

HOUSE BILL 1424

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EMERGENCY BILL

9lr3319

By: **Delegates Ivey, Acevero, D. Barnes, Charles, J. Lewis, Mosby, Sydnor, R. Watson, and Wilson**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 6, 2019

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission Transparency Act of 2019**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission to
4 publish on its website at least a certain number of days before soliciting certain
5 applications a certain description of the process used by the Commission to approve
6 or deny an application for a medical cannabis grower, dispensary, or processor
7 license; requiring that a certain description include certain information; requiring
8 the Commission to submit a certain report to the General Assembly on a certain date
9 each time information is published under certain provisions of this Act; requiring the
10 Commission to publish and report certain information within a certain period of time
11 under certain circumstances; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally
12 relating to the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Health – General

15 Section 13–3305.4

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Health – General**

21 **13–3305.4.**

22 **(A) AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE SOLICITING APPLICATIONS FOR A MEDICAL**
23 **CANNABIS GROWER, DISPENSARY, OR PROCESSOR LICENSE, THE COMMISSION**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SHALL PUBLISH ON ITS WEBSITE A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCESS USED BY THE
2 COMMISSION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN APPLICATION FOR THE TYPE OF LICENSE
3 BEING SOLICITED.

4 (B) THE DESCRIPTION REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

5 (1) THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE COMMISSION WEIGHTS, SCORES, OR
6 RANKS APPLICATIONS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE:

7 (I) A REFERENCE TO THE COMMISSION'S REGULATIONS AND A
8 LINK TO THE REGULATIONS REFERENCED; AND

9 (II) A LINK TO THE PAGE ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE
10 CONTAINING THE INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSION IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE
11 UNDER § 13-3302(E) OF THIS SUBTITLE;

12 (2) THE NAME OF ANY THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR THAT HAS BEEN
13 HIRED TO WEIGHT, SCORE, OR RANK THE TYPE OF APPLICATION BEING SOLICITED;

14 (3) THE NAMES OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS WHO WILL
15 PARTICIPATE IN THE WEIGHTING, SCORING, RANKING, OR APPROVING OF
16 APPLICATIONS;

17 (4) HOW THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS, INCLUDING BY WEIGHTING,
18 SCORING, OR RANKING, THE MINORITY OWNERSHIP OF A BUSINESS WHEN
19 EVALUATING AN APPLICATION; AND

20 (5) ANY ACTIONS, IF AVAILABLE, AN APPLICANT MAY TAKE IF AN
21 APPLICATION IS REJECTED BY THE COMMISSION.

22 (C) EACH TIME INFORMATION IS PUBLISHED AS REQUIRED UNDER THIS
23 SECTION, ON THE DATE THE INFORMATION IS PUBLISHED, THE COMMISSION SHALL
24 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF
25 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, CONTAINING THE INFORMATION PUBLISHED
26 UNDER THIS SECTION.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if the Natalie M. LaPrade
28 Medical Cannabis Commission solicits a medical cannabis grower, dispensary, or processor
29 license application within 30 days after the effective date of this Act, the Commission shall
30 publish and report the information required under § 13-3305.4 of the Health – General
31 Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, within 15 days after the effective date of this
32 Act.

33 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency

1 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
2 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
3 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
4 enacted.