

AN ACT relating to industrial hemp.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 260 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

*As used in Sections 1 to 6 of this Act, unless the context requires otherwise:*

- (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture;*
- (2) "Department" means the Kentucky Department of Agriculture;*
- (3) "Grower" means any person or business entity licensed under this chapter by the department as an industrial hemp grower;*
- (4) "Industrial hemp" means all parts and varieties of the plant cannabis sativa, cultivated and possessed by a licensed grower, whether growing or not, that contains a tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of no more than that adopted by federal law in the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. secs. 801 et seq. "Industrial hemp" as defined and applied in Sections 1 to 6 of this Act is excluded from the definition of marijuana in KRS 218A.010; and*
- (5) "Tetrahydrocannabinol" or "THC" means the natural or synthetic equivalents of the substances contained in the plant, or in the resinous extractives of, cannabis, or any synthetic substances, compounds, salts, or derivatives of the plant or chemicals and their isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity.*

➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 260 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The department shall establish conditions and procedures for the licensing of industrial hemp growers.*
- (2) Any person seeking to grow industrial hemp for commercial purposes shall apply to the department for a license on a form provided by the department. The application shall include:*

- (a) The name and mailing address of the grower;*
- (b) The legal description and global positioning coordinates sufficient for locating the production fields to be used to grow industrial hemp. A license from the department shall authorize industrial hemp production only on the land areas specified in the license; and*
- (c) Submittal to the department on the license application of a written consent granting a state or national criminal history check and a signed statement indicating whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor.*
- 1. The department shall have the responsibility of coordinating the state or national criminal history check of the license applicant and shall consult with the Kentucky State Police, the sheriff of the county in which the industrial hemp will be grown, and other law enforcement agencies as needed in undertaking the criminal history check. All costs associated with the check shall be paid by the applicant.*
  - 2. A person with a prior felony drug conviction within ten (10) years of applying for the industrial hemp grower license shall not be eligible for the license.*
- (3) If the applicant has completed the application process to the satisfaction of the department, the department shall issue the license, which shall be valid for a period of one (1) year. Any persons licensed under this section shall be presumed to be growing or processing industrial hemp for commercial purposes.*
- (4) A minimum of ten (10) acres shall be planted for each license granted by the department. The department may license and authorize hemp production plots of less than ten (10) acres for research purposes.*
- (5) The commissioner shall, by administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A, establish the amount of the industrial hemp grower*

license.

(6) A copy of, or appropriate electronic record of, any license granted by the department under the industrial hemp production program shall be forwarded immediately to the Kentucky State Police and to the sheriff of the county or counties where the industrial hemp is licensed to be planted, grown, harvested, processed, and possessed.

(7) All records, data, and information filed in support of an industrial hemp application shall be considered proprietary and subject to inspection only upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 260 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) A grower granted a license to produce industrial hemp shall:

(a) Maintain records that reflect compliance with the provisions of Sections 1 to 6 of this Act and with all other state laws regulating the planting and cultivation of industrial hemp;

(b) Retain all industrial hemp production and sales records for at least three (3) years;

(c) Allow industrial hemp crops throughout sowing, growing, harvesting, storing, and processing to be inspected by and at the discretion of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, and law enforcement personnel;

(d) File with the department documentation indicating that the industrial hemp seeds planted were of a type and variety certified to have no more THC concentration than that adopted by federal law in the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. secs. 801 et seq.;

(e) Notify the department of the sale or distribution of any industrial hemp grown or processed under the license and the names and addresses of the

persons to whom the industrial hemp was sold or distributed; and

(f) Provide the department with any contracts between the licensee and any person to whom industrial hemp was sold or distributed.

(2) Any person licensed to grow and process industrial hemp under Sections 1 to 6 of this Act may import and resell industrial hemp seed that has been certified as having no more THC concentration that that adopted by federal law in the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. secs. 801 et seq.

➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 260 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Nothing in Sections 1 to 6 of this Act shall be construed to authorize any person to violate any federal rules or regulations.

(2) If any part of Sections 1 to 6 of this Act conflicts with a provision of federal law regarding industrial hemp that has been adopted in Kentucky under KRS 260.865, the federal provision shall control to the extent of the conflict.

➔SECTION 5. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 260 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

The department shall report periodically to the Kentucky Industrial Hemp Commission created by KRS 260.857 on matters related to the issuance of licenses to produce industrial hemp.

➔SECTION 6. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 260 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Any person possessing a hemp grower license who does not comply the requirements of Sections 1 to 6 of this Act shall forfeit the right to grow industrial hemp for a period of up to five (5) years.

(2) The commissioner shall, by administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A, establish the conditions and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of Sections 1 to 6 of this Act.

→Section 7. KRS 218A.010 is amended to read as follows:

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Administer" means the direct application of a controlled substance, whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, to the body of a patient or research subject by:
  - (a) A practitioner or by his or her authorized agent under his or her immediate supervision and pursuant to his or her order; or
  - (b) The patient or research subject at the direction and in the presence of the practitioner;
- (2) "Anabolic steroid" means any drug or hormonal substance chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone that promotes muscle growth and includes those substances listed in KRS 218A.090(5) but does not include estrogens, progestins, and antisteroids;
- (3) "Cabinet" means the Cabinet for Health and Family Services;
- (4) "Child" means any person under the age of majority as specified in KRS 2.015;
- (5) "Cocaine" means a substance containing any quantity of cocaine, its salts, optical and geometric isomers, and salts of isomers;
- (6) "Controlled substance" means methamphetamine, or a drug, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedules I through V and includes a controlled substance analogue;
- (7) (a) "Controlled substance analogue," except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, means a substance:
  1. The chemical structure of which is substantially similar to the structure of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II; and
  2. Which has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous

- system of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II; or
3. With respect to a particular person, which such person represents or intends to have a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II.
- (b) Such term does not include:
1. Any substance for which there is an approved new drug application;
  2. With respect to a particular person, any substance if an exemption is in effect for investigational use for that person pursuant to federal law to the extent conduct with respect to such substance is pursuant to such exemption; or
  3. Any substance to the extent not intended for human consumption before the exemption described in subparagraph 2. of this paragraph takes effect with respect to that substance;
- (8) "Counterfeit substance" means a controlled substance which, or the container or labeling of which, without authorization, bears the trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, number, or device, or any likeness thereof, of a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser other than the person who in fact manufactured, distributed, or dispensed the substance;
- (9) "Dispense" means to deliver a controlled substance to an ultimate user or research subject by or pursuant to the lawful order of a practitioner, including the packaging, labeling, or compounding necessary to prepare the substance for that delivery;
- (10) "Dispenser" means a person who lawfully dispenses a Schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance to or for the use of an ultimate user;
- (11) "Distribute" means to deliver other than by administering or dispensing a controlled substance;

(12) "Dosage unit" means a single pill, capsule, ampule, liquid, or other form of administration available as a single unit;

(13) "Drug" means:

- (a) Substances recognized as drugs in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official National Formulary, or any supplement to any of them;
- (b) Substances intended for use in the diagnosis, care, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or animals;
- (c) Substances (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or animals; and
- (d) Substances intended for use as a component of any article specified in this subsection.

It does not include devices or their components, parts, or accessories;

(14) "Good faith prior examination," as used in KRS Chapter 218A and for criminal prosecution only, means an in-person medical examination of the patient conducted by the prescribing practitioner or other health-care professional routinely relied upon in the ordinary course of his or her practice, at which time the patient is physically examined and a medical history of the patient is obtained. "In-person" includes telehealth examinations. This subsection shall not be applicable to hospice providers licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 216B;

(15) "Hazardous chemical substance" includes any chemical substance used or intended for use in the illegal manufacture of a controlled substance as defined in this section or the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine as defined in KRS 218A.1431, which:

- (a) Poses an explosion hazard;
- (b) Poses a fire hazard; or
- (c) Is poisonous or injurious if handled, swallowed, or inhaled;

- (16) "Heroin" means a substance containing any quantity of heroin, or any of its salts, isomers, or salts of isomers;
- (17) "Immediate precursor" means a substance which is the principal compound commonly used or produced primarily for use, and which is an immediate chemical intermediary used or likely to be used in the manufacture of a controlled substance or methamphetamine, the control of which is necessary to prevent, curtail, or limit manufacture;
- (18) "Intent to manufacture" means any evidence which demonstrates a person's conscious objective to manufacture a controlled substance or methamphetamine. Such evidence includes but is not limited to statements and a chemical substance's usage, quantity, manner of storage, or proximity to other chemical substances or equipment used to manufacture a controlled substance or methamphetamine;
- (19) "Isomer" means the optical isomer, except as used in KRS 218A.050(3) and 218A.070(1)(d). As used in KRS 218A.050(3), the term "isomer" means the optical, positional, or geometric isomer. As used in KRS 218A.070(1)(d), the term "isomer" means the optical or geometric isomer;
- (20) "Manufacture," except as provided in KRS 218A.1431, means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion, or processing of a controlled substance, either directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of natural origin or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container except that this term does not include activities:
- (a) By a practitioner as an incident to his or her administering or dispensing of a controlled substance in the course of his or her professional practice;
  - (b) By a practitioner, or by his or her authorized agent under his supervision, for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis

- and not for sale; or
- (c) By a pharmacist as an incident to his or her dispensing of a controlled substance in the course of his or her professional practice;
- (21) "Marijuana" means all parts of the plant *Cannabis sp.*, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin or any compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of these substances. ***The term marijuana does not include industrial hemp as defined in Section 1 of this Act;***
- (22) "Medical history," as used in KRS Chapter 218A and for criminal prosecution only, means an accounting of a patient's medical background, including but not limited to prior medical conditions, prescriptions, and family background;
- (23) "Medical order," as used in KRS Chapter 218A and for criminal prosecution only, means a lawful order of a specifically identified practitioner for a specifically identified patient for the patient's health-care needs. "Medical order" may or may not include a prescription drug order;
- (24) "Medical record," as used in KRS Chapter 218A and for criminal prosecution only, means a record, other than for financial or billing purposes, relating to a patient, kept by a practitioner as a result of the practitioner-patient relationship;
- (25) "Methamphetamine" means any substance that contains any quantity of methamphetamine, or any of its salts, isomers, or salts of isomers;
- (26) "Narcotic drug" means any of the following, whether produced directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of vegetable origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis:
- (a) Opium and opiate, and any salt, compound, derivative, or preparation of opium or opiate;
- (b) Any salt, compound, isomer, derivative, or preparation thereof which is

- chemically equivalent or identical with any of the substances referred to in paragraph (a) of this subsection, but not including the isoquinoline alkaloids of opium;
- (c) Opium poppy and poppy straw;
  - (d) Coca leaves, except coca leaves and extracts of coca leaves from which cocaine, ecgonine, and derivatives of ecgonine or their salts have been removed;
  - (e) Cocaine, its salts, optical and geometric isomers, and salts of isomers;
  - (f) Ecgonine, its derivatives, their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers; and
  - (g) Any compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of any of the substances referred to in paragraphs (a) to (f) of this subsection;
- (27) "Opiate" means any substance having an addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability similar to morphine or being capable of conversion into a drug having addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability. It does not include, unless specifically designated as controlled under KRS 218A.030, the dextrorotatory isomer of 3-methoxy-n-methylmorphinan and its salts (dextromethorphan). It does include its racemic and levorotatory forms;
- (28) "Opium poppy" means the plant of the species *papaver somniferum* L., except its seeds;
- (29) "Person" means individual, corporation, government or governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust, partnership or association, or any other legal entity;
- (30) "Physical injury" has the same meaning it has in KRS 500.080;
- (31) "Poppy straw" means all parts, except the seeds, of the opium poppy, after mowing;
- (32) "Pharmacist" means a natural person licensed by this state to engage in the practice of the profession of pharmacy;
- (33) "Practitioner" means a physician, dentist, podiatrist, veterinarian, scientific

investigator, optometrist as authorized in KRS 320.240, advanced practice registered nurse as authorized under KRS 314.011, or other person licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted by state or federal law to acquire, distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to, or to administer a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research in this state. "Practitioner" also includes a physician, dentist, podiatrist, veterinarian, or advanced practice registered nurse authorized under KRS 314.011 who is a resident of and actively practicing in a state other than Kentucky and who is licensed and has prescriptive authority for controlled substances under the professional licensing laws of another state, unless the person's Kentucky license has been revoked, suspended, restricted, or probated, in which case the terms of the Kentucky license shall prevail;

- (34) "Practitioner-patient relationship," as used in KRS Chapter 218A and for criminal prosecution only, means a medical relationship that exists between a patient and a practitioner or the practitioner's designee, after the practitioner or his or her designee has conducted at least one (1) good faith prior examination;
- (35) "Prescription" means a written, electronic, or oral order for a drug or medicine, or combination or mixture of drugs or medicines, or proprietary preparation, signed or given or authorized by a medical, dental, chiropody, veterinarian, optometric practitioner, or advanced practice registered nurse, and intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or other animals;
- (36) "Prescription blank," with reference to a controlled substance, means a document that meets the requirements of KRS 218A.204 and 217.216;
- (37) "Presumptive probation" means a sentence of probation not to exceed the maximum term specified for the offense, subject to conditions otherwise authorized by law, that is presumed to be the appropriate sentence for certain offenses designated in this chapter, notwithstanding contrary provisions of KRS Chapter 533. That

presumption shall only be overcome by a finding on the record by the sentencing court of substantial and compelling reasons why the defendant cannot be safely and effectively supervised in the community, is not amenable to community-based treatment, or poses a significant risk to public safety;

- (38) "Production" includes the manufacture, planting, cultivation, growing, or harvesting of a controlled substance;
- (39) "Recovery program" means an evidence-based, nonclinical service that assists individuals and families working toward sustained recovery from substance use and other criminal risk factors. This can be done through an array of support programs and services that are delivered through residential and nonresidential means;
- (40) "Salvia" means *Salvia divinorum* or Salvinorin A and includes all parts of the plant presently classified botanically as *Salvia divinorum*, whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, any extract from any part of that plant, and every compound, manufacture, derivative, mixture, or preparation of that plant, its seeds, or its extracts, including salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation of that plant, its seeds, or extracts. The term shall not include any other species in the genus *salvia*;
- (41) "Second or subsequent offense" means that for the purposes of this chapter an offense is considered as a second or subsequent offense, if, prior to his or her conviction of the offense, the offender has at any time been convicted under this chapter, or under any statute of the United States, or of any state relating to substances classified as controlled substances or counterfeit substances, except that a prior conviction for a nontrafficking offense shall be treated as a prior offense only when the subsequent offense is a nontrafficking offense. For the purposes of this section, a conviction voided under KRS 218A.275 or 218A.276 shall not constitute a conviction under this chapter;

- (42) "Sell" means to dispose of a controlled substance to another person for consideration or in furtherance of commercial distribution;
- (43) "Serious physical injury" has the same meaning it has in KRS 500.080;
- (44) "Synthetic cannabinoids or piperazines" means any chemical compound which is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or, if approved, which is not dispensed or possessed in accordance with state and federal law, that contains Benzylpiperazine (BZP); Trifluoromethylphenylpiperazine (TFMPP); 1,1-Dimethylheptyl-11-hydroxytetrahydrocannabinol (HU-210); 1-Butyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole; 1-Pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole; dexanabinol (HU-211); or any compound in the following structural classes:
- (a) Naphthoylindoles: Any compound containing a 3-(1-naphthoyl)indole structure with substitution at the nitrogen atom of the indole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group, whether or not further substituted in the indole ring to any extent and whether or not substituted in the naphthyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to JWH-015, JWH-018, JWH-019, JWH-073, JWH-081, JWH-122, JWH-200, and AM-2201;
- (b) Phenylacetylindoles: Any compound containing a 3-phenylacetylindole structure with substitution at the nitrogen atom of the indole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group whether or not further substituted in the indole ring to any extent and whether or not substituted in the phenyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to JWH-167, JWH-250, JWH-251, and RCS-8;
- (c) Benzoylindoles: Any compound containing a 3-(benzoyl)indole structure with substitution at the nitrogen atom of the indole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl,

alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group whether or not further substituted in the indole ring to any extent and whether or not substituted in the phenyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to AM-630, AM-2233, AM-694, Pravadoline (WIN 48,098), and RCS-4;

- (d) Cyclohexylphenols: Any compound containing a 2-(3-hydroxycyclohexyl)phenol structure with substitution at the 5-position of the phenolic ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group whether or not substituted in the cyclohexyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to CP 47,497 and its C8 homologue (cannabicyclohexanol);
- (e) Naphthylmethyloindoles: Any compound containing a 1H-indol-3-yl-(1-naphthyl)methane structure with substitution at the nitrogen atom of the indole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group whether or not further substituted in the indole ring to any extent and whether or not substituted in the naphthyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to JWH-175, JWH-184, and JWH-185;
- (f) Naphthoypyrroles: Any compound containing a 3-(1-naphthoypyrrole structure with substitution at the nitrogen atom of the pyrrole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group whether or not further substituted in the pyrrole ring to any extent and whether or not substituted in the naphthyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to JWH-030, JWH-145, JWH-146, JWH-307, and JWH-368;

- (g) Naphthylmethylindenes: Any compound containing a 1-(1-naphthylmethyl)indene structure with substitution at the 3-position of the indene ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group whether or not further substituted in the indene ring to any extent and whether or not substituted in the naphthyl ring to any extent. Examples of this structural class include but are not limited to JWH-176; or
- (h) Any other synthetic cannabinoid or piperazine which is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or, if approved, which is not dispensed or possessed in accordance with state and federal law;
- (45) "Synthetic cathinones" means any chemical compound which is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or, if approved, which is not dispensed or possessed in accordance with state and federal law (not including bupropion or compounds listed under a different schedule) structurally derived from 2-aminopropan-1-one by substitution at the 1-position with either phenyl, naphthyl, or thiophene ring systems, whether or not the compound is further modified in one
- (1) or more of the following ways:
- (a) By substitution in the ring system to any extent with alkyl, alkylendioxy, alkoxy, haloalkyl, hydroxyl, or halide substituents, whether or not further substituted in the ring system by one (1) or more other univalent substituents. Examples of this class include but are not limited to 3,4-Methylenedioxcathinone (bk-MDA);
- (b) By substitution at the 3-position with an acyclic alkyl substituent. Examples of this class include but are not limited to 2-methylamino-1-phenylbutan-1-one (buphedrone);
- (c) By substitution at the 2-amino nitrogen atom with alkyl, dialkyl, benzyl, or methoxybenzyl groups, or by inclusion of the 2-amino nitrogen atom in a

cyclic structure. Examples of this class include but are not limited to Dimethylcathinone, Ethcathinone, and  $\alpha$ -Pyrrolidinopropiophenone ( $\alpha$ -PPP);  
or

- (d) Any other synthetic cathinone which is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or, if approved, is not dispensed or possessed in accordance with state or federal law;
- (46) "Synthetic drugs" means any synthetic cannabinoids or piperazines or any synthetic cathinones;
- (47) "Telehealth" has the same meaning it has in KRS 311.550;
- (48) "Tetrahydrocannabinols" means synthetic equivalents of the substances contained in the plant, or in the resinous extractives of the plant Cannabis, sp. or synthetic substances, derivatives, and their isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity such as the following:
- (a) Delta 1 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers;
  - (b) Delta 6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers; and
  - (c) Delta 3, 4 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;
- (49) "Traffic," except as provided in KRS 218A.1431, means to manufacture, distribute, dispense, sell, transfer, or possess with intent to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or sell a controlled substance;
- (50) "Transfer" means to dispose of a controlled substance to another person without consideration and not in furtherance of commercial distribution; and
- (51) "Ultimate user" means a person who lawfully possesses a controlled substance for his or her own use or for the use of a member of his or her household or for administering to an animal owned by him or her or by a member of his or her household.

➔Section 8. KRS 260.853 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Department of Agriculture shall promote the research and development of

markets for Kentucky industrial hemp and hemp products~~[after the selection and establishment of the industrial hemp research program and the Industrial Hemp Commission, and]~~ provided that adequate funds are available for these purposes from the industrial hemp program fund. The department shall work cooperatively with~~[selected]~~ Kentucky university or universities' agricultural research programs utilizing the expertise of the university or universities in the area of agricultural research.

- (2) The Council on Postsecondary Education shall *assist in the selection of*~~[select]~~ a university or universities where the industrial hemp research program is to be established, after proposals are considered from all interested universities with agriculture departments in Kentucky.
- (3) The selected institutions' industrial hemp research program shall undertake research of industrial hemp production in the state. The department shall assist the industrial hemp research program in obtaining the necessary federal permits *if required* from the United States Drug Enforcement Agency or appropriate federal agency. In undertaking the industrial hemp research program, the university or universities are authorized to:
  - (a) Grow industrial hemp to conduct agronomy research and analysis of required soils, growing conditions, and harvest methods relating to the production of industrial hemp for commercial products, including but not limited to hemp seed, paper, clothing, and oils;
  - (b) Conduct seed research on various types of industrial hemp that are best suited to be grown in Kentucky, including but not limited to seed availability, creation of Kentucky hybrid types, in-the-ground variety trials and seed production;
  - (c) Study the economic feasibility of developing an industrial hemp market in various types of industrial hemp that can be grown in the Commonwealth;

- (d) Report on the estimated value-added benefits, including environmental benefits, that Kentucky businesses would reap by having an industrial hemp market of Kentucky-grown industrial hemp varieties in the Commonwealth;
  - (e) Study the agronomy research being conducted worldwide relating to industrial hemp varieties, production, and utilization;
  - (f) Research and promote Kentucky industrial hemp and hemp seed on the world market that can be grown on farms in the Commonwealth; and
  - (g) Study the feasibility of attracting private funding for the Kentucky industrial hemp research program.
- (4) The authorization granted in subsection (3) of this section shall not subject the industrial hemp research program or the selected university or universities where it is located to any criminal liability under the controlled substances laws of the Commonwealth. This exemption from criminal liability is a limited exemption that shall be strictly construed and that shall not apply to any activities of the industrial hemp research program or the selected university or universities that are not expressly permitted in the authorization.
- (5) The authorization granted in subsection (3) of this section shall not alter, amend, or repeal by implication any provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes relating to controlled substances.
- (6) The selected university or universities of the industrial hemp research program shall notify the headquarters of the Department of Kentucky State Police, the local barracks of the Department of Kentucky State Police, and all other local law enforcement agencies of the duration, size, and location of all industrial hemp plots.
- (7) The Commissioner and the university or universities may cooperatively seek funds from both public and private sources to implement this section. The funds shall be deposited into the industrial hemp program fund.
- (8) By October 1, 2001, and annually thereafter, the university or universities shall

report on the status and progress of the industrial hemp research program authorized by this section to the Commissioner, the Industrial Hemp Commission, and the Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture, and the Interim Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Environment.

➔Section 9. KRS 260.857 is amended to read as follows:

The Kentucky Industrial Hemp Commission is created and is attached to the Department of Agriculture for administrative purposes. The membership of the commission shall consist of at least seventeen (17) members as follows:

- (1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee;
- (2) The President of the Senate or the President's designee;
- (3) The chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee;
- (4) The chair of the House Agriculture and Small Business Committee;
- (5) The Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture or the Commissioner's designee, *who shall serve as chair of the commission*;
- (6) The commissioner of the Department of Kentucky State Police or the commissioner's designee;
- (7) The executive director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy or the executive director's designee;
- (8) The chairs of the agriculture departments at the Kentucky university or universities where the industrial hemp research program is to be established;
- (9) The president of the Kentucky Hemp Growers Cooperative Association;
- (10) The president of the Kentucky Sheriffs' Association *or the association president's designee*;
- (11) The president of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police *or the association president's designee*; ~~and~~
- (12) Six (6) members, three (3) appointed by the Speaker of the House and three (3) by the President of the Senate, ~~representing the following interests:~~

- ~~(a) Kentucky farmers with an interest in growing industrial hemp;~~
- ~~(b) Retailers of industrial hemp products;~~
- ~~(c) Wholesalers of industrial hemp products; and~~
- ~~(d) Manufacturers of industrial hemp products]; and~~

***(13) Two (2) at-large members on a recommendation of the chair and approved by a majority of the members of the commission.***

➔ Section 10. KRS 260.859 is amended to read as follows:

A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. ~~[The members shall elect one (1) member to serve as chair.]~~