

First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

REVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 17-0130.01 Michael Dohr x4347

**HOUSE BILL 17-1221**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Willett and Pabon, Carver**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Aguilar and Cooke,**

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**House Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

Judiciary  
Appropriations

101

**CONCERNING GRAY AND BLACK MARKET MARIJUANA ENFORCEMENT**

102

**EFFORTS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**

103

**APPROPRIATION.**

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 7, 2017

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
March 14, 2017

**Committee on Cost-benefit Analysis of Legalized Marijuana in Colorado.** The bill creates the grey and black market marijuana enforcement grant program (grant program) in the division of local government in the department of local affairs (division). The grant program awards grants to local governments to reimburse the local

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 13, 2017

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

governments, in part or in full, for training, education, law enforcement, and prosecution costs associated with grey and black marijuana markets. A rural local government with limited law enforcement resources has priority in receiving grants. The general assembly may appropriate money from the marijuana tax cash fund or the proposition AA refund account to the division for the grant program. The division shall adopt policies and procedures for the administration of the grant program, including rules related to the application process and the grant award criteria. The division shall include information regarding the effectiveness of the grant program in its SMART presentation beginning in November 2019.

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1       *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3       finds and declares that:

4           (a) Through citizen-initiated measures, Colorado provided its  
5       citizens protections for the cultivation and use of medical marijuana in  
6       2000 and recreational marijuana in 2012;

7           (b) One of the reasons behind these citizen-initiated measures was  
8       to erode the black market for marijuana in Colorado;

9           (c) The constitutional provisions for both medical marijuana and  
10       recreational marijuana provide protections for personal marijuana  
11       cultivation, but are silent on the question of where marijuana plants may  
12       be grown or processed for medical or recreational use;

13           (d) Although the authority for marijuana cultivation for both  
14       medical and recreational marijuana is generally limited to six plants per  
15       person, there are some provisions that can allow individuals to grow more  
16       plants. Both the medical marijuana and recreational constitutional  
17       provisions allow a citizen to assist another citizen in the cultivation of  
18       marijuana.

19           (e) The assist provisions have created a situation in which  
20       individuals are cultivating large quantities of marijuana in residential

1 properties;

2 (f) These large-scale cultivation sites in residential properties  
3 create a public safety issue and are a public nuisance. A site in a  
4 residential property can overburden the property's electrical system,  
5 resulting in excessive power use and creating a fire hazard that puts first  
6 responders at risk. A site can also cause water damage and mold in the  
7 residential property. A site in a residential property can produce a noxious  
8 smell that limits the ability of others who live in the area to enjoy the  
9 quiet of their homes. Often the site is a rental home, and the renters cause  
10 significant damage to the home by retrofitting the home to be used as a  
11 large-scale cultivation site. When a residential property is used for a  
12 large-scale cultivation site, it often lowers the property value of the  
13 property and thus the property value of the rest of the neighborhood.  
14 Finally, a site in a residential property can serve as a target for criminal  
15 activity, creating an untenable public safety hazard.

16 (g) Large-scale, multi-national crime organizations have exploited  
17 Colorado laws, rented multiple residential properties for large-scale  
18 cultivation sites, and caused an influx of human trafficking and large  
19 amounts of weapons as well as the potential for violent crimes in  
20 residential neighborhoods;

21 (h) These large-scale cultivation sites in residential properties  
22 have been used to divert marijuana out of state and to children; and

23 (i) In awarding grants under the gray and black market marijuana  
24 enforcement grant program, the department of local affairs shall give  
25 priority to local governments in rural areas that have limited law  
26 enforcement resources.

27 (2) Therefore, the general assembly determines that it is necessary

1 to impose reasonable limits on residential marijuana cultivation that do  
2 not encroach on the protections afforded Colorado citizens in the  
3 Colorado constitution.

4 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-18-406, **add (3.5)**  
5 as follows:

6 **18-18-406. Offenses relating to marijuana and marijuana**  
7 **concentrate - definition.** (3.5) A PERSON IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH  
8 THE AUTHORITY TO ASSIST ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL GRANTED IN SECTION 14  
9 (2)(b) OR SECTION 16 (3)(e) OF ARTICLE XVIII OF THE STATE  
10 CONSTITUTION AND IS SUBJECT TO THE OFFENSES AND PENALTIES OF THIS  
11 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION IF THE PERSON POSSESSES ANY  
12 MARIJUANA PLANT HE OR SHE IS GROWING ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER  
13 INDIVIDUAL, UNLESS HE OR SHE IS THE PRIMARY CAREGIVER FOR THE  
14 INDIVIDUAL AND IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION  
15 25-1.5-106.

16 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 24-32-118** as  
17 follows:

18 **24-32-118. Gray and black market marijuana enforcement**  
19 **grant program - report - definition.** (1) (a) THE GRAY AND BLACK  
20 MARKET MARIJUANA ENFORCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE  
21 DIVISION. THE DIVISION SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO LOCAL LAW  
22 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS TO COVER, IN PART OR  
23 IN FULL, INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
24 UNLICENSED MARIJUANA CULTIVATION OR DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS  
25 CONDUCTED IN VIOLATION OF STATE LAW.

26 (b) THE DIVISION SHALL:

27 (I) SOLICIT AND REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FROM LOCAL

1 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; AND  
2 (II) SELECT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT  
3 ATTORNEYS TO RECEIVE GRANTS TO COVER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE  
4 INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF UNLICENSED MARIJUANA  
5 CULTIVATION OR DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS CONDUCTED IN VIOLATION OF  
6 STATE LAW.

7 (c) GRANTS AWARDED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE  
8 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1) SHALL  
9 BE PRIORITIZED TO:

10 (I) PROVIDE NECESSARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL LAW  
11 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS IN RURAL AREAS TO  
12 ADDRESS UNLICENSED MARIJUANA CULTIVATION OR DISTRIBUTION  
13 OPERATIONS CONDUCTED IN VIOLATION OF STATE LAW;

14 (II) SUPPORT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT  
15 ATTORNEYS IN INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING LARGE-SCALE  
16 UNLICENSED MARIJUANA CULTIVATION OR DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS  
17 CONDUCTED IN VIOLATION OF STATE LAW;

18 (III) PROVIDE NECESSARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL LAW  
19 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS IN THE  
20 INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF ORGANIZED CRIME INVOLVED IN  
21 UNLICENSED MARIJUANA CULTIVATION OR DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS  
22 CONDUCTED IN VIOLATION OF STATE LAW; OR

23 (IV) PROVIDE NECESSARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL LAW  
24 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS IN THE  
25 INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF UNLICENSED MARIJUANA  
26 CULTIVATION OR DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS THAT DIVERT MARIJUANA  
27 OUTSIDE OF COLORADO.

11 (3) THE DIVISION SHALL ADOPT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT  
12 ARE NECESSARY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM,  
13 INCLUDING THE APPLICATION PROCESS AND THE GRANT AWARD CRITERIA.

14 (4) (a) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2019, AND ON OR BEFORE  
15 NOVEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DIVISION SHALL INCLUDE AN  
16 UPDATE REGARDING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IN ITS  
17 REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE APPLICABLE COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE  
18 IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AS REQUIRED BY THE  
19 "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND  
20 TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF  
21 TITLE 2.

22 (b) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE REPORTS  
23 REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION CONTINUE INDEFINITELY.

24 (5) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "RURAL AREA" MEANS:

25 (a) A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED  
26 THOUSAND PEOPLE, ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENTLY AVAILABLE  
27 POPULATION STATISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF THE CENSUS;

1 OR

2 (b) A MUNICIPALITY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN THIRTY  
3 THOUSAND PEOPLE, ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENTLY AVAILABLE  
4 POPULATION STATISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,  
5 THAT IS LOCATED TEN MILES OR MORE FROM A MUNICIPALITY WITH A  
6 POPULATION OF MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PEOPLE.

7 **SECTION 4. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2017-18 state fiscal  
8 year, \$5,945,392 is appropriated to the department of local affairs. This  
9 appropriation is from the marijuana tax cash fund created in section  
10 39-28.8-501 (1), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may use  
11 this appropriation as follows:

12 (a) \$5,919,036 for use by the division of local government for the  
13 gray and black market marijuana enforcement grant program, which  
14 amount is based on an assumption that the division will require an  
15 additional 1.3 FTE;

16 (b) \$21,603 for the purchase of information technology services;  
17 and

18 (c) \$4,753 for the purchase of legal services.

19 (2) For the 2017-18 state fiscal year, \$21,603 is appropriated to  
20 the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology.  
21 This appropriation is from reappropriated funds received from the  
22 department of local affairs under subsection (1)(b) of this section. To  
23 implement this act, the office may use this appropriation to provide  
24 information technology services for the department of local affairs.

25 (3) For the 2017-18 state fiscal year, \$4,753 is appropriated to the  
26 department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds  
27 received from the department of local affairs under subsection (1)(c) of

1 this section. To implement this act, the department of law may use this  
2 appropriation to provide legal services for the department of local affairs.

3 **SECTION 5. Effective date - applicability.** This act takes effect  
4 July 1, 2017, and section 2 of this act applies to offenses committed on or  
5 after said date.

6 **SECTION 6. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
7 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
8 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.