

Frequently Asked Questions Related to the Establishment of Retail Cannabis Operations

DRAFT as of 12-17-2020

- If the vote passes, will the Town be able to decide where cannabis retailers are located in Richmond?
 - There are not limitations on location in the bill, however location limitations may be imposed by a rule from the Cannabis Control Board perhaps as early as April 2021.
 - At this point it is unclear what control municipalities will have on the location of cannabis retailers. There is ongoing work at Vermont League of Cities and Towns and the Vermont Planners Association to determine how to incorporate cannabis retailers into zoning.
- If the vote passes, will the Town receive revenue from hosting cannabis retailers?
 - The town will receive no tax revenue and no revenue will be shared from the state assessed taxes. The only revenue that the Town would receive is from licensing fees.
 - The Town may vote to add a 1% local option tax in the future. This tax would apply to retail sales of cannabis as well as all other retail sales in the Town of Richmond. The State retains a portion of the revenue generated by this tax and the Town receives the remaining amount.
- Can cannabis retailers sell cannabis online?
 - No. Internet ordering and delivery of cannabis to consumers are prohibited
- What is the difference between a cannabis retailer and an integrated licensee?
 - “Cannabis retailer” means a person licensed by the Cannabis Control Board to sell cannabis and cannabis products to adults 21 years of age and older for off-site consumption.
 - “Integrated license” shall allow the licensee to engage in the activities of a cultivator, wholesaler, product manufacturer, retailer, and testing laboratory.
 - An integrated license is only available to an applicant and its affiliates that hold a dispensary registration on April 1, 2022. There shall be no more than five total integrated licenses, one for each registered dispensary. Upon compliance with all application procedures and requirements, the Cannabis Control Board shall issue an integrated license to the applicant. The licensee shall have the right to renew the license in accordance with rules adopted by the Board.
- If the vote fails can the Town hold another vote in the future to approve retail cannabis retail establishments?
 - Yes. The Town may vote to opt in at any time in the future
- If the vote passes, can another vote be held at a future date to reverse the decision?
 - Yes. However, and cannabis retailers or integrated license holders operating in the Town at the time permission is revoked would be allowed to continue operation.
- Link to the full bill:
 - <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/Docs/ACTS/ACT164/ACT164%20As%20Enacted.pdf>
- Link to summary of the bill by Vermont League of Cities and Towns (see pages 12 – 14)
 - <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/supplementary%20wrapup.pdf>