

Governor's Advisory Task Force on Recreational Marijuana

Met Monday @ 11:00am

May 15th, 2023

Members: Leif Abel, Brandon Emmett, Fadil Limani, Sam Hachey, Bryan Scoresby, Dru Malone, Aaron Stiasny, Jana Weltzin, Joan Wilson

Absent: Gary Evans, Nick Miller, David Pruhs, Ryan Tunseth

Support: Maya Ali & Bailey Stuart

Agenda Items	Discussion	Decision(s)/Conclusions
<p>Agenda approval for May 15th, 2023 meeting</p> <p>Approval of May 1st, 2023 meeting minutes</p>	<p>Leif Abel motions to approve the May 15th, 2023 agenda.</p> <p>Sam Hachey seconds motion.</p> <p>Task Force members voted unanimously in favor; motion is approved.</p> <p>Fadil Limani motions to approve the May 1st, 2023 meeting minutes.</p> <p>Sam Hachey seconds motion.</p> <p>Task Force members voted in favor 7-0; motion is approved. *</p> <p>A: Leif Abel, Joan Wilson</p> <p>*See Zoom transcribe for full discussion.</p>	<p>The Task Force approved May 15th, 2023 meeting agenda.</p> <p>The Task Force approved May 1st, 2023 meeting minutes.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>No public comment.</p> <p>Public comment was reopened up at 11:29am.</p> <p><i>Robert Christie "I'm Robert from Cannabaska... I believe that if we get rid of all taxes on cultivation then we're going to have an explosion in the amount of cultivation and its going to negatively affect business, and there'll be people selling all that product to the black market. So I think getting rid of all taxes on cultivations it's a personally bad idea. It would be nice if we split it. More of the State will essentially get the same tax revenue from putting the proposed 3 to 5% on retail going forward. But we'll have an explosion like California, and the number of cultivation and the black</i></p>	

	<p><i>market will grow, and it will put the strong arm in the hands of everybody who owns a retail. Obviously, in Fairbanks, they've put a cap on retail, so it will be negative for the community, which is what we really don't want to do going forward. I think it's good to have regulatory oversight in the form of the taxes for all the cultivators. Even if we shrink it down to 25% of what it is now. Because we've seen that happen in California. The amount of black market grows. The amount of black market grows and grew quiet a bit in the black market and sells to the legal market there... Say we have 10 AMCO (Alcohol Marijuana Control Office) officers, how are they going to police 10,000 grows that are going to be selling to black markets because there is no tax oversight? They can just have a building, you know all these people, that won't be able to sell to retailers because the market will be flooded, and I'll give people \$500 for weed, because the market will be flooded with weed that we just got to go somewhere. They'll sell to the black market and the black market will... I think getting rid of taxes altogether on cultivations is bad, because it really just puts the power of the retailer and the extractors hands."</i></p> <p>Public comment closed at 11:33am.</p>	
<p>Update on HB 119</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jana Weltzin believes that after the regular legislation session ends there will be some hearings in the special session, but it doesn't not sound like they will get another hearing before next session. • The House Labor and Commerce committee responded to Co-chair Brandon Emmett's letter that they appreciated the Task Force's thoughts on suggested bill language. They are hoping to pass the bill in 2024. 	<p>The House Labor and Commerce committee hopes to pass HB 119 in the 2024 legislative session.</p>
<p>Additional Proposed Regulatory Change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sam Hachey would like to ensure the plant tag regulatory change be added to the draft letter that was addressed in his recommendation. • Director Joan Wilson will ensure that the letter this Task Force produces will be placed on the Marijuana Control Board agenda as a discussion item. • Director Joan Wilson mentions they just finished drafting overlapping premises regulations for the alcohol licenses. One of the issues that was addressed in regulation was who was responsible if something went wrong. The solution was that if you could track it to one of the license types that is who's responsible. 	<p>The Task Force motion to make the recommendation that overlapping restricted access areas owned by the same entity be permissible.</p>

	<p>But if you cannot, both are responsible.</p> <p>Jana Weltzin motions to add the regulatory change that overlapping restricted access areas are permissible when owned by the same entity.</p> <p>Aaron Stiassny seconds motion.</p> <p>Task Force members voted in favor; motion is approved.</p>	
Drafting Task Force Final Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brandon Emmett, Aaron Stiassny and Jana Weltzin volunteered to draft the report. Joan Wilson will facilitate in editing along with Brandon Emmett. These members form the drafting and editing subcommittee. • The committee's goal is to draft the report prior to the May 22nd, 2023 meeting in order to gain the Task Force endorsement. 	Brandon Emmett, Aaron Stiassny, Jana Weltzin and Joan Wilson will form the drafting and editing subcommittee and will return to the May 22nd with a draft letter.
Adjournment	<p>Meeting adjourned at 11:41am.</p> <p>Next Task Force meeting is scheduled for May 22nd, 2023 at 11:00am</p>	<p>Meeting Adjourned at 11:41am.</p> <p>Next meeting is scheduled for May 22nd, 2023 at 11:00am</p>