

# MA State legislation and regulations

## A Legal Summary

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### Abstract

The following is a legal summary of Massachusetts state legislation that legalized recreational cannabis beginning in 2016. The purpose of this summary is to give a high-level overview of the key parts of the legislation and make clear the potential implications to prospective licensees.

HOOG™ asked our original law firm to prepare for us a summary of all the details, which may aid in the design of our open-source software suite. As part of our commitment to open-sourcing cannabis knowledge, we're proud to provide this summary to the open internet for free.

## 1 Change Log

v0.1 published quick facts

## 2 Quick Facts

- Cannabis legislation was first signed by Governor Charlie Baker on December 30, 2016 and the start date for legal licensed recreational cannabis sales was set to July 2018.
- The legislation legalizing recreational cannabis was signed into effect on July 28, 2017 and permitted an individual to carry up to 1 ounce and have up to 10 ounces in their private residence.
- The Cannabis Control Commission took administrative charge of the industry late 2018 and was tasked with leading the promulgating regulations regarding marijuana, processing business applications and issuing licenses.
- The Cannabis Control Commission had the duty of creating procedures and policies that promoted and encouraged full participation in the regulated industry by people from communities that have been previously disproportionately harmed by prohibition and enforcement. They were also in charge of positively impacting these harmed communities.

- Cities and towns were given the power to require permits, block stores to sell recreationally (by zoning bylaws) and also from locating their sales in the city at all. To do this, a ban must be approved by the majority of voters in the municipality or otherwise the city council can approve the ban on its own.

### **3 Medical vs. Recreational Distinctions**

*Coming soon*

### **4 Licensing**

*Coming soon*

### **5 Taxation**

*Coming soon*