

SENATE BILL 552

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9lr2596
CF 9lr2597

By: **Senators Lee, Carter, Cassilly, Feldman, Guzzone, Hough, Nathan–Pulliam, Ready, Smith, Waldstreicher, Washington, and West**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission – Prohibitions on Former**
3 **Employees and Commissioners**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting former employees of the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical
5 Cannabis Commission and former commissioners of the Commission from being an
6 owner or an employee of a certain business entity that holds a certain license or from
7 having an official relationship with a certain business entity for a certain time
8 period; and generally relating to prohibitions on former employees and
9 commissioners of the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 13–3305.1
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 13–3305.1.

19 (a) In this section, “owner” includes any type of owner or beneficiary of a business
20 entity, including an officer, a director, a principal employee, a partner, an investor, a
21 stockholder, or a beneficial owner of the business entity and, notwithstanding any other
22 provision of this subtitle, a person having any ownership interest regardless of the
23 percentage of ownership interest.

24 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a constitutional officer or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 a secretary of a principal department of the Executive Branch of the State government may
2 not:

3 (1) Be an owner or an employee of any business entity that holds a license
4 under this subtitle; or

5 (2) Have an official relationship to a business entity that holds a license
6 under this subtitle.

7 (c) A constitutional officer or a secretary of a principal department of the
8 Executive Branch of the State government may remain an owner or an employee of a
9 business entity that holds a license under this subtitle if the constitutional officer or
10 secretary was an owner or employee of the business entity before the constitutional officer's
11 election or appointment or the secretary's appointment.

12 (d) A former member of the General Assembly, for the 1-year period immediately
13 after the member leaves office, may not:

14 (1) Be an owner or an employee of any business entity that holds a license
15 under this subtitle; or

16 (2) Have an official relationship with a business entity that holds a license
17 under this subtitle.

18 **(E) A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF THE COMMISSION, FOR THE 1-YEAR PERIOD**
19 **IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EMPLOYEE IS NO LONGER EMPLOYED BY THE**
20 **COMMISSION, MAY NOT:**

21 **(1) BE AN OWNER OR AN EMPLOYEE OF ANY BUSINESS ENTITY THAT**
22 **HOLDS A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; OR**

23 **(2) HAVE AN OFFICIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A BUSINESS ENTITY**
24 **THAT HOLDS A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

25 **(F) A FORMER COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMISSION, FOR THE 1-YEAR**
26 **PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMISSIONER IS NO LONGER SERVING AS A**
27 **COMMISSIONER, MAY NOT:**

28 **(1) BE AN OWNER OR AN EMPLOYEE OF ANY BUSINESS ENTITY THAT**
29 **HOLDS A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; OR**

30 **(2) HAVE AN OFFICIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A BUSINESS ENTITY**
31 **THAT HOLDS A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

1 October 1, 2019.