

**First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 15-0336.01 Michael Dohr x4347

**SENATE BILL 15-196**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marble, Hodge**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lebsock, Saine**

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**Senate Committees**

Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy  
Finance  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING MEASURES TO ENSURE INDUSTRIAL HEMP REMAINS**  
102            **BELOW A DELTA-9 TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL CONCENTRATION**  
103            **OF NO MORE THAN THREE-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT ON A DRY**  
104            **WEIGHT BASIS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**  
105            **APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill expands the industrial hemp committee to include a representative from cannabidiol industry and a representative from the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

certified seed growers industry. The bill requires the department of agriculture to administer an industrial hemp certified seed program (program). The department may import seeds for the program. The commissioner of agriculture (commissioner), in consultation with the industrial hemp committee and independent seed producers, shall promulgate rules for the program. The commissioner shall designate laboratories that an industrial hemp registrant may use for THC concentration testing purposes. The bill permits retail marijuana testing facility licensees to test industrial hemp for THC concentration levels. Current law provides criminal immunity from those processing, selling, and distributing industrial hemp. The bill extends that immunity to transporting and possessing hemp.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-43.4-405, amend**

3 (1) as follows:

4 **12-43.4-405. Retail marijuana testing facility license - rules.**

5 (1) A retail marijuana testing facility license may be issued to a person  
6 who performs testing and research on retail marijuana AND INDUSTRIAL  
7 HEMP AS REGULATED BY ARTICLE 61 OF TITLE 35, C.R.S. The facility may  
8 develop and test retail marijuana products AND INDUSTRIAL HEMP AS  
9 REGULATED BY ARTICLE 61 OF TITLE 35, C.R.S. PRIOR TO PERFORMING  
10 TESTING ON INDUSTRIAL HEMP, A FACILITY SHALL VERIFY THAT THE  
11 PERSON REQUESTING THE TESTING HAS RECEIVED A REGISTRATION FROM  
12 THE COMMISSIONER AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 35-61-104, C.R.S.

13 **SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-61-103, amend**

14 (1) (a) introductory portion and (1) (a) (VIII); and add (1) (a) (X) and (1)  
15 (a) (XI) as follows:

16 **35-61-103. Industrial hemp committee - appointments - duties**

17 **- coordination with department.** (1) (a) The industrial hemp committee  
18 is hereby established. The chair of the agriculture, livestock, and natural  
19 resources committee in the house of representatives and the chair of the

1 agriculture, natural resources, and energy committee in the senate shall  
2 jointly appoint ~~nine~~ ELEVEN members to the industrial hemp committee  
3 as follows:

4 (VIII) One member who is a citizen advocate for industrial hemp;  
5 and

6 (X) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE  
7 CANNABINOID INDUSTRY; AND

8 (XI) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS CERTIFIED SEED GROWERS.

9 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-61-104.5, **add**  
10 (1.5) as follows:

11 **35-61-104.5. Research - certified seed program - fees.**

12 (1.5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER A CERTIFIED SEED PROGRAM  
13 THAT IDENTIFIES SEEDS THAT PRODUCE INDUSTRIAL HEMP. IN  
14 ACCORDANCE WITH ALL FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS,  
15 THE DEPARTMENT MAY IMPORT SEEDS TO DEVELOP THE CERTIFIED SEED  
16 PROGRAM.

17 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 35-61-105.5 as  
18 follows:

19 **35-61-105.5. Testing laboratories.** IF A PERSON REGISTERED  
20 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE WANTS A LICENSED RETAIL MARIJUANA  
21 TESTING FACILITY TO PERFORM TESTING ON THE INDUSTRIAL HEMP THAT  
22 THE REGISTRANT IS CULTIVATING, THAT PERSON SHALL USE     A RADIO  
23 FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION-BASED INVENTORY TRACKING SYSTEM  
24 APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR A SAMPLE OF THE REGISTRANT'S  
25 INDUSTRIAL HEMP CROP. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ONLY APPROVE AN  
26 INVENTORY TRACKING SYSTEM IF THAT SYSTEM IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE  
27 STATE LICENSING AUTHORITY'S SEED-TO-SALE TRACKING SYSTEM

1 REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-43.4-202 (1), C.R.S. A LICENSED  
2 RETAIL TESTING FACILITY SHALL PROVIDE THE TEST RESULTS TO THE  
3 REGISTRANT AND THE COMMISSIONER. ALL TEST RESULTS SHALL BE  
4 CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION. THIS SECTION SHALL  
5 NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PREVENT THE USE OF THE TRACKING SYSTEM FOR  
6 OTHER PURPOSES.

7 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-61-106, **amend**  
8 **(2)** as follows:

9 **35-61-106. Industrial hemp registration program cash fund -**  
10 **industrial hemp research grant cash fund - fees.** (2) The commissioner  
11 shall collect a fee from persons applying for a registration pursuant to this  
12 article. The commissioner shall set ~~the fee~~ A FEE SCHEDULE based on the  
13 size AND USE of the land area on which the person will conduct industrial  
14 hemp operations and shall set the fee SCHEDULE at a level sufficient to  
15 generate the amount of moneys necessary to cover the department's direct  
16 and indirect costs in implementing this article. The commissioner shall  
17 transmit the fees collected pursuant to this section to the state treasurer  
18 for deposit in the fund.

19 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-61-108, **amend**  
20 **(2)** as follows:

21 **35-61-108. Exportation of industrial hemp - processing, sale,**  
22 **and distribution.** (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a  
23 person engaged in processing, selling, TRANSPORTING, POSSESSING, or  
24 otherwise distributing industrial hemp cultivated by a person registered  
25 under this article, or selling industrial hemp products produced therefrom,  
26 is not subject to any civil or criminal actions under Colorado law for  
27 engaging in such activities. THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE RULES

1 TO REQUIRE APPROVED SHIPPING DOCUMENTATION FOR THE  
2 TRANSPORTATION OF HEMP.

3 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-28.8-501, amend  
4 (2) (b) (XIV); add (4) (c) and (4.5) as follows:

5 **39-28.8-501. Marijuana tax cash fund - creation - distribution**  
6 **- repeal.** (2) (b) Subject to the limitations in subsection (5) of this  
7 section, any moneys in the fund that are not appropriated to the  
8 department of revenue pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (2) are  
9 subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly for any fiscal year  
10 following the fiscal year in which they were received by the state. The  
11 general assembly shall initially appropriate moneys in the fund based on  
12 the most recent estimate of revenue prepared by the staff of the legislative  
13 council or the department of revenue for the applicable fiscal year. The  
14 general assembly may appropriate moneys in the fund for the following  
15 purposes:

16 (XIV) The industrial hemp grant research program AND CERTIFIED  
17 SEED PROGRAM created in section 35-61-104.5, C.R.S.; and

18 (4) The state treasurer shall make the following transfers from the  
19 fund to the general fund:

20 (c) ON JULY 1, 2015, TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND FIVE  
21 HUNDRED DOLLARS.

22 (4.5) ON JULY 1, 2015, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER  
23 TWO HUNDRED FORTY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-THREE  
24 DOLLARS FROM THE FUND TO THE INDUSTRIAL HEMP REGISTRATION  
25 PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN 35-61-106, C.R.S.

26 **SECTION 8. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2015-16 state fiscal  
27 year, \$249,763 cash funds are appropriated to the department of

1 agriculture. This appropriation is from the industrial hemp registration  
2 program cash fund created in section 35-61-106 (1), C.R.S. To implement  
3 this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows:

4 (a) \$188,237 for use by the division of plant industry for personal  
5 services, which amount is based on an assumption that the division will  
6 require an additional 2.0 FTE;

7 (b) \$57,746 for use by the division for operating expenses; and

8 (c) \$3,780 for the purchase of legal services.

9 (2) For the 2015-16 state fiscal year, \$3,780 is appropriated to the  
10 department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds  
11 received from the department of agriculture under paragraph (c) of  
12 subsection (1) of this section. To implement this act, the department of  
13 law may use this appropriation to provide legal services for the  
14 department of agriculture.

15 **SECTION 9. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
16 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
17 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
18 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a  
19 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
20 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
21 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
22 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
23 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
24 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.