CANNABIS SEEDS, SEEDLINGS OR IMMATURE CANNABIS PLANTS TO

312 A QUALIFYING PATIENT OR CAREGIVER SHALL CONSTITUTE A SALE FOR PALLIATIVE
313 USE FOR PURPOSES OF SUBDIVISION (120) OF SECTION 12-412.

314 (6) A SELLER SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN CULTIVATION GUIDANCE AT NO CHARGE
315 AT THE POINT OF SALE. NO SELLER SHALL BE LIABLE IN ANY CIVIL ACTION FOR THE
316 MANNER IN WHICH A PURCHASER SUBSEQUENTLY CULTIVATES SUCH SEED, SEEDLING
317 OR PLANT. NOTHING IN THIS SUBDIVISION LIMITS LIABILITY FOR THE CONDITION OF
318 THE SEED, SEEDLING OR PLANT AT THE TIME OF SALE.

319 Nothing in this section alters the requirements of subdivision (2) of this subsection concerning
320 Connecticut origin, height, absence of bud or flower, testing for pesticides and heavy metals, or labeling.

Sec. 14. Caregiver patient limit and protection from arrest. (Amends CGS § 21a-408b · Effective October 1, 2027)

321 Subsections (a) and (b) of section 21a-408b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is
322 substituted in lieu thereof:

323 (a) No person may serve as a caregiver for a qualifying patient unless such qualifying patient has a
324 valid registration certificate from the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of
325 section 21a-408d. A caregiver may not be responsible for the care of more than one qualifying patient at
326 any time, except that a caregiver may be responsible for the care of more than one qualifying patient if
327 [the caregiver and each qualifying patient have a parental, grandparental, guardianship, conservatorship,
328 spousal or sibling relationship] (1) THE CAREGIVER AND EACH QUALIFYING PATIENT HAVE
329 A PARENTAL, GRANDPARENTAL, GUARDIANSHIP, CONSERVATORSHIP, SPOUSAL OR
330 SIBLING RELATIONSHIP, OR (2) THE CAREGIVER HOLDS A CURRENT CULTIVATING
331 CAREGIVER LICENSE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT, IN WHICH CASE SUCH
332 CAREGIVER MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR NOT MORE THAN FIVE DESIGNATED
333 QUALIFYING PATIENTS.

334 (b) (1) A caregiver who has a valid registration certificate from the Department of Consumer
335 Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-408d and complies with the requirements of sections
336 21a-408 to 21a-408m, inclusive, shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner,
337 including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege,
338 including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by a professional licensing board,
339 for the acquisition, CULTIVATION, distribution, possession or transportation of cannabis or
340 paraphernalia related to cannabis on behalf of such caregiver's qualifying patient, provided the amount
341 of any cannabis so acquired, distributed, possessed or transported, together with the combined amount of
342 usable cannabis possessed by the qualifying patient and the caregiver, does not exceed five ounces. THE
343 FIVE-OUNCE LIMIT IN THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL NOT APPLY TO CANNABIS
344 CULTIVATED BY A CULTIVATING CAREGIVER UNDER SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT OR BY A
345 QUALIFYING PATIENT UNDER SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 21a-408d, AS AMENDED BY
346 THIS ACT.

347 (2) A CAREGIVER MAY ASSIST A QUALIFYING PATIENT WITH THE CULTIVATION
348 AND PREPARATION OF CANNABIS PLANTS CULTIVATED BY SUCH PATIENT UNDER
349 SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 21a-408d, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT. THIS SUBDIVISION IS
350 DECLARATORY OF EXISTING AUTHORITY AND SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO IMPLY
351 THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE WAS NOT PREVIOUSLY PERMITTED.

352 (3) A qualifying out-of-state caregiver who complies with the requirements of this chapter and
353 chapter 420h shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not

354 limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited
 355 to, being subject to any disciplinary action by a professional licensing board, for the acquisition,
 356 distribution, possession or transportation of cannabis or paraphernalia related to cannabis on behalf of
 357 such qualifying out-of-state caregiver's qualifying out-of-state patient, provided the amount of any
 358 cannabis so acquired, distributed, possessed or transported, together with the combined amount of usable
 359 cannabis possessed by the qualifying out-of-state patient and the qualifying out-of-state caregiver, does
 360 not exceed five ounces.

361 (4) For the purposes of this subsection, “distribution” or “distributed” means the transfer of
 362 cannabis and paraphernalia related to cannabis from the caregiver to the qualifying patient or from the
 363 qualifying out-of-state caregiver to the qualifying out-of-state patient.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section	Effective date and statute affected
Section 1	October 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2027 · 21a-408d(b)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2027 · 21a-408m(b)(4)
Sec. 4	October 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 5	October 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 6	July 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 7	October 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 8	October 1, 2027 · 21a-408p
Sec. 9	July 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 10	From passage · New section
Sec. 11	October 1, 2027 · New section
Sec. 12	October 1, 2027 · 21a-279a(a)
Sec. 13	October 1, 2027 · 21a-420p(f)
Sec. 14	October 1, 2027 · 21a-408b

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a medical cannabis cultivating caregiver license, increase patient cultivation limits, permit secured outdoor cultivation at a patient's primary residence, establish license fees and direct their disposition, establish the Connecticut Compassionate Care Fund, establish a voluntary laboratory testing program, limit departmental authority over the location of cannabis plants, extend anti-discrimination protections to cultivating caregivers, limit entry onto residential property, and establish penalties and reporting requirements.