

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 289(L&C)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/16/22

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HOPKINS, Rasmussen, Nelson, Schrage, Spohnholz, Tarr, Drummond, Josephson

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the Alaska marijuana industry task force; and providing for an**
2 **effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** The uncoded law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 ALASKA MARIJUANA INDUSTRY TASK FORCE. (a) The Alaska marijuana
7 industry task force is established in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic
8 Development. The purpose of the task force is to

9 (1) review, with the assistance of the Department of Revenue, the Department
10 of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, and the Marijuana Control Board,
11 the existing marijuana taxation and fee structure in the state;

12 (2) model how potential changes to the marijuana taxation and fee structure
13 would affect the flow of revenue to state and municipal governments;

14 (3) model how potential changes would affect the viability of marijuana

1 businesses in the state;

2 (4) propose changes relating to licensing, regulations, enforcement, fees, and
3 taxation in the marijuana industry of the state;

4 (5) identify and propose ways the state can work with the marijuana industry
5 to improve access of businesses and business owners to state programs and services;

6 (6) propose ways for the state to preserve the current structure of marijuana
7 businesses owned and operated by residents of the state; and

8 (7) propose any necessary changes to the composition of the Alaska Marijuana
9 Control Board.

10 (b) The task force consists of the following 13 members:

11 (1) the chair of the Marijuana Control Board, who shall chair the task force;

12 (2) the commissioner of revenue or the commissioner's designee;

13 (3) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development,
14 or the commissioner's designee;

15 (4) an economist from the University of Alaska appointed by the president of
16 the university;

17 (5) three local government officials appointed by the president of the Alaska
18 Municipal League, one of whom is a borough official, one of whom is a city official, one of
19 whom is a mayor, and each of whom resides in a different judicial district;

20 (6) three members representing cultivation, manufacturing, and retail cannabis
21 businesses appointed by the board of directors of the Alaska Marijuana Industry Association,
22 one of whom represents a business that is not a member of the Alaska Marijuana Industry
23 Association, and each of whom resides in a different judicial district;

24 (7) one member of the senate appointed by the president of the senate;

25 (8) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of
26 the house of representatives; and

27 (9) a public health professional appointed by the governor.

28 (c) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original
29 selection or appointment.

30 (d) Members of the task force serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem
31 authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

1 (e) The task force shall

2 (1) meet by telephone or other means of communication that ensures all
3 members participating can hear each other during the meeting at least four times to fulfill the
4 purpose of the task force;

5 (2) ensure members are available for legislative hearings; and

6 (3) on or before December 31, 2022, submit to the senate secretary, the chief
7 clerk of the house of representatives, the governor, and the Marijuana Control Board a report
8 consisting of its recommendations, and notify the legislature that the report is available.

9 (f) A meeting of the task force may not take place in person.

10 (g) The task force terminates when the First Regular Session of the Thirty-Third
11 Alaska State Legislature convenes.

12 (h) In this section, "task force" means the Alaska marijuana industry task force.

13 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).