

LEGALIZE CANNABIS IN HAWAI'I — HB 1246 & SB 1613 Create Opportunities, Generate Revenue, and Improve Lives

People caught with over three grams of cannabis in Hawai'i face arrest, being thrown in jail, and a criminal record that shuts the door on jobs and housing. Even possession of under three grams results in intrusive law-enforcement stops and a \$130 fine. It is past time for Hawai'i to stop ruining lives over cannabis.

HB 1246 and SB 1613 would legalize cannabis for adults 21+ and prohibit discrimination that can tear apart families and destroy — or even end — lives. The bills allow adults to purchase cannabis from existing dispensaries, along with new business — including craft growers that can sell directly to consumers. They would generate tens of millions of dollars to serve Hawai'i residents, including for youth services.

Legalizes It! And Expunges Records

- Starting Jan. 1, 2026, legalizes growing up to six plants and possessing up to 10 ounces of homegrown cannabis at home.
- Starting Jan. 1, 2026, legalizes one ounce and five grams of concentrates elsewhere.
- Until then, expands decriminalization to one ounce and reduces the penalty to a \$25 fine.
- Legalizes manufacture & sale of paraphernalia.
- Has state-initiated expungement of possession and legalized conduct.

Generates Millions to Improve Lives

- > \$50 million/year in new revenue
- Public health & education grants including for community organizations for:
- youth services including childcare, after-school and summer programs, rec centers, counseling, and housing.
- helping those with co-occuring mental health & substance abuse disorders, including with housing, treatment, and counseling.
- Public safety grants including for co-response with counselors; mental health first aid training; homeless outreach, food banks, and housing aid.
- 30% is left for the General Fund. 5% goes to counties based on sales.

Stops Tearing Apart Families & Ruining Lives

- Parents couldn't be denied custody, or be found neglectful, for responsible adult cannabis use.
- Individuals could no longer be denied medical care including organ transplants for cannabis.
- State and local governments couldn't fire or discipline workers for testing positive for cannabis who are not impaired at work, unless it is required by federal law or pursuant to a collectively bargained contract.

Creates Jobs and Small Cannabis Businesses

- >5,000 new cannabis jobs projected.
- Issues new licenses for cultivators, processors, dispensaries, labs, and craft dispensaries that can grow and sell directly to consumers.
- Prioritizes legacy growers and small farmers with indigenous crops or farming practices.
- Creates a social equity grants program for people from disadvantaged areas to help with financing, industry training, and technical assistance.
- Limits grow licenses to 3,200 square feet indoors and 5,000 square feet outdoors.
- Provides hemp grants and technical assistance to assist small businesses in gaining entry to, and succeeding in, the hemp industry.

Learn more. Plug in. Ask questions. LegalizeHawaii.org

