

HOUSE BILL 1

E1, C2, J1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

(2lr0381)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Judiciary/Finance* —

Introduced by **Delegate Clippinger**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Constitutional Amendment – Cannabis – Adult Use and Possession**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that, on or after a certain date, an individual in the State
4 who is at least a certain age may use and possess cannabis.

5 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution

6 New Article XX – Cannabis

7 Section 1

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
9 (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That it be
10 proposed that the Maryland Constitution read as follows:

11 **ARTICLE XX – CANNABIS**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 1.

2 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR AFTER JULY 1,
3 2023, AN INDIVIDUAL IN THE STATE WHO IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD MAY USE AND
4 POSSESS CANNABIS.

5 (B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL, BY LAW, PROVIDE FOR THE USE,
6 DISTRIBUTION, POSSESSION, REGULATION, AND TAXATION OF CANNABIS WITHIN
7 THE STATE.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
9 determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this
10 Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the Maryland
11 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

13 (a) The amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this
14 Act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be
15 held in November 2022 for adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland
16 Constitution.

17 (b) (1) At that general election, the vote on the proposed amendment to the
18 Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each ballot there shall be printed the words “For the
19 Constitutional Amendment” and “Against the Constitutional Amendment”, as now
20 provided by law.

21 (2) At that general election, a question substantially similar to the
22 following shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State:

23 “Question ___ – Constitutional Amendment

24 Do you favor the legalization of ~~adult use~~ *the use of cannabis by an individual who*
25 *is at least 21 years of age on or after July 1, 2023*, in the State of Maryland?”.

26 (c) Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of
27 the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the
28 Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.