

STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF CANNABIS POLICY 162 STATE HOUSE STATION 19 UNION STREET FIRST FLOOR AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0162 ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

KIRSTEN LC FIGUEROA COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF CANNABIS POLICY

JOHN HUDAK DIRECTOR

JANET T. MILLS GOVERNOR

June 10, 2024

Dear AUCP Stakeholders,

I write today with an important update regarding the administrative regulations that govern the Adult Use Cannabis Program (AUCP).

Today, per the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (MAPA), the Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) is starting the process of formally engaging in routine technical rulemaking to make changes to the *Rules for the Certification of Cannabis Testing Facilities*, 18-691 CMR, ch. 5. This rulemaking effort includes the following:

- Updated cross references to the rules governing the Adult Use Cannabis Program and the Cannabis Legalization Act;
- New provisions to implement previously-issued guidance regarding the process for reporting and addressing instrument failures;
- Clarification of the ways testing facilities demonstrate capability;
- Updated technical requirements applicable to microbial analyses using plating methods and sample homogenization; and
- Clarification of the requirements applicable to remediation and retesting of cannabis and cannabis products that previously failed mandatory testing.

It is also important to note that the rules have been reformatted to comply with the Secretary of State's required rule format, so the rule will look different as a result.

We invite you to review Chapter 5 and provide your written feedback. A copy of the proposed rule and public comment form can be found on <u>the OCP website</u>.

OCP will accept comments starting today, June 10, 2024 through **Sunday**, July 14, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. We ask that you please be specific in your comments.

Public participation is a critical component of the MAPA process. As such, OCP is also holding an in-person public hearing on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 to take public comments and questions.

Public Hearing Tuesday, July 2 at 10:00 a.m. 19 Union Street, Room 324 Augusta, Maine In addition to the in-person public hearing, OCP will be accepting written public comments until July 14, 2024. Either or both avenues may be utilized by interested members of the public to provide feedback to OCP on the format, content, and/or application of the proposed rules.

Once the public comment process is complete, OCP will consider the feedback received and make revisions to the rule as appropriate. Following these revisions, OCP will finally adopt these routine technical rules which will go into effect 5 days after adoption.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. We look forward to engaging with you over the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

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John Hudak Director