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HOUSE BILL NO. 1598

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 6, 2023

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 4.1-604, 4.1-605, 4.1-627, 18.2-251.1:1, 18.2-251.1:2, 22.1-277, 32.1-127, 32.1-162.6:1, 40.1-27.4, 46.2-341.20:7, 54.1-2522.1, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, 54.1-2903, 54.1-3408.3, 59.1-200, and 63.2-1803.01 of the Code of Virginia; to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 4.1 a chapter numbered 16, consisting of sections numbered 4.1-1600 through 4.1-1605; and to repeal Article 4.2 (§§ 54.1-3442.5 through 54.1-3442.8) of Chapter 34 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia and the twenty-first enactment of Chapter 550 and the twenty-first enactment of Chapter 551 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I, relating to medical cannabis program; transition from Board of Pharmacy to Virginia Cannabis Control Authority.

Patron—Robinson

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 4.1-604, 4.1-605, 4.1-627, 18.2-251.1:1, 18.2-251.1:2, 22.1-277, 32.1-127, 32.1-162.6:1, 40.1-27.4, 46.2-341.20:7, 54.1-2522.1, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, 54.1-2903, 54.1-3408.3, 59.1-200, and 63.2-1803.01 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 4.1 a chapter numbered 16, consisting of sections numbered 4.1-1600 through 4.1-1605, as follows:

§ 4.1-604. Powers and duties of the Board.

The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Promulgate regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.) and § 4.1-606;
2. Control the possession, sale, transportation, and delivery of marijuana and marijuana products;
3. Grant, suspend, and restrict, revoke licenses for the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, and testing of marijuana and marijuana products as provided by law, or refuse to grant or renew any license or permit issued or authorized pursuant to this subtitle;
4. Determine the nature, form, and capacity of all containers used for holding marijuana products to be kept or sold and prescribe the form and content of all labels and seals to be placed thereon;
5. Maintain actions to enjoin common nuisances as defined in § 4.1-1113;
6. Establish standards and implement an online course for employees of retail marijuana stores that trains employees on how to educate consumers on the potential risks of marijuana use;
7. Establish a plan to develop and disseminate to retail marijuana store licensees a pamphlet or similar document regarding the potential risks of marijuana use to be prominently displayed and made available to consumers;
8. Establish a position for a Cannabis Social Equity Liaison who shall lead the Cannabis Business Equity and Diversity Support Team and liaise with the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion on matters related to diversity, equity, and inclusion standards in the marijuana industry;
9. Establish a Cannabis Business Equity and Diversity Support Team, which shall (i) develop requirements for the creation and submission of diversity, equity, and inclusion plans by persons who wish to possess a license in more than one license category pursuant to subsection C of § 4.1-805, which may include a requirement that the licensee participate in social equity apprenticeship plan, and an approval process and requirements for implementation of such plans; (ii) be responsible for conducting an analysis of potential barriers to entry for small, women-owned, and minority-owned businesses and veteran-owned businesses interested in participating in the marijuana industry and recommending strategies to effectively mitigate such potential barriers; (iii) provide assistance with business planning for potential marijuana establishment licensees; (iv) spread awareness of business opportunities related to the marijuana marketplace in areas disproportionately impacted by marijuana prohibition and enforcement; (v) provide technical assistance in navigating the administrative process to potential marijuana establishment licensees; and (vi) conduct other outreach initiatives in areas disproportionately impacted by marijuana prohibition and enforcement as necessary;
10. Establish a position for an individual with professional experience in a health related field who shall staff the Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council, established pursuant to § 4.1-603, liaise with the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and relevant health and human services agencies and organizations, and perform other duties as needed.

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59 11. Establish and implement a plan, in coordination with the Cannabis Social Equity Liaison and the
60 Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to promote and encourage participation in the marijuana
61 industry by people from communities that have been disproportionately impacted by marijuana
62 prohibition and enforcement and to positively impact those communities;

63 12. Sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, and complain and defend in all courts;

64 13. Adopt, use, and alter at will a common seal;

65 14. Fix, alter, charge, and collect rates, rentals, fees, and other charges for the use of property of, the
66 sale of products of, or services rendered by the Authority at rates to be determined by the Authority for
67 the purpose of providing for the payment of the expenses of the Authority;

68 15. Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of
69 its duties, the furtherance of its purposes, and the execution of its powers under this subtitle, including
70 agreements with any person or federal agency;

71 16. Employ, at its discretion, consultants, researchers, architects, engineers, accountants, financial
72 experts, investment bankers, superintendents, managers, and such other employees and special agents as
73 may be necessary and fix their compensation to be payable from funds made available to the Authority.
74 Legal services for the Authority shall be provided by the Attorney General in accordance with Chapter 5
75 (§ 2.2-500 et seq.) of Title 2.2;

76 17. Receive and accept from any federal or private agency, foundation, corporation, association, or
77 person grants or other aid to be expended in accomplishing the objectives of the Authority, and receive
78 and accept from the Commonwealth or any state and any municipality, county, or other political
79 subdivision thereof or from any other source aid or contributions of either money, property, or other
80 things of value, to be held, used, and applied only for the purposes for which such grants and
81 contributions may be made. All federal moneys accepted under this section shall be accepted and
82 expended by the Authority upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by the United States and as
83 are consistent with state law, and all state moneys accepted under this section shall be expended by the
84 Authority upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by the Commonwealth;

85 18. Adopt, alter, and repeal bylaws, rules, and regulations governing the manner in which its
86 business shall be transacted and the manner in which the powers of the Authority shall be exercised and
87 its duties performed. The Board may delegate or assign any duty or task to be performed by the
88 Authority to any officer or employee of the Authority. The Board shall remain responsible for the
89 performance of any such duties or tasks. Any delegation pursuant to this subdivision shall, where
90 appropriate, be accompanied by written guidelines for the exercise of the duties or tasks delegated.
91 Where appropriate, the guidelines shall require that the Board receive summaries of actions taken. Such
92 delegation or assignment shall not relieve the Board of the responsibility to ensure faithful performance
93 of the duties and tasks;

94 19. Conduct or engage in any lawful business, activity, effort, or project consistent with the
95 Authority's purposes or necessary or convenient to exercise its powers;

96 20. Develop policies and procedures generally applicable to the procurement of goods, services, and
97 construction, based upon competitive principles;

98 21. Develop policies and procedures consistent with Article 4 (§ 2.2-4347 et seq.) of Chapter 43 of
99 Title 2.2;

100 22. Acquire, purchase, hold, use, lease, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal or mixed,
101 tangible or intangible, or any interest therein necessary or desirable for carrying out the purposes of the
102 Authority; lease as lessee any property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible, or any interest
103 therein, at such annual rental and on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board;
104 lease as lessor to any person any property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible, or any interest
105 therein, at any time acquired by the Authority, whether wholly or partially completed, at such annual
106 rental and on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board; sell, transfer, or convey
107 any property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein, at any time acquired
108 or held by the Authority on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board; and occupy
109 and improve any land or building required for the purposes of this subtitle;

110 23. Purchase, lease, or acquire the use of, by any manner, any plant or equipment that may be
111 considered necessary or useful in carrying into effect the purposes of this subtitle, including rectifying,
112 blending, and processing plants;

113 24. Appoint every agent and employee required for its operations, require any or all of them to give
114 bonds payable to the Commonwealth in such penalty as shall be fixed by the Board, and engage the
115 services of experts and professionals;

116 25. Hold and conduct hearings, issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses and the
117 production of records, memoranda, papers, and other documents before the Board or any agent of the
118 Board, and administer oaths and take testimony thereunder. The Board may authorize any Board
119 member or agent of the Board to hold and conduct hearings, issue subpoenas, administer oaths and take
120 testimony thereunder, and decide cases, subject to final decision by the Board, on application of any

121 party aggrieved. The Board may enter into consent agreements and may request and accept from any
 122 applicant ~~or~~, licensee, *or permittee* a consent agreement in lieu of proceedings on (i) objections to the
 123 issuance of a license *or permit* or (ii) disciplinary action. Any such consent agreement (a) shall include
 124 findings of fact *and provisions regarding whether the terms of the consent agreement are confidential*
 125 and (b) may include an admission or a finding of a violation. A consent agreement shall not be
 126 considered a case decision of the Board and shall not be subject to judicial review under the provisions
 127 of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), but may be considered by the Board in future
 128 disciplinary proceedings;

129 26. Make a reasonable charge for preparing and furnishing statistical information and compilations to
 130 persons other than (i) officials, including court and police officials, of the Commonwealth and of its
 131 subdivisions if the information requested is for official use and (ii) persons who have a personal or legal
 132 interest in obtaining the information requested if such information is not to be used for commercial or
 133 trade purposes;

134 27. *Assess* *Take appropriate disciplinary action and assess* and collect civil penalties and civil
 135 charges for violations of this subtitle and Board regulations;

136 28. Review and approve any proposed legislative or regulatory changes suggested by the Chief
 137 Executive Officer as the Board deems appropriate;

138 29. Report quarterly to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security on the law-enforcement
 139 activities undertaken to enforce the provisions of this subtitle;

140 30. Establish and collect fees for all permits set forth in this subtitle, including fees associated with
 141 applications for such permits;

142 31. Develop and make available on its website guidance documents regarding compliance and safe
 143 practices for persons who cultivate marijuana at home for personal use, which shall include information
 144 regarding cultivation practices that promote personal and public safety, including child protection, and
 145 discourage practices that create a nuisance;

146 32. Develop and make available on its website a resource that provides information regarding (i)
 147 responsible marijuana consumption; (ii) health risks and other dangers associated with marijuana
 148 consumption, including inability to operate a motor vehicle and other types of transportation and
 149 equipment; and (iii) ancillary effects of marijuana consumption, including ineligibility for certain
 150 employment opportunities. The Board shall require that the web address for such resource be included
 151 on the label of all retail marijuana and retail marijuana product as provided in § 4.1-1402; and

152 33. Do all acts necessary or advisable to carry out the purposes of this subtitle.

153 **§ 4.1-605. Additional powers; mediation; alternative dispute resolution; confidentiality.**

154 A. As used in this section:

155 "Appropriate case" means any alleged license *or permit* violation or objection to the application for a
 156 license *or permit* in which it is apparent that there are significant issues of disagreement among
 157 interested persons and for which the Board finds that the use of a mediation or dispute resolution
 158 proceeding is in the public interest.

159 "Dispute resolution proceeding" means the same as that term is defined in § 8.01-576.4.

160 "Mediation" means the same as that term is defined in § 8.01-576.4.

161 "Neutral" means the same as that term is defined in § 8.01-576.4.

162 B. The Board may use mediation or a dispute resolution proceeding in appropriate cases to resolve
 163 underlying issues or reach a consensus or compromise on contested issues. Mediation and other dispute
 164 resolution proceedings as authorized by this section shall be voluntary procedures that supplement, rather
 165 than limit, other dispute resolution techniques available to the Board. Mediation or a dispute resolution
 166 proceeding may be used for an objection to the issuance of a license *or permit* only with the consent of,
 167 and participation by, the applicant for ~~license~~ *a license or permit* and shall be terminated at the
 168 request of such applicant.

169 C. Any resolution of a contested issue accepted by the Board under this section shall be considered a
 170 consent agreement as provided in § 4.1-604. The decision to use mediation or a dispute resolution
 171 proceeding is in the Board's sole discretion and shall not be subject to judicial review.

172 D. The Board may adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with the Administrative Process Act
 173 (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), for the implementation of this section. Such rules and regulations may include (i)
 174 standards and procedures for the conduct of mediation and dispute resolution proceedings, including an
 175 opportunity for interested persons identified by the Board to participate in the proceeding; (ii) the
 176 appointment and function of a neutral to encourage and assist parties to voluntarily compromise or settle
 177 contested issues; and (iii) procedures to protect the confidentiality of papers, work products, or other
 178 materials.

179 E. The provisions of § 8.01-576.10 concerning the confidentiality of a mediation or dispute resolution
 180 proceeding shall govern all such proceedings held pursuant to this section except where the Board uses
 181 or relies on information obtained in the course of such proceeding in granting a ~~license~~, suspending,

182 restricting, or revoking a license or permit, or in accepting payment of a civil penalty or investigative
 183 costs. ~~However, a consent agreement~~ *Consent agreements shall be signed by the all parties and shall not*
 184 ~~be include provisions regarding whether the terms of the consent agreement are confidential.~~

185 **§ 4.1-627. Hearings; representation by counsel.**

186 Any licensee, *permittee*, or applicant for ~~any a license granted by the Board~~ or permit authorized by
 187 *this subtitle* shall have the right to be represented by counsel at any Board hearing for which he has
 188 received notice. The licensee, *permittee*, or applicant shall not be required to be represented by counsel
 189 during such hearing. Any officer or director of a corporation may examine, cross-examine, and question
 190 witnesses, present evidence on behalf of the corporation, and draw conclusions and make arguments
 191 before the Board or hearing officers without being in violation of the provisions of § 54.1-3904.

192 **CHAPTER 16.**

193 **MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM.**

194 **§ 4.1-1600. Definitions.**

195 *As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

196 *"Botanical cannabis" means cannabis that is composed wholly of usable cannabis from the same*
 197 *parts of the same chemovar of cannabis plant.*

198 *"Cannabis dispensing facility" means a facility that (i) has obtained a permit from the Board*
 199 *pursuant to § 4.1-1602; (ii) is owned, at least in part, by a pharmaceutical processor; and (iii)*
 200 *dispenses cannabis products produced by a pharmaceutical processor to a patient, his registered agent,*
 201 *or, if such patient is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such patient's parent or*
 202 *legal guardian.*

203 *"Cannabis oil" means any formulation of processed Cannabis plant extract, which may include*
 204 *industrial hemp extracts, including isolates and distillates, acquired by a pharmaceutical processor*
 205 *pursuant to § 4.1-1602, or a dilution of the resin of the Cannabis plant that contains no more than 10*
 206 *milligrams of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol per dose. "Cannabis oil" does not include industrial hemp,*
 207 *as defined in § 3.2-4112, that is grown, dealt, or processed in compliance with state or federal law,*
 208 *unless it has been grown and processed in the Commonwealth by a registered industrial hemp processor*
 209 *and acquired and formulated by a pharmaceutical processor.*

210 *"Cannabis product" means a product that is (i) produced by a pharmaceutical processor, registered*
 211 *with the Board, and compliant with testing requirements and (ii) composed of cannabis oil or botanical*
 212 *cannabis.*

213 *"Designated caregiver facility" means any hospice or hospice facility licensed pursuant to §*
 214 *32.1-162.3, or home care organization as defined in § 32.1-162.7 that provides pharmaceutical services*
 215 *or home health services, private provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and*
 216 *Developmental Services pursuant to Article 2 (§ 37.2-403 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 37.2, assisted*
 217 *living facility licensed pursuant to § 63.2-1701, or adult day care center licensed pursuant to*
 218 *§ 63.2-1701.*

219 *"Dispense" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-3300.*

220 *"Pharmaceutical processor" means a facility that (i) has obtained a permit from the Board pursuant*
 221 *to § 4.1-1602 and (ii) cultivates Cannabis plants intended only for the production of cannabis oil,*
 222 *botanical cannabis, and usable cannabis, produces cannabis products, and dispenses cannabis products*
 223 *to a patient pursuant to a written certification, his registered agent, or, if such patient is a minor or a*
 224 *vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such patient's parent or legal guardian.*

225 *"Pharmacist" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-3300.*

226 *"Pharmacy intern" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-3300.*

227 *"Pharmacy technician" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-3300.*

228 *"Pharmacy technician trainee" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-3300.*

229 *"Practitioner" means a practitioner of medicine or osteopathy licensed by the Board of Medicine, a*
 230 *physician assistant licensed by the Board of Medicine, or a nurse practitioner jointly licensed by the*
 231 *Boards of Nursing and Medicine.*

232 *"Registered agent" means an individual designated by a patient who has been issued a written*
 233 *certification, or, if such patient is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, designated by*
 234 *such patient's parent or legal guardian, and registered with the Board pursuant to subsection F of §*
 235 *4.1-1601.*

236 *"Usable cannabis" means any cannabis plant material, including seeds, but not (i) resin that has*
 237 *been extracted from any part of the cannabis plant, its seeds, or its resin; (ii) the mature stalks, fiber*
 238 *produced from the stalks, or any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation*
 239 *of the mature stalks; or (iii) oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant.*

240 **§ 4.1-1601. Certification for use of cannabis for treatment.**

241 *A. A practitioner in the course of his professional practice may issue a written certification for the*
 242 *use of cannabis products for treatment or to alleviate the symptoms of any diagnosed condition or*
 243 *disease determined by the practitioner to benefit from such use. The practitioner shall use his*

244 professional judgment to determine the manner and frequency of patient care and evaluation and may
 245 employ the use of telemedicine, provided that the use of telemedicine includes the delivery of patient
 246 care through real-time interactive audiovisual technology. If a practitioner determines it is consistent
 247 with the standard of care to dispense botanical cannabis to a minor, the written certification shall
 248 specifically authorize such dispensing. If not specifically included on the initial written certification,
 249 authorization for botanical cannabis may be communicated verbally or in writing to the pharmacist at
 250 the time of dispensing.

251 B. The written certification shall be on a form provided by the Authority. Such written certification
 252 shall contain the name, address, and telephone number of the practitioner, the name and address of the
 253 patient issued the written certification, the date on which the written certification was made, and the
 254 signature or authentic electronic signature of the practitioner. Such written certification issued pursuant
 255 to subsection A shall expire no later than one year after its issuance unless the practitioner provides in
 256 such written certification an earlier expiration. A written certification shall not be issued to a patient by
 257 more than one practitioner during any given time period.

258 C. No practitioner shall be prosecuted under § 18.2-248 or 18.2-248.1 for the issuance of a
 259 certification for the use of cannabis products for the treatment or to alleviate the symptoms of a
 260 patient's diagnosed condition or disease pursuant to a written certification issued pursuant to subsection
 261 A. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Board of Medicine from sanctioning a practitioner for
 262 failing to properly evaluate or treat a patient's medical condition or otherwise violating the applicable
 263 standard of care for evaluating or treating medical conditions.

264 D. A practitioner who issues a written certification to a patient pursuant to this section shall register
 265 with the Board and shall hold sufficient education and training to exercise appropriate professional
 266 judgment in the certification of patients. The Board shall not limit the number of patients to whom a
 267 practitioner may issue a written certification. The Board may report information to the applicable
 268 licensing board on unusual patterns of certifications issued by a practitioner.

269 E. No patient shall be required to physically present the written certification after the initial
 270 dispensing by any pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility under each written
 271 certification, provided that the pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility maintains an
 272 electronic copy of the written certification. Pharmaceutical processors and cannabis dispensing facilities
 273 shall electronically transmit on a monthly basis all new written certifications received by the
 274 pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility to the Authority.

275 F. A patient, or, if such patient is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such
 276 patient's parent or legal guardian, may designate an individual to act as his registered agent for the
 277 purposes of receiving cannabis products pursuant to a valid written certification. Such designated
 278 individual shall register with the Board. The Board may set a limit on the number of patients for whom
 279 any individual is authorized to act as a registered agent.

280 G. Upon delivery of a cannabis product by a pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing
 281 facility to a designated caregiver facility, any employee or contractor of a designated caregiver facility
 282 who is licensed or registered by a health regulatory board and who is authorized to possess, distribute,
 283 or administer medications may accept delivery of the cannabis product on behalf of a patient or resident
 284 for subsequent delivery to the patient or resident and may assist in the administration of the cannabis
 285 product to the patient or resident as necessary.

286 H. Information obtained under the registration process shall be confidential and shall not be subject
 287 to the disclosure provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.). However,
 288 reasonable access to registry information shall be provided to (i) the Chairmen of the House Committee
 289 for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, (ii) state and federal agencies or local
 290 law enforcement for the purpose of investigating or prosecuting a specific individual for a specific
 291 violation of law, (iii) licensed practitioners or pharmacists, or their agents, for the purpose of providing
 292 patient care and drug therapy management and monitoring of drugs obtained by a patient, (iv) a
 293 pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility involved in the treatment of a patient, or (v) a
 294 patient's registered agent, but only with respect to information related to such patient.

295 **§ 4.1-1602. Permit to operate pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility.**

296 A. No person shall operate a pharmaceutical processor or a cannabis dispensing facility without first
 297 obtaining a permit from the Board. The application for such permit shall be made on a form provided
 298 by the Authority and signed by a pharmacist who will be in full and actual charge of the
 299 pharmaceutical processor's dispensing area or cannabis dispensing facility. The Board shall establish an
 300 application fee and other general requirements for such application.

301 B. Each permit shall expire annually on a date determined by the Board in regulation. The number
 302 of permits that the Board may issue or renew in any year is limited to one pharmaceutical processor
 303 and up to five cannabis dispensing facilities for each health service area established by the Board of
 304 Health. Permits shall be displayed in a conspicuous place on the premises of the pharmaceutical

305 processor and cannabis dispensing facility.

306 C. The Board shall adopt regulations establishing health, safety, and security requirements for
307 pharmaceutical processors and cannabis dispensing facilities. Such regulations shall include
308 requirements for (i) physical standards; (ii) location restrictions; (iii) security systems and controls; (iv)
309 minimum equipment and resources; (v) recordkeeping; (vi) labeling, including the potency of each
310 botanical cannabis product and the amounts recommended by the practitioner or dispensing pharmacist,
311 and packaging; (vii) routine inspections no more frequently than once annually; (viii) processes for
312 safely and securely dispensing and delivering in person cannabis products to a patient, his registered
313 agent, or, if such patient is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such patient's parent
314 or legal guardian; (ix) dosage limitations for cannabis oil that provide that each dispensed dose of
315 cannabis oil not exceed 10 milligrams of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol; (x) a process for the wholesale
316 distribution of and the transfer of usable cannabis, botanical cannabis, cannabis oil, and cannabis
317 products between pharmaceutical processors, between a pharmaceutical processor and a cannabis
318 dispensing facility, and between cannabis dispensing facilities; (xi) an allowance for the sale of devices
319 for administration of dispensed cannabis products and hemp-based CBD products that meet the
320 applicable standards set forth in state and federal law, including the laboratory testing standards set
321 forth in subsection N; (xii) an allowance for the use and distribution of inert product samples containing
322 no cannabinoids for patient demonstration exclusively at the pharmaceutical processor or cannabis
323 dispensing facility, and not for further distribution or sale, without the need for a written certification;
324 (xiii) a process for acquiring industrial hemp extracts and formulating such extracts into cannabis
325 products; and (xiv) an allowance for the advertising and promotion of the pharmaceutical processor's
326 products and operations, which shall not limit the pharmaceutical processor from the provision of
327 educational material to practitioners who issue written certifications and patients. The Board shall also
328 adopt regulations for pharmaceutical processors that include requirements for (a) processes for safely
329 and securely cultivating cannabis plants intended for producing cannabis products, (b) the secure
330 disposal of agricultural waste, and (c) a process for registering cannabis products.

331 D. The Board shall require pharmaceutical processors, after processing and before dispensing any
332 cannabis products, to make a sample available from each batch of cannabis product for testing by an
333 independent laboratory that is located in Commonwealth and meets Board requirements. A valid sample
334 size for testing shall be determined by each laboratory and may vary due to sample matrix, analytical
335 method, and laboratory-specific procedures. A minimum sample size of 0.5 percent of individual units
336 for dispensing or distribution from each homogenized batch of cannabis oil is required to achieve a
337 representative cannabis oil sample for analysis. A minimum sample size, to be determined by the
338 certified testing laboratory, from each batch of botanical cannabis is required to achieve a
339 representative botanical cannabis sample for analysis. Botanical cannabis products shall only be tested
340 for the following: total cannabidiol (CBD), total tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), terpenes, pesticide
341 chemical residue, heavy metals, mycotoxins, moisture, and microbiological contaminants. Testing
342 thresholds shall be consistent with generally accepted cannabis industry thresholds. The pharmaceutical
343 processor may remediate botanical cannabis or cannabis oil that fails any quality testing standard
344 except pesticides. Following remediation, all remediated botanical cannabis or cannabis oil shall be
345 subject to laboratory testing and approved upon satisfaction of applicable testing standards, which shall
346 not be more stringent than initial testing prior to remediation. If a batch of botanical cannabis fails
347 retesting after remediation, it shall be considered usable cannabis and may be processed into cannabis
348 oil. Stability testing shall not be required for any cannabis product with an expiration date assigned by
349 the pharmaceutical processor of six months or less from the date of the cannabis product registration
350 approval. Stability testing required for assignment of an expiration date longer than six months shall be
351 limited to microbial testing, on a pass/fail basis, and potency testing, on a 10 percent deviation basis, of
352 active ingredients.

353 E. A laboratory testing samples for a pharmaceutical processor shall obtain a controlled substances
354 registration certificate pursuant to § 54.1-3423 and shall comply with quality standards established by
355 the Board of Pharmacy in regulation.

356 F. Every pharmaceutical processor's dispensing area or cannabis dispensing facility shall be under
357 the personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist on the premises of the pharmaceutical processor or
358 cannabis dispensing facility. The pharmaceutical processor shall ensure that security measures are
359 adequate to protect the cannabis from diversion at all times, and the pharmacist-in-charge shall have
360 concurrent responsibility for preventing diversion from the dispensing area.

361 Every pharmaceutical processor shall designate a person who shall have oversight of the cultivation
362 and production areas of the pharmaceutical processor and shall provide such information to the Board.
363 The Board shall direct all communications related to enforcement of requirements related to cultivation
364 and production of cannabis oil products by the pharmaceutical processor to such designated person.

365 G. The Board shall require the material owners of an applicant for a pharmaceutical processor or
366 cannabis dispensing facility permit to submit to fingerprinting and provide personal descriptive

367 information to be forwarded along with his fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange
 368 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information
 369 regarding the applicant's material owners. The cost of fingerprinting and the criminal history record
 370 search shall be paid by the applicant. The Central Criminal Records Exchange shall forward the results
 371 of the criminal history background check to the Board or its designee, which shall be a governmental
 372 entity.

373 H. A pharmaceutical processor shall maintain evidence of criminal background checks for all
 374 employees and delivery agents of the pharmaceutical processor. Criminal background checks of
 375 employees and delivery agents may be conducted by any service sufficient to disclose any federal and
 376 state criminal convictions.

377 I. In addition to other employees authorized by the Board, a pharmaceutical processor may employ
 378 individuals who may have less than two years of experience (i) to perform cultivation-related duties
 379 under the supervision of an individual who has received a degree in a field related to the cultivation of
 380 plants or a certification recognized by the Board or who has at least two years of experience cultivating
 381 plants, (ii) to perform extraction-related duties under the supervision of an individual who has a degree
 382 in chemistry or pharmacology or at least two years of experience extracting chemicals from plants, and
 383 (iii) to perform duties at the pharmaceutical processor and cannabis dispensing facility upon
 384 certification as a pharmacy technician.

385 J. A pharmaceutical processor to whom a permit has been issued by the Board may establish up to
 386 five cannabis dispensing facilities for the dispensing of cannabis products that have been cultivated and
 387 produced on the premises of a pharmaceutical processor permitted by the Board. Each cannabis
 388 dispensing facility shall be located within the same health service area as the pharmaceutical processor.

389 K. No person who has been convicted of a felony under the laws of the Commonwealth or another
 390 jurisdiction within the last five years shall be employed by or act as an agent of a pharmaceutical
 391 processor or cannabis dispensing facility.

392 L. Every pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility shall adopt policies for
 393 pre-employment drug screening and regular, ongoing, random drug screening of employees.

394 M. A pharmacist at the pharmaceutical processor's dispensing area and the cannabis dispensing
 395 facility shall determine the number of pharmacy interns, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy technician
 396 trainees who can be safely and competently supervised at one time; however, no pharmacist shall
 397 supervise more than six persons performing the duties of a pharmacy technician at one time in the
 398 pharmaceutical processor's dispensing area or cannabis dispensing facility.

399 N. A pharmaceutical processor may acquire industrial hemp extracts grown and processed in
 400 Virginia, and in compliance with state or federal law, from a registered industrial hemp dealer or
 401 processor. A pharmaceutical processor may process and formulate such extracts into an allowable
 402 dosage of cannabis product. Industrial hemp extracts acquired and formulated by a pharmaceutical
 403 processor are subject to the same third-party testing requirements that may apply to cannabis plant
 404 extract. Testing shall be performed by a laboratory located in Virginia and in compliance with state law
 405 governing the testing of cannabis products. The industrial hemp dealer or processor shall provide such
 406 third-party testing results to the pharmaceutical processor before industrial hemp extracts may be
 407 acquired.

408 O. With the exception of § 2.2-4031, neither the provisions of the Administrative Process Act
 409 (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.) nor public participation guidelines adopted pursuant thereto shall apply to the
 410 adoption of any regulation pursuant to this section. Prior to adopting any regulation pursuant to this
 411 section, the Board shall publish a notice of opportunity to comment in the Virginia Register of
 412 Regulations and post the action on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall. Such notice of opportunity to
 413 comment shall contain (i) a summary of the proposed regulation; (ii) the text of the proposed
 414 regulation; and (iii) the name, address, and telephone number of the agency contact person responsible
 415 for receiving public comments. Such notice shall be made at least 60 days in advance of the last date
 416 prescribed in such notice for submittals of public comment. The legislative review provisions of
 417 subsections A and B of § 2.2-4014 shall apply to the promulgation or final adoption process for
 418 regulations pursuant to this section. The Board shall consider and keep on file all public comments
 419 received for any regulation adopted pursuant to this section.

420 P. The Board shall register all cannabis products that meet testing, labeling, and packaging
 421 standards.

422 **§ 4.1-1603. Dispensing cannabis products; report.**

423 A. A pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility shall dispense or deliver cannabis
 424 products only in person to (i) a patient who is a Virginia resident or temporarily resides in Virginia and
 425 has been issued a valid written certification; (ii) such patient's registered agent; or (iii) if such patient
 426 is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such patient's parent or legal guardian who
 427 is a Virginia resident or temporarily resides in Virginia. A companion may accompany a patient into a

428 pharmaceutical processor's dispensing area or cannabis dispensing facility. Prior to the initial
429 dispensing of cannabis products pursuant to each written certification, a pharmacist or pharmacy
430 technician employed by the pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility shall make and
431 maintain, on site or remotely by electronic means, for two years a paper or electronic copy of the
432 written certification that provides an exact image of the document that is clearly legible; shall view, in
433 person or by audiovisual means, a current photo identification of the patient, registered agent, parent,
434 or legal guardian; and shall verify current board registration of the practitioner and the corresponding
435 registered agent if applicable. Thereafter, an initial dispensing may be delivered to the patient,
436 registered agent, parent, legal guardian, or designated caregiver facility. Prior to any subsequent
437 dispensing of cannabis products pursuant to each written certification, an employee or delivery agent
438 shall view a current photo identification of the patient, registered agent, parent, or legal guardian and
439 the current board registration issued to the registered agent if applicable. No pharmaceutical processor
440 or cannabis dispensing facility shall dispense more than a 90-day supply, as determined by the
441 dispensing pharmacist or certifying practitioner, for any patient during any 90-day period. A
442 pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility may dispense less than a 90-day supply of a
443 cannabis product for any patient during any 90-day period; however, a pharmaceutical processor or
444 cannabis dispensing facility may dispense more than one cannabis product to a patient at one time. No
445 more than four ounces of botanical cannabis shall be dispensed for each 30-day period for which
446 botanical cannabis is dispensed. The Board shall establish in regulation an amount of cannabis oil that
447 constitutes a 90-day supply to treat or alleviate the symptoms of a patient's diagnosed condition or
448 disease. In determining the appropriate amount of a cannabis product to be dispensed to a patient, a
449 pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility shall consider all cannabis products dispensed
450 to the patient and adjust the amount dispensed accordingly.

451 B. A pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility shall dispense only cannabis products
452 produced on the premises of a pharmaceutical processor permitted by the Board or cannabis products
453 that have been formulated with extracts from industrial hemp acquired by a pharmaceutical processor
454 from a registered industrial hemp dealer or processor pursuant to § 4.1-1602. A pharmaceutical
455 processor may begin cultivation upon being issued a permit by the Board.

456 C. The Board shall report annually by December 1 to the Chairmen of the House Committee on
457 General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services on the operation of
458 pharmaceutical processors and cannabis dispensing facilities issued a permit by the Board.

459 D. The concentration of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol in any cannabis product on site may be up to
460 10 percent greater than or less than the level of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol measured for labeling. A
461 pharmaceutical processor and cannabis dispensing facility shall ensure that such concentration in any
462 cannabis product on site is within such range. A pharmaceutical processor producing cannabis products
463 shall establish a stability testing schedule of cannabis products.

464 **§ 4.1-1604. Criminal liability; exceptions.**

465 No agent or employee of a pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility shall be
466 prosecuted under Chapter 11 (§ 4.1-1100 et seq.) or § 18.2-248, 18.2-248.1, or 18.2-250 for possession
467 or manufacture of marijuana or for possession, manufacture, or distribution of cannabis products,
468 subject to any civil penalty, denied any right or privilege, or subject to any disciplinary action by a
469 professional licensing board if such agent or employee (i) possessed or manufactured such marijuana
470 for the purposes of producing cannabis products in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and
471 Board regulations or (ii) possessed, manufactured, or distributed such cannabis products that are
472 consistent with generally accepted cannabis industry standards in accordance with the provisions of this
473 chapter and Board regulations.

474 **§ 4.1-1605. Summary suspensions and restrictions.**

475 A. The Board may summarily suspend or restrict a permit issued pursuant to § 4.1-1602 without a
476 hearing if the Board finds that such suspension or restriction is necessary to prevent substantial danger
477 to public health or safety. The Board shall make decisions to summarily suspend or restrict a permit
478 only during an in-person meeting in which a quorum is present; however, if, after a good faith effort,
479 the Board is unable to assemble a quorum and a majority of the Board members determine that
480 continued operation by the permittee constitutes a substantial danger to public health or safety, the
481 Board may summarily suspend the permit during a telephone, video, or other electronic conference.
482 Institution of proceedings for a hearing shall be provided simultaneously with a summary suspension.
483 The Board may summarily restrict a permit without proceeding simultaneously with notification of an
484 informal conference pursuant to § 2.2-4019 or Board regulations. Such hearing or conference shall be
485 held within a reasonable amount of time after the summary suspension or restriction is issued.

486 B. Allegations of violations of this subtitle shall be submitted to the Board in writing.

487 **§ 18.2-251.1:1. Possession or distribution of cannabis oil; public schools.**

488 No school nurse employed by a local school board, person employed by a local health department
489 who is assigned to the public school pursuant to an agreement between the local health department and

490 the school board, or other person employed by or contracted with a local school board to deliver
 491 health-related services shall be prosecuted under Chapter 11 (§ 4.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 4.1 or
 492 § 18.2-248, 18.2-248.1, 18.2-250, or 18.2-255 for the possession or distribution of cannabis oil for
 493 storing, dispensing, or administering cannabis oil, in accordance with a policy adopted by the local
 494 school board, to a student who has been issued a valid written certification for the use of cannabis oil in
 495 accordance with ~~subsection B of § 54.1-3408.3~~ 4.1-1601.

496 **§ 18.2-251.1:2. Possession or distribution of cannabis oil; nursing homes and certified nursing**
 497 **facilities; hospice and hospice facilities; assisted living facilities.**

498 No person employed by a nursing home, hospice, hospice facility, or assisted living facility and
 499 authorized to possess, distribute, or administer medications to patients or residents shall be prosecuted
 500 under Chapter 11 (§ 4.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 4.1 or § 18.2-248, 18.2-248.1, or 18.2-250 for the
 501 possession or distribution of cannabis oil for the purposes of storing, dispensing, or administering
 502 cannabis oil to a patient or resident who has been issued a valid written certification for the use of
 503 cannabis oil in accordance with ~~subsection B of § 54.1-3408.3~~ and has registered with the Board of
 504 Pharmacy § 4.1-1601.

505 **§ 22.1-277. Suspensions and expulsions of students generally.**

506 A. Students may be suspended or expelled from attendance at school for sufficient cause; however,
 507 in no cases may sufficient cause for suspensions include only instances of truancy.

508 B. Except as provided in subsection C or § 22.1-277.07 or 22.1-277.08, no student in preschool
 509 through grade three shall be suspended for more than three school days or expelled from attendance at
 510 school, unless (i) the offense involves physical harm or credible threat of physical harm to others or (ii)
 511 the local school board or the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances
 512 exist, as defined by the Department.

513 C. Any student for whom the division superintendent of the school division in which such student is
 514 enrolled has received a report pursuant to § 16.1-305.1 of an adjudication of delinquency or a conviction
 515 for an offense listed in subsection G of § 16.1-260 may be suspended or expelled from school
 516 attendance pursuant to this article.

517 D. The authority provided in § 22.1-276.2 for teachers to remove students from their classes in
 518 certain instances of disruptive behavior shall not be interpreted to affect the operation of § 22.1-277.04,
 519 22.1-277.05, or 22.1-277.06.

520 E. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 22.1-277.08, no school board shall be required to suspend or
 521 expel any student who holds a valid written certification for the use of cannabis oil issued by a
 522 practitioner in accordance with ~~subsection B of § 54.1-3408.3~~ 4.1-1601 for the possession or use of such
 523 oil in accordance with the student's individualized health plan and in compliance with a policy adopted
 524 by the school board.

525 **§ 32.1-127. Regulations.**

526 A. The regulations promulgated by the Board to carry out the provisions of this article shall be in
 527 substantial conformity to the standards of health, hygiene, sanitation, construction and safety as
 528 established and recognized by medical and health care professionals and by specialists in matters of
 529 public health and safety, including health and safety standards established under provisions of Title
 530 XVIII and Title XIX of the Social Security Act, and to the provisions of Article 2 (§ 32.1-138 et seq.).

531 B. Such regulations:

532 1. Shall include minimum standards for (i) the construction and maintenance of hospitals, nursing
 533 homes and certified nursing facilities to ensure the environmental protection and the life safety of its
 534 patients, employees, and the public; (ii) the operation, staffing and equipping of hospitals, nursing homes
 535 and certified nursing facilities; (iii) qualifications and training of staff of hospitals, nursing homes and
 536 certified nursing facilities, except those professionals licensed or certified by the Department of Health
 537 Professions; (iv) conditions under which a hospital or nursing home may provide medical and nursing
 538 services to patients in their places of residence; and (v) policies related to infection prevention, disaster
 539 preparedness, and facility security of hospitals, nursing homes, and certified nursing facilities;

540 2. Shall provide that at least one physician who is licensed to practice medicine in this
 541 Commonwealth shall be on call at all times, though not necessarily physically present on the premises,
 542 at each hospital which operates or holds itself out as operating an emergency service;

543 3. May classify hospitals and nursing homes by type of specialty or service and may provide for
 544 licensing hospitals and nursing homes by bed capacity and by type of specialty or service;

545 4. Shall also require that each hospital establish a protocol for organ donation, in compliance with
 546 federal law and the regulations of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), particularly
 547 42 C.F.R. § 482.45. Each hospital shall have an agreement with an organ procurement organization
 548 designated in CMS regulations for routine contact, whereby the provider's designated organ procurement
 549 organization certified by CMS (i) is notified in a timely manner of all deaths or imminent deaths of
 550 patients in the hospital and (ii) is authorized to determine the suitability of the decedent or patient for

551 organ donation and, in the absence of a similar arrangement with any eye bank or tissue bank in
552 Virginia certified by the Eye Bank Association of America or the American Association of Tissue
553 Banks, the suitability for tissue and eye donation. The hospital shall also have an agreement with at least
554 one tissue bank and at least one eye bank to cooperate in the retrieval, processing, preservation, storage,
555 and distribution of tissues and eyes to ensure that all usable tissues and eyes are obtained from potential
556 donors and to avoid interference with organ procurement. The protocol shall ensure that the hospital
557 collaborates with the designated organ procurement organization to inform the family of each potential
558 donor of the option to donate organs, tissues, or eyes or to decline to donate. The individual making
559 contact with the family shall have completed a course in the methodology for approaching potential
560 donor families and requesting organ or tissue donation that (a) is offered or approved by the organ
561 procurement organization and designed in conjunction with the tissue and eye bank community and (b)
562 encourages discretion and sensitivity according to the specific circumstances, views, and beliefs of the
563 relevant family. In addition, the hospital shall work cooperatively with the designated organ procurement
564 organization in educating the staff responsible for contacting the organ procurement organization's
565 personnel on donation issues, the proper review of death records to improve identification of potential
566 donors, and the proper procedures for maintaining potential donors while necessary testing and
567 placement of potential donated organs, tissues, and eyes takes place. This process shall be followed,
568 without exception, unless the family of the relevant decedent or patient has expressed opposition to
569 organ donation, the chief administrative officer of the hospital or his designee knows of such opposition,
570 and no donor card or other relevant document, such as an advance directive, can be found;

571 5. Shall require that each hospital that provides obstetrical services establish a protocol for admission
572 or transfer of any pregnant woman who presents herself while in labor;

573 6. Shall also require that each licensed hospital develop and implement a protocol requiring written
574 discharge plans for identified, substance-abusing, postpartum women and their infants. The protocol shall
575 require that the discharge plan be discussed with the patient and that appropriate referrals for the mother
576 and the infant be made and documented. Appropriate referrals may include, but need not be limited to,
577 treatment services, comprehensive early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities
578 and their families pursuant to Part H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C.
579 § 1471 et seq., and family-oriented prevention services. The discharge planning process shall involve, to
580 the extent possible, the other parent of the infant and any members of the patient's extended family who
581 may participate in the follow-up care for the mother and the infant. Immediately upon identification,
582 pursuant to § 54.1-2403.1, of any substance-abusing, postpartum woman, the hospital shall notify,
583 subject to federal law restrictions, the community services board of the jurisdiction in which the woman
584 resides to appoint a discharge plan manager. The community services board shall implement and manage
585 the discharge plan;

586 7. Shall require that each nursing home and certified nursing facility fully disclose to the applicant
587 for admission the home's or facility's admissions policies, including any preferences given;

588 8. Shall require that each licensed hospital establish a protocol relating to the rights and
589 responsibilities of patients which shall include a process reasonably designed to inform patients of such
590 rights and responsibilities. Such rights and responsibilities of patients, a copy of which shall be given to
591 patients on admission, shall be consistent with applicable federal law and regulations of the Centers for
592 Medicare and Medicaid Services;

593 9. Shall establish standards and maintain a process for designation of levels or categories of care in
594 neonatal services according to an applicable national or state-developed evaluation system. Such
595 standards may be differentiated for various levels or categories of care and may include, but need not be
596 limited to, requirements for staffing credentials, staff/patient ratios, equipment, and medical protocols;

597 10. Shall require that each nursing home and certified nursing facility train all employees who are
598 mandated to report adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation pursuant to § 63.2-1606 on such reporting
599 procedures and the consequences for failing to make a required report;

600 11. Shall permit hospital personnel, as designated in medical staff bylaws, rules and regulations, or
601 hospital policies and procedures, to accept emergency telephone and other verbal orders for medication
602 or treatment for hospital patients from physicians, and other persons lawfully authorized by state statute
603 to give patient orders, subject to a requirement that such verbal order be signed, within a reasonable
604 period of time not to exceed 72 hours as specified in the hospital's medical staff bylaws, rules and
605 regulations or hospital policies and procedures, by the person giving the order, or, when such person is
606 not available within the period of time specified, co-signed by another physician or other person
607 authorized to give the order;

608 12. Shall require, unless the vaccination is medically contraindicated or the resident declines the offer
609 of the vaccination, that each certified nursing facility and nursing home provide or arrange for the
610 administration to its residents of (i) an annual vaccination against influenza and (ii) a pneumococcal
611 vaccination, in accordance with the most recent recommendations of the Advisory Committee on
612 Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

613 13. Shall require that each nursing home and certified nursing facility register with the Department of
 614 State Police to receive notice of the registration, reregistration, or verification of registration information
 615 of any person required to register with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry pursuant
 616 to Chapter 9 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1 within the same or a contiguous zip code area in which the
 617 home or facility is located, pursuant to § 9.1-914;

618 14. Shall require that each nursing home and certified nursing facility ascertain, prior to admission,
 619 whether a potential patient is required to register with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors
 620 Registry pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1, if the home or facility anticipates the
 621 potential patient will have a length of stay greater than three days or in fact stays longer than three
 622 days;

623 15. Shall require that each licensed hospital include in its visitation policy a provision allowing each
 624 adult patient to receive visits from any individual from whom the patient desires to receive visits,
 625 subject to other restrictions contained in the visitation policy including, but not limited to, those related
 626 to the patient's medical condition and the number of visitors permitted in the patient's room
 627 simultaneously;

628 16. Shall require that each nursing home and certified nursing facility shall, upon the request of the
 629 facility's family council, send notices and information about the family council mutually developed by
 630 the family council and the administration of the nursing home or certified nursing facility, and provided
 631 to the facility for such purpose, to the listed responsible party or a contact person of the resident's
 632 choice up to six times per year. Such notices may be included together with a monthly billing statement
 633 or other regular communication. Notices and information shall also be posted in a designated location
 634 within the nursing home or certified nursing facility. No family member of a resident or other resident
 635 representative shall be restricted from participating in meetings in the facility with the families or
 636 resident representatives of other residents in the facility;

637 17. Shall require that each nursing home and certified nursing facility maintain liability insurance
 638 coverage in a minimum amount of \$1 million, and professional liability coverage in an amount at least
 639 equal to the recovery limit set forth in § 8.01-581.15, to compensate patients or individuals for injuries
 640 and losses resulting from the negligent or criminal acts of the facility. Failure to maintain such
 641 minimum insurance shall result in revocation of the facility's license;

642 18. Shall require each hospital that provides obstetrical services to establish policies to follow when a
 643 stillbirth, as defined in § 32.1-69.1, occurs that meet the guidelines pertaining to counseling patients and
 644 their families and other aspects of managing stillbirths as may be specified by the Board in its
 645 regulations;

646 19. Shall require each nursing home to provide a full refund of any unexpended patient funds on
 647 deposit with the facility following the discharge or death of a patient, other than entrance-related fees
 648 paid to a continuing care provider as defined in § 38.2-4900, within 30 days of a written request for
 649 such funds by the discharged patient or, in the case of the death of a patient, the person administering
 650 the person's estate in accordance with the Virginia Small Estates Act (§ 64.2-600 et seq.);

651 20. Shall require that each hospital that provides inpatient psychiatric services establish a protocol
 652 that requires, for any refusal to admit (i) a medically stable patient referred to its psychiatric unit, direct
 653 verbal communication between the on-call physician in the psychiatric unit and the referring physician,
 654 if requested by such referring physician, and prohibits on-call physicians or other hospital staff from
 655 refusing a request for such direct verbal communication by a referring physician and (ii) a patient for
 656 whom there is a question regarding the medical stability or medical appropriateness of admission for
 657 inpatient psychiatric services due to a situation involving results of a toxicology screening, the on-call
 658 physician in the psychiatric unit to which the patient is sought to be transferred to participate in direct
 659 verbal communication, either in person or via telephone, with a clinical toxicologist or other person who
 660 is a Certified Specialist in Poison Information employed by a poison control center that is accredited by
 661 the American Association of Poison Control Centers to review the results of the toxicology screen and
 662 determine whether a medical reason for refusing admission to the psychiatric unit related to the results
 663 of the toxicology screen exists, if requested by the referring physician;

664 21. Shall require that each hospital that is equipped to provide life-sustaining treatment shall develop
 665 a policy governing determination of the medical and ethical appropriateness of proposed medical care,
 666 which shall include (i) a process for obtaining a second opinion regarding the medical and ethical
 667 appropriateness of proposed medical care in cases in which a physician has determined proposed care to
 668 be medically or ethically inappropriate; (ii) provisions for review of the determination that proposed
 669 medical care is medically or ethically inappropriate by an interdisciplinary medical review committee
 670 and a determination by the interdisciplinary medical review committee regarding the medical and ethical
 671 appropriateness of the proposed health care; and (iii) requirements for a written explanation of the
 672 decision reached by the interdisciplinary medical review committee, which shall be included in the
 673 patient's medical record. Such policy shall ensure that the patient, his agent, or the person authorized to

674 make medical decisions pursuant to § 54.1-2986 (a) are informed of the patient's right to obtain his
675 medical record and to obtain an independent medical opinion and (b) afforded reasonable opportunity to
676 participate in the medical review committee meeting. Nothing in such policy shall prevent the patient,
677 his agent, or the person authorized to make medical decisions pursuant to § 54.1-2986 from obtaining
678 legal counsel to represent the patient or from seeking other remedies available at law, including seeking
679 court review, provided that the patient, his agent, or the person authorized to make medical decisions
680 pursuant to § 54.1-2986, or legal counsel provides written notice to the chief executive officer of the
681 hospital within 14 days of the date on which the physician's determination that proposed medical
682 treatment is medically or ethically inappropriate is documented in the patient's medical record;

683 22. Shall require every hospital with an emergency department to establish protocols to ensure that
684 security personnel of the emergency department, if any, receive training appropriate to the populations
685 served by the emergency department, which may include training based on a trauma-informed approach
686 in identifying and safely addressing situations involving patients or other persons who pose a risk of
687 harm to themselves or others due to mental illness or substance abuse or who are experiencing a mental
688 health crisis;

689 23. Shall require that each hospital establish a protocol requiring that, before a health care provider
690 arranges for air medical transportation services for a patient who does not have an emergency medical
691 condition as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1395dd(e)(1), the hospital shall provide the patient or his authorized
692 representative with written or electronic notice that the patient (i) may have a choice of transportation by
693 an air medical transportation provider or medically appropriate ground transportation by an emergency
694 medical services provider and (ii) will be responsible for charges incurred for such transportation in the
695 event that the provider is not a contracted network provider of the patient's health insurance carrier or
696 such charges are not otherwise covered in full or in part by the patient's health insurance plan;

697 24. Shall establish an exemption from the requirement to obtain a license to add temporary beds in
698 an existing hospital or nursing home, including beds located in a temporary structure or satellite location
699 operated by the hospital or nursing home, provided that the ability remains to safely staff services across
700 the existing hospital or nursing home, (i) for a period of no more than the duration of the
701 Commissioner's determination plus 30 days when the Commissioner has determined that a natural or
702 man-made disaster has caused the evacuation of a hospital or nursing home and that a public health
703 emergency exists due to a shortage of hospital or nursing home beds or (ii) for a period of no more than
704 the duration of the emergency order entered pursuant to § 32.1-13 or 32.1-20 plus 30 days when the
705 Board, pursuant to § 32.1-13, or the Commissioner, pursuant to § 32.1-20, has entered an emergency
706 order for the purpose of suppressing a nuisance dangerous to public health or a communicable,
707 contagious, or infectious disease or other danger to the public life and health;

708 25. Shall establish protocols to ensure that any patient scheduled to receive an elective surgical
709 procedure for which the patient can reasonably be expected to require outpatient physical therapy as a
710 follow-up treatment after discharge is informed that he (i) is expected to require outpatient physical
711 therapy as a follow-up treatment and (ii) will be required to select a physical therapy provider prior to
712 being discharged from the hospital;

713 26. Shall permit nursing home staff members who are authorized to possess, distribute, or administer
714 medications to residents to store, dispense, or administer cannabis oil to a resident who has been issued
715 a valid written certification for the use of cannabis oil in accordance with subsection B of §—
716 54.1-3408.3 and has registered with the Board of Pharmacy § 4.1-1601;

717 27. Shall require each hospital with an emergency department to establish a protocol for the
718 treatment and discharge of individuals experiencing a substance use-related emergency, which shall
719 include provisions for (i) appropriate screening and assessment of individuals experiencing substance
720 use-related emergencies to identify medical interventions necessary for the treatment of the individual in
721 the emergency department and (ii) recommendations for follow-up care following discharge for any
722 patient identified as having a substance use disorder, depression, or mental health disorder, as
723 appropriate, which may include, for patients who have been treated for substance use-related
724 emergencies, including opioid overdose, or other high-risk patients, (a) the dispensing of naloxone or
725 other opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal pursuant to subsection X of § 54.1-3408 at discharge
726 or (b) issuance of a prescription for and information about accessing naloxone or other opioid antagonist
727 used for overdose reversal, including information about accessing naloxone or other opioid antagonist
728 used for overdose reversal at a community pharmacy, including any outpatient pharmacy operated by the
729 hospital, or through a community organization or pharmacy that may dispense naloxone or other opioid
730 antagonist used for overdose reversal without a prescription pursuant to a statewide standing order. Such
731 protocols may also provide for referrals of individuals experiencing a substance use-related emergency to
732 peer recovery specialists and community-based providers of behavioral health services, or to providers of
733 pharmacotherapy for the treatment of drug or alcohol dependence or mental health diagnoses;

734 28. During a public health emergency related to COVID-19, shall require each nursing home and
735 certified nursing facility to establish a protocol to allow each patient to receive visits, consistent with

736 guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and as directed by the Centers for
 737 Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Board. Such protocol shall include provisions describing (i) the
 738 conditions, including conditions related to the presence of COVID-19 in the nursing home, certified
 739 nursing facility, and community, under which in-person visits will be allowed and under which in-person
 740 visits will not be allowed and visits will be required to be virtual; (ii) the requirements with which
 741 in-person visitors will be required to comply to protect the health and safety of the patients and staff of
 742 the nursing home or certified nursing facility; (iii) the types of technology, including interactive audio or
 743 video technology, and the staff support necessary to ensure visits are provided as required by this
 744 subdivision; and (iv) the steps the nursing home or certified nursing facility will take in the event of a
 745 technology failure, service interruption, or documented emergency that prevents visits from occurring as
 746 required by this subdivision. Such protocol shall also include (a) a statement of the frequency with
 747 which visits, including virtual and in-person, where appropriate, will be allowed, which shall be at least
 748 once every 10 calendar days for each patient; (b) a provision authorizing a patient or the patient's
 749 personal representative to waive or limit visitation, provided that such waiver or limitation is included in
 750 the patient's health record; and (c) a requirement that each nursing home and certified nursing facility
 751 publish on its website or communicate to each patient or the patient's authorized representative, in
 752 writing or via electronic means, the nursing home's or certified nursing facility's plan for providing visits
 753 to patients as required by this subdivision;

754 29. Shall require each hospital, nursing home, and certified nursing facility to establish and
 755 implement policies to ensure the permissible access to and use of an intelligent personal assistant
 756 provided by a patient, in accordance with such regulations, while receiving inpatient services. Such
 757 policies shall ensure protection of health information in accordance with the requirements of the federal
 758 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. § 1320d et seq., as amended.
 759 For the purposes of this subdivision, "intelligent personal assistant" means a combination of an
 760 electronic device and a specialized software application designed to assist users with basic tasks using a
 761 combination of natural language processing and artificial intelligence, including such combinations
 762 known as "digital assistants" or "virtual assistants";

763 30. During a declared public health emergency related to a communicable disease of public health
 764 threat, shall require each hospital, nursing home, and certified nursing facility to establish a protocol to
 765 allow patients to receive visits from a rabbi, priest, minister, or clergy of any religious denomination or
 766 sect consistent with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Centers for
 767 Medicare and Medicaid Services and subject to compliance with any executive order, order of public
 768 health, Department guidance, or any other applicable federal or state guidance having the effect of
 769 limiting visitation. Such protocol may restrict the frequency and duration of visits and may require visits
 770 to be conducted virtually using interactive audio or video technology. Any such protocol may require the
 771 person visiting a patient pursuant to this subdivision to comply with all reasonable requirements of the
 772 hospital, nursing home, or certified nursing facility adopted to protect the health and safety of the
 773 person, patients, and staff of the hospital, nursing home, or certified nursing facility; and

774 31. Shall require that every hospital that makes health records, as defined in § 32.1-127.1:03, of
 775 patients who are minors available to such patients through a secure website shall make such health
 776 records available to such patient's parent or guardian through such secure website, unless the hospital
 777 cannot make such health record available in a manner that prevents disclosure of information, the
 778 disclosure of which has been denied pursuant to subsection F of § 32.1-127.1:03 or for which consent
 779 required in accordance with subsection E of § 54.1-2969 has not been provided.

780 C. Upon obtaining the appropriate license, if applicable, licensed hospitals, nursing homes, and
 781 certified nursing facilities may operate adult day care centers.

782 D. All facilities licensed by the Board pursuant to this article which provide treatment or care for
 783 hemophiliacs and, in the course of such treatment, stock clotting factors, shall maintain records of all lot
 784 numbers or other unique identifiers for such clotting factors in order that, in the event the lot is found to
 785 be contaminated with an infectious agent, those hemophiliacs who have received units of this
 786 contaminated clotting factor may be apprised of this contamination. Facilities which have identified a lot
 787 that is known to be contaminated shall notify the recipient's attending physician and request that he
 788 notify the recipient of the contamination. If the physician is unavailable, the facility shall notify by mail,
 789 return receipt requested, each recipient who received treatment from a known contaminated lot at the
 790 individual's last known address.

791 E. Hospitals in the Commonwealth may enter into agreements with the Department of Health for the
 792 provision to uninsured patients of naloxone or other opioid antagonists used for overdose reversal.

793 **§ 32.1-162.6:1. Possession or administration of cannabis oil.**

794 Hospice and hospice facility employees who are authorized to possess, distribute, or administer
 795 medications to patients shall be permitted to store, dispense, or administer cannabis oil to a patient who
 796 has been issued a valid written certification for the use of cannabis oil in accordance with ~~subsection B~~

797 of § ~~54.1-3408.3~~ and has registered with the Board of Pharmacy § ~~4.1-1601~~.

798 **§ 40.1-27.4. Discipline for employee's medicinal use of cannabis oil prohibited.**

799 A. As used in this section, "cannabis oil" means the same as that term is defined in § ~~54.1-3408.3~~
800 ~~4.1-1600~~.

801 B. No employer shall discharge, discipline, or discriminate against an employee for such employee's
802 lawful use of cannabis oil pursuant to a valid written certification issued by a practitioner for the
803 treatment or to eliminate the symptoms of the employee's diagnosed condition or disease pursuant to §
804 ~~54.1-3408.3 4.1-1601~~.

805 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection B, nothing in this section shall (i) restrict an
806 employer's ability to take any adverse employment action for any work impairment caused by the use of
807 cannabis oil or to prohibit possession during work hours, (ii) require an employer to commit any act that
808 would cause the employer to be in violation of federal law or that would result in the loss of a federal
809 contract or federal funding, or (iii) require any defense industrial base sector employer or prospective
810 employer, as defined by the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, to hire or retain any
811 applicant or employee who tests positive for tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in excess of 50 ng/ml for a
812 urine test or 10 pg/mg for a hair test.

813 **§ 46.2-341.20:7. Possession of marijuana in commercial motor vehicle unlawful; civil penalty.**

814 A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally possess marijuana in a commercial
815 motor vehicle as defined in § 46.2-341.4. The attorney for the Commonwealth or the county, city, or
816 town attorney may prosecute such a case.

817 Upon the prosecution of a person for a violation of this section, ownership or occupancy of the
818 vehicle in which marijuana was found shall not create a presumption that such person either knowingly
819 or intentionally possessed such marijuana.

820 Any person who violates this section is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$25. A violation of
821 this section is a civil offence. Any civil penalties collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited
822 into the Drug Offender Assessment and Treatment Fund established pursuant to § 18.2-251.02.
823 Violations of this section by an adult shall be prepayable according to the procedures in § 16.1-69.40:2.

824 B. Any violation of this section shall be charged by summons. A summons for a violation of this
825 section may be executed by a law-enforcement officer when such violation is observed by such officer.
826 The summons used by a law-enforcement officer pursuant to this section shall be in form the same as
827 the uniform summons for motor vehicle law violations as prescribed pursuant to § 46.2-388. No court
828 costs shall be assessed for violations of this section. A person's criminal history record information as
829 defined in § 9.1-101 shall not include records of any charges or judgments for a violation of this section,
830 and records of such charges or judgments shall not be reported to the Central Criminal Records
831 Exchange; however, such violation shall be reported to the Department of Motor Vehicles and shall be
832 included on such individual's driving record.

833 C. The procedure for appeal and trial of any violation of this section shall be the same as provided
834 by law for misdemeanors; if requested by either party on appeal to the circuit court, trial by jury shall
835 be as provided in Article 4 (§ 19.2-260 et seq.) of Chapter 15 of Title 19.2, and the Commonwealth
836 shall be required to prove its case beyond a reasonable doubt.

837 D. The provisions of this section shall not apply to members of state, federal, county, city, or town
838 law-enforcement agencies, jail officers, or correctional officers, as defined in § 53.1-1, certified as
839 handlers of dogs trained in the detection of controlled substances when possession of marijuana is
840 necessary for the performance of their duties.

841 E. The provisions of this section involving marijuana in the form of cannabis products as that term is
842 defined in § ~~54.1-3408.3 4.1-1600~~ shall not apply to any person who possesses such cannabis product
843 pursuant to a valid written certification issued by a practitioner in the course of his professional practice
844 pursuant to § ~~54.1-3408.3 4.1-1601~~ for treatment or to alleviate the symptoms of (i) the person's
845 diagnosed condition or disease, (ii) if such person is the parent or guardian of a minor or of a
846 vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such minor's or vulnerable adult's diagnosed condition or
847 disease, or (iii) if such person has been designated as a registered agent pursuant to § ~~54.1-3408.3~~
848 ~~4.1-1601~~, the diagnosed condition or disease of his principal or, if the principal is the parent or legal
849 guardian of a minor or of a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such minor's or vulnerable adult's
850 diagnosed condition or disease.

851 **§ 54.1-2522.1. (Effective until July 1, 2027) Requirements of practitioners.**

852 A. Any prescriber who is licensed in the Commonwealth to treat human patients and is authorized
853 pursuant to §§ 54.1-3303 and 54.1-3408 to issue a prescription for a covered substance shall be
854 registered with the Prescription Monitoring Program by the Department of Health Professions.

855 B. A prescriber registered with the Prescription Monitoring Program or a person to whom he has
856 delegated authority to access information in the possession of the Prescription Monitoring Program
857 pursuant to § 54.1-2523.2 shall, at the time of initiating a new course of treatment to a human patient
858 that includes the prescribing of opioids anticipated at the onset of treatment to last more than seven

859 consecutive days, request information from the Director for the purpose of determining what, if any,
 860 other covered substances are currently prescribed to the patient. In addition, any prescriber who holds a
 861 special identification number from the Drug Enforcement Administration authorizing the prescribing of
 862 controlled substances approved for use in opioid addiction therapy shall, prior to or as a part of
 863 execution of a treatment agreement with the patient, request information from the Director for the
 864 purpose of determining what, if any, other covered substances the patient is currently being prescribed.
 865 Nothing in this section shall prohibit prescribers from making additional periodic requests for
 866 information from the Director as may be required by routine prescribing practices.

- 867 C. A prescriber shall not be required to meet the provisions of subsection B if:
- 868 1. The opioid is prescribed to a patient currently receiving hospice or palliative care;
 - 869 2. The opioid is prescribed to a patient during an inpatient hospital admission or at discharge;
 - 870 3. The opioid is prescribed to a patient in a nursing home or a patient in an assisted living facility
 871 that uses a sole source pharmacy;
 - 872 4. The Prescription Monitoring Program is not operational or available due to temporary
 873 technological or electrical failure or natural disaster; or
 - 874 5. The prescriber is unable to access the Prescription Monitoring Program due to emergency or
 875 disaster and documents such circumstances in the patient's medical record.

876 D. Prior to issuing a written certification for the use of cannabis oil in accordance with §
 877 ~~54.1-3408.3~~ 4.1-1601, a practitioner shall request information from the Director for the purpose of
 878 determining what, if any, other covered substances have been dispensed to the patient.

879 **§ 54.1-2522.1. (Effective July 1, 2027) Requirements of practitioners.**

880 A. Any prescriber who is licensed in the Commonwealth to treat human patients and is authorized
 881 pursuant to §§ 54.1-3303 and 54.1-3408 to issue a prescription for a covered substance shall be
 882 registered with the Prescription Monitoring Program by the Department of Health Professions.

883 B. Prescribers registered with the Prescription Monitoring Program shall, at the time of initiating a
 884 new course of treatment to a human patient that includes the prescribing of benzodiazepine or an opiate
 885 anticipated at the onset of treatment to last more than 90 consecutive days, request information from the
 886 Director for the purpose of determining what, if any, other covered substances are currently prescribed
 887 to the patient. In addition, any prescriber who holds a special identification number from the Drug
 888 Enforcement Administration authorizing the prescribing of controlled substances approved for use in
 889 opioid addiction therapy shall, prior to or as a part of execution of a treatment agreement with the
 890 patient, request information from the Director for the purpose of determining what, if any, other covered
 891 substances the patient is currently being prescribed. Nothing in this section shall prohibit prescribers
 892 from making additional periodic requests for information from the Director as may be required by
 893 routine prescribing practices.

894 C. The Secretary of Health and Human Resources may identify and publish a list of benzodiazepines
 895 or opiates that have a low potential for abuse by human patients. Prescribers who prescribe such
 896 identified benzodiazepines or opiates shall not be required to meet the provisions of subsection B. In
 897 addition, a prescriber shall not be required to meet the provisions of subsection B if the course of
 898 treatment arises from pain management relating to dialysis or cancer treatments.

899 D. Prior to issuing a written certification for the use of cannabis oil in accordance with §
 900 ~~54.1-3408.3~~ 4.1-1601, a practitioner shall request information from the Director for the purpose of
 901 determining what, if any, other covered substances have been dispensed to the patient.

902 **§ 54.1-2903. What constitutes practice; advertising in connection with medical practice.**

903 A. Any person shall be regarded as practicing the healing arts who actually engages in such practice
 904 as defined in this chapter, or who opens an office for such purpose, or who advertises or announces to
 905 the public in any manner a readiness to practice or who uses in connection with his name the words or
 906 letters "Doctor," "Dr.," "M.D.," "D.O.," "D.P.M.," "D.C.," "Healer," "N.P.," or any other title, word,
 907 letter or designation intending to designate or imply that he is a practitioner of the healing arts or that
 908 he is able to heal, cure or relieve those suffering from any injury, deformity or disease.

909 Signing a birth or death certificate, or signing any statement certifying that the person so signing has
 910 rendered professional service to the sick or injured, or signing or issuing a prescription for drugs or
 911 other remedial agents, shall be prima facie evidence that the person signing or issuing such writing is
 912 practicing the healing arts within the meaning of this chapter except where persons other than physicians
 913 are required to sign birth certificates.

914 B. No person regulated under this chapter shall use the title "Doctor" or the abbreviation "Dr." in
 915 writing or in advertising in connection with his practice unless he simultaneously uses words, initials, an
 916 abbreviation or designation, or other language that identifies the type of practice for which he is
 917 licensed. No person regulated under this chapter shall include in any advertisement a reference to
 918 marijuana, as defined in § 18.2-247, unless such advertisement is for the treatment of addiction or
 919 substance abuse. However, nothing in this subsection shall prevent a person from including in any

920 advertisement that such person is registered with the Board of *Pharmacy Directors of the Virginia*
 921 *Cannabis Control Authority* to issue written certifications for the use of cannabis products, as defined in
 922 § 54.1-3408.3 4.1-1600.

923 **§ 54.1-3408.3. Certification for use of cannabis for treatment.**

924 A. As used in this section: "Botanical, *botanical* cannabis," means cannabis that is composed wholly
 925 of usable cannabis from the same parts of the same chemovar of cannabis plant "*cannabis oil*,"
 926 "*cannabis product*," and "*practitioner*" mean the same as those terms are defined in § 4.1-1600.

927 "Cannabis oil" means any formulation of processed Cannabis plant extract, which may include
 928 industrial hemp extracts, including isolates and distillates, acquired by a pharmaceutical processor
 929 pursuant to § 54.1-3442.6, or a dilution of the resin of the Cannabis plant that contains no more than 10
 930 milligrams of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol per dose. "Cannabis oil" does not include industrial hemp, as
 931 defined in § 3.2-4112, that is grown, dealt, or processed in compliance with state or federal law, unless
 932 it has been grown and processed in the Commonwealth by a registered industrial hemp processor and
 933 acquired and formulated by a pharmaceutical processor.

934 "Cannabis product" means a product that is (i) produced by a pharmaceutical processor, registered
 935 with the Board, and compliant with testing requirements and (ii) composed of cannabis oil or botanical
 936 cannabis.

937 "Designated caregiver facility" means any hospice or hospice facility licensed pursuant to §—
 938 32.1-162.3, or home care organization as defined in § 32.1-162.7 that provides pharmaceutical services
 939 or home health services, private provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and
 940 Developmental Services pursuant to Article 2 (§ 37.2-403 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 37.2, assisted
 941 living facility licensed pursuant to §—63.2-1701, or adult day care center licensed pursuant to
 942 § 63.2-1701.

943 "Practitioner" means a practitioner of medicine or osteopathy licensed by the Board of Medicine, a
 944 physician assistant licensed by the Board of Medicine, or a nurse practitioner jointly licensed by the
 945 Board of Medicine and the Board of Nursing.

946 "Registered agent" means an individual designated by a patient who has been issued a written
 947 certification, or, if such patient is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, designated by
 948 such patient's parent or legal guardian, and registered with the Board pursuant to subsection G.

949 "Usable cannabis" means any cannabis plant material, including seeds, but not (i) resin that has been
 950 extracted from any part of the cannabis plant, its seeds, or its resin; (ii) the mature stalks, fiber produced
 951 from the stalks, or any other compound, manufacture, salt, or derivative, mixture, or preparation of the
 952 mature stalks; or (iii) oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant.

953 B. A practitioner in the course of his professional practice may issue a written certification for the
 954 use of cannabis products for treatment or to alleviate the symptoms of any diagnosed condition or
 955 disease determined by the practitioner to benefit from such use *in accordance with the provisions of*
 956 *§ 4.1-1601*. The practitioner shall use his professional judgment to determine the manner and frequency
 957 of patient care and evaluation and may employ the use of telemedicine, provided that the use of
 958 telemedicine includes the delivery of patient care through real-time interactive audio-visual technology.
 959 If a practitioner determines it is consistent with the standard of care to dispense botanical cannabis to a
 960 minor, the written certification shall specifically authorize such dispensing. If not specifically included
 961 on the initial written certification, authorization for botanical cannabis may be communicated verbally or
 962 in writing to the pharmacist at the time of dispensing.

963 C. The written certification shall be on a form provided by the Board of Pharmacy. Such written
 964 certification shall contain the name, address, and telephone number of the practitioner; the name and
 965 address of the patient issued the written certification; the date on which the written certification was
 966 made; and the signature or authentic electronic signature of the practitioner. Such written certification
 967 issued pursuant to subsection B shall expire no later than one year after its issuance unless the
 968 practitioner provides in such written certification an earlier expiration. A written certification shall not be
 969 issued to a patient by more than one practitioner during any given time period.

970 D. No practitioner shall be prosecuted under § 18.2-248 or 18.2-248.1 for the issuance of a
 971 certification for the use of cannabis products for the treatment or to alleviate the symptoms of a patient's
 972 diagnosed condition or disease pursuant to a written certification issued pursuant to subsection B.
 973 Nothing in this section shall preclude the Board of Medicine from sanctioning a practitioner for failing
 974 to properly evaluate or treat a patient's medical condition or otherwise violating the applicable standard
 975 of care for evaluating or treating medical conditions.

976 E. A practitioner who issues a written certification to a patient pursuant to this section shall register
 977 with the Board and shall hold sufficient education and training to exercise appropriate professional
 978 judgment in the certification of patients. The Board shall not limit the number of patients to whom a
 979 practitioner may issue a written certification. The Board may report information to the applicable
 980 licensing board on unusual patterns of certifications issued by a practitioner.

981 F. No patient shall be required to physically present the written certification after the initial

982 dispensing by any pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility under each written
983 certification, provided that the pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility maintains an
984 electronic copy of the written certification. Pharmaceutical processors and cannabis dispensing facilities
985 shall electronically transmit, on a monthly basis, all new written certifications received by the
986 pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility to the Board.

987 G. A patient, or, if such patient is a minor or a vulnerable adult as defined in § 18.2-369, such
988 patient's parent or legal guardian, may designate an individual to act as his registered agent for the
989 purposes of receiving cannabis products pursuant to a valid written certification. Such designated
990 individual shall register with the Board. The Board may set a limit on the number of patients for whom
991 any individual is authorized to act as a registered agent.

992 H. Upon delivery of a cannabis product by a pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility
993 to a designated caregiver facility, any employee or contractor of a designated caregiver facility, who is
994 licensed or registered by a health regulatory board and who is authorized to possess, distribute, or
995 administer medications, may accept delivery of the cannabis product on behalf of a patient or resident
996 for subsequent delivery to the patient or resident and may assist in the administration of the cannabis
997 product to the patient or resident as necessary.

998 I. Information obtained under the registration process shall be confidential and shall not be subject to
999 the disclosure provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.). However,
1000 reasonable access to registry information shall be provided to (i) the Chairmen of the House Committee
1001 for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, (ii) state and federal agencies or local
1002 law enforcement for the purpose of investigating or prosecuting a specific individual for a specific
1003 violation of law, (iii) licensed practitioners or pharmacists, or their agents, for the purpose of providing
1004 patient care and drug therapy management and monitoring of drugs obtained by a patient, (iv) a
1005 pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility involved in the treatment of a patient, or (v) a
1006 registered agent, but only with respect to information related to such patient.

1007 **§ 59.1-200. Prohibited practices.**

1008 A. The following fraudulent acts or practices committed by a supplier in connection with a consumer
1009 transaction are hereby declared unlawful:

- 1010 1. Misrepresenting goods or services as those of another;
- 1011 2. Misrepresenting the source, sponsorship, approval, or certification of goods or services;
- 1012 3. Misrepresenting the affiliation, connection, or association of the supplier, or of the goods or
1013 services, with another;
- 1014 4. Misrepresenting geographic origin in connection with goods or services;
- 1015 5. Misrepresenting that goods or services have certain quantities, characteristics, ingredients, uses, or
1016 benefits;
- 1017 6. Misrepresenting that goods or services are of a particular standard, quality, grade, style, or model;
- 1018 7. Advertising or offering for sale goods that are used, secondhand, repossessed, defective,
1019 blemished, deteriorated, or reconditioned, or that are "seconds," irregulars, imperfections, or "not first
1020 class," without clearly and unequivocally indicating in the advertisement or offer for sale that the goods
1021 are used, secondhand, repossessed, defective, blemished, deteriorated, reconditioned, or are "seconds,"
1022 irregulars, imperfections or "not first class";
- 1023 8. Advertising goods or services with intent not to sell them as advertised, or with intent not to sell
1024 at the price or upon the terms advertised.

1025 In any action brought under this subdivision, the refusal by any person, or any employee, agent, or
1026 servant thereof, to sell any goods or services advertised or offered for sale at the price or upon the terms
1027 advertised or offered, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this subdivision. This paragraph
1028 shall not apply when it is clearly and conspicuously stated in the advertisement or offer by which such
1029 goods or services are advertised or offered for sale, that the supplier or offeror has a limited quantity or
1030 amount of such goods or services for sale, and the supplier or offeror at the time of such advertisement
1031 or offer did in fact have or reasonably expected to have at least such quantity or amount for sale;

1032 9. Making false or misleading statements of fact concerning the reasons for, existence of, or amounts
1033 of price reductions;

1034 10. Misrepresenting that repairs, alterations, modifications, or services have been performed or parts
1035 installed;

1036 11. Misrepresenting by the use of any written or documentary material that appears to be an invoice
1037 or bill for merchandise or services previously ordered;

1038 12. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, using in any manner the words "wholesale,"
1039 "wholesaler," "factory," or "manufacturer" in the supplier's name, or to describe the nature of the
1040 supplier's business, unless the supplier is actually engaged primarily in selling at wholesale or in
1041 manufacturing the goods or services advertised or offered for sale;

1042 13. Using in any contract or lease any liquidated damage clause, penalty clause, or waiver of

- 1043 defense, or attempting to collect any liquidated damages or penalties under any clause, waiver, damages,
1044 or penalties that are void or unenforceable under any otherwise applicable laws of the Commonwealth,
1045 or under federal statutes or regulations;
- 1046 13a. Failing to provide to a consumer, or failing to use or include in any written document or
1047 material provided to or executed by a consumer, in connection with a consumer transaction any
1048 statement, disclosure, notice, or other information however characterized when the supplier is required
1049 by 16 C.F.R. Part 433 to so provide, use, or include the statement, disclosure, notice, or other
1050 information in connection with the consumer transaction;
- 1051 14. Using any other deception, fraud, false pretense, false promise, or misrepresentation in connection
1052 with a consumer transaction;
- 1053 15. Violating any provision of § 3.2-6509, 3.2-6512, 3.2-6513, 3.2-6513.1, 3.2-6514, 3.2-6515,
1054 3.2-6516, or 3.2-6519 is a violation of this chapter;
- 1055 16. Failing to disclose all conditions, charges, or fees relating to:
- 1056 a. The return of goods for refund, exchange, or credit. Such disclosure shall be by means of a sign
1057 attached to the goods, or placed in a conspicuous public area of the premises of the supplier, so as to be
1058 readily noticeable and readable by the person obtaining the goods from the supplier. If the supplier does
1059 not permit a refund, exchange, or credit for return, he shall so state on a similar sign. The provisions of
1060 this subdivision shall not apply to any retail merchant who has a policy of providing, for a period of not
1061 less than 20 days after date of purchase, a cash refund or credit to the purchaser's credit card account
1062 for the return of defective, unused, or undamaged merchandise upon presentation of proof of purchase.
1063 In the case of merchandise paid for by check, the purchase shall be treated as a cash purchase and any
1064 refund may be delayed for a period of 10 banking days to allow for the check to clear. This subdivision
1065 does not apply to sale merchandise that is obviously distressed, out of date, post season, or otherwise
1066 reduced for clearance; nor does this subdivision apply to special order purchases where the purchaser
1067 has requested the supplier to order merchandise of a specific or unusual size, color, or brand not
1068 ordinarily carried in the store or the store's catalog; nor shall this subdivision apply in connection with a
1069 transaction for the sale or lease of motor vehicles, farm tractors, or motorcycles as defined in §
1070 46.2-100;
- 1071 b. A layaway agreement. Such disclosure shall be furnished to the consumer (i) in writing at the time
1072 of the layaway agreement, or (ii) by means of a sign placed in a conspicuous public area of the
1073 premises of the supplier, so as to be readily noticeable and readable by the consumer, or (iii) on the bill
1074 of sale. Disclosure shall include the conditions, charges, or fees in the event that a consumer breaches
1075 the agreement;
- 1076 16a. Failing to provide written notice to a consumer of an existing open-end credit balance in excess
1077 of \$5 (i) on an account maintained by the supplier and (ii) resulting from such consumer's overpayment
1078 on such account. Suppliers shall give consumers written notice of such credit balances within 60 days of
1079 receiving overpayments. If the credit balance information is incorporated into statements of account
1080 furnished consumers by suppliers within such 60-day period, no separate or additional notice is required;
- 1081 17. If a supplier enters into a written agreement with a consumer to resolve a dispute that arises in
1082 connection with a consumer transaction, failing to adhere to the terms and conditions of such an
1083 agreement;
- 1084 18. Violating any provision of the Virginia Health Club Act, Chapter 24 (§ 59.1-294 et seq.);
- 1085 19. Violating any provision of the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act, Chapter 2.1 (§ 59.1-21.1 et
1086 seq.);
- 1087 20. Violating any provision of the Automobile Repair Facilities Act, Chapter 17.1 (§ 59.1-207.1 et
1088 seq.);
- 1089 21. Violating any provision of the Virginia Lease-Purchase Agreement Act, Chapter 17.4
1090 (§ 59.1-207.17 et seq.);
- 1091 22. Violating any provision of the Prizes and Gifts Act, Chapter 31 (§ 59.1-415 et seq.);
- 1092 23. Violating any provision of the Virginia Public Telephone Information Act, Chapter 32
1093 (§ 59.1-424 et seq.);
- 1094 24. Violating any provision of § 54.1-1505;
- 1095 25. Violating any provision of the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers' Warranty Adjustment Act, Chapter
1096 17.6 (§ 59.1-207.34 et seq.);
- 1097 26. Violating any provision of § 3.2-5627, relating to the pricing of merchandise;
- 1098 27. Violating any provision of the Pay-Per-Call Services Act, Chapter 33 (§ 59.1-429 et seq.);
- 1099 28. Violating any provision of the Extended Service Contract Act, Chapter 34 (§ 59.1-435 et seq.);
- 1100 29. Violating any provision of the Virginia Membership Camping Act, Chapter 25 (§ 59.1-311 et
1101 seq.);
- 1102 30. Violating any provision of the Comparison Price Advertising Act, Chapter 17.7 (§ 59.1-207.40 et
1103 seq.);
- 1104 31. Violating any provision of the Virginia Travel Club Act, Chapter 36 (§ 59.1-445 et seq.);

- 1105 32. Violating any provision of §§ 46.2-1231 and 46.2-1233.1;
- 1106 33. Violating any provision of Chapter 40 (§ 54.1-4000 et seq.) of Title 54.1;
- 1107 34. Violating any provision of Chapter 10.1 (§ 58.1-1031 et seq.) of Title 58.1;
- 1108 35. Using the consumer's social security number as the consumer's account number with the supplier,
- 1109 if the consumer has requested in writing that the supplier use an alternate number not associated with
- 1110 the consumer's social security number;
- 1111 36. Violating any provision of Chapter 18 (§ 6.2-1800 et seq.) of Title 6.2;
- 1112 37. Violating any provision of § 8.01-40.2;
- 1113 38. Violating any provision of Article 7 (§ 32.1-212 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 32.1;
- 1114 39. Violating any provision of Chapter 34.1 (§ 59.1-441.1 et seq.);
- 1115 40. Violating any provision of Chapter 20 (§ 6.2-2000 et seq.) of Title 6.2;
- 1116 41. Violating any provision of the Virginia Post-Disaster Anti-Price Gouging Act, Chapter 46
- 1117 (§ 59.1-525 et seq.);
- 1118 42. Violating any provision of Chapter 47 (§ 59.1-530 et seq.);
- 1119 43. Violating any provision of § 59.1-443.2;
- 1120 44. Violating any provision of Chapter 48 (§ 59.1-533 et seq.);
- 1121 45. Violating any provision of Chapter 25 (§ 6.2-2500 et seq.) of Title 6.2;
- 1122 46. Violating the provisions of clause (i) of subsection B of § 54.1-1115;
- 1123 47. Violating any provision of § 18.2-239;
- 1124 48. Violating any provision of Chapter 26 (§ 59.1-336 et seq.);
- 1125 49. Selling, offering for sale, or manufacturing for sale a children's product the supplier knows or has
- 1126 reason to know was recalled by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. There is a rebuttable
- 1127 presumption that a supplier has reason to know a children's product was recalled if notice of the recall
- 1128 has been posted continuously at least 30 days before the sale, offer for sale, or manufacturing for sale
- 1129 on the website of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. This prohibition does not apply to
- 1130 children's products that are used, secondhand or "seconds";
- 1131 50. Violating any provision of Chapter 44.1 (§ 59.1-518.1 et seq.);
- 1132 51. Violating any provision of Chapter 22 (§ 6.2-2200 et seq.) of Title 6.2;
- 1133 52. Violating any provision of § 8.2-317.1;
- 1134 53. Violating subsection A of § 9.1-149.1;
- 1135 54. Selling, offering for sale, or using in the construction, remodeling, or repair of any residential
- 1136 dwelling in the Commonwealth, any drywall that the supplier knows or has reason to know is defective
- 1137 drywall. This subdivision shall not apply to the sale or offering for sale of any building or structure in
- 1138 which defective drywall has been permanently installed or affixed;
- 1139 55. Engaging in fraudulent or improper or dishonest conduct as defined in § 54.1-1118 while
- 1140 engaged in a transaction that was initiated (i) during a declared state of emergency as defined in
- 1141 § 44-146.16 or (ii) to repair damage resulting from the event that prompted the declaration of a state of
- 1142 emergency, regardless of whether the supplier is licensed as a contractor in the Commonwealth pursuant
- 1143 to Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of Title 54.1;
- 1144 56. Violating any provision of Chapter 33.1 (§ 59.1-434.1 et seq.);
- 1145 57. Violating any provision of § 18.2-178, 18.2-178.1, or 18.2-200.1;
- 1146 58. Violating any provision of Chapter 17.8 (§ 59.1-207.45 et seq.);
- 1147 59. Violating any provision of subsection E of § 32.1-126;
- 1148 60. Violating any provision of § 54.1-111 relating to the unlicensed practice of a profession licensed
- 1149 under Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) or Chapter 21 (§ 54.1-2100 et seq.) of Title 54.1;
- 1150 61. Violating any provision of § 2.2-2001.5;
- 1151 62. Violating any provision of Chapter 5.2 (§ 54.1-526 et seq.) of Title 54.1;
- 1152 63. Violating any provision of § 6.2-312;
- 1153 64. Violating any provision of Chapter 20.1 (§ 6.2-2026 et seq.) of Title 6.2;
- 1154 65. Violating any provision of Chapter 26 (§ 6.2-2600 et seq.) of Title 6.2;
- 1155 66. Violating any provision of Chapter 54 (§ 59.1-586 et seq.);
- 1156 67. Knowingly violating any provision of § 8.01-27.5;
- 1157 68. Failing to make available a conspicuous online option to cancel a recurring purchase of a good
- 1158 or service as required by § 59.1-207.46;
- 1159 69. Selling or offering for sale to a person younger than 21 years of age any substance intended for
- 1160 human consumption, orally or by inhalation, that contains tetrahydrocannabinol. This subdivision shall
- 1161 not (i) apply to products that are approved for marketing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and
- 1162 scheduled in the Drug Control Act (§ 54.1-3400 et seq.) or (ii) be construed to prohibit any conduct
- 1163 permitted under ~~Article 4.2 of Chapter 34 16~~ (§ 4.1-1600 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia
- 1164 4.1;
- 1165 70. Selling or offering for sale any substance intended for human consumption, orally or by

1166 inhalation, that contains tetrahydrocannabinol, unless such substance is (i) contained in child-resistant
 1167 packaging, as defined in § 4.1-600; (ii) equipped with a label that states, in English and in a font no less
 1168 than 1/16 of an inch, (a) that the substance contains tetrahydrocannabinol and may not be sold to
 1169 persons younger than 21 years of age, (b) all ingredients contained in the substance, (c) the amount of
 1170 such substance that constitutes a single serving, and (d) the total percentage and milligrams of
 1171 tetrahydrocannabinol included in the substance and the number of milligrams of tetrahydrocannabinol
 1172 that are contained in each serving; and (iii) accompanied by a certificate of analysis, produced by an
 1173 independent laboratory that is accredited pursuant to standard ISO/IEC 17025 of the International
 1174 Organization of Standardization by a third-party accrediting body, that states the tetrahydrocannabinol
 1175 concentration of the substance or the tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of the batch from which the
 1176 substance originates. This subdivision shall not (i) apply to products that are approved for marketing by
 1177 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and scheduled in the Drug Control Act (§ 54.1-3400 et seq.) or
 1178 (ii) be construed to prohibit any conduct permitted under Article 4.2 of Chapter 34 16 (§ 4.1-1600 et
 1179 seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia 4.1;

1180 71. Manufacturing, offering for sale at retail, or selling at retail an industrial hemp extract, as defined
 1181 in § 3.2-5145.1, a food containing an industrial hemp extract, or a substance containing
 1182 tetrahydrocannabinol that depicts or is in the shape of a human, animal, vehicle, or fruit; and

1183 72. Selling or offering for sale any substance intended for human consumption, orally or by
 1184 inhalation, that contains tetrahydrocannabinol and, without authorization, bears, is packaged in a
 1185 container or wrapper that bears, or is otherwise labeled to bear the trademark, trade name, famous mark
 1186 as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1125, or other identifying mark, imprint, or device, or any likeness thereof, of
 1187 a manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor of a product intended for human consumption other
 1188 than the manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor that did in fact so manufacture, process, pack, or
 1189 distribute such substance.

1190 B. Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate or make unenforceable any contract or
 1191 lease solely by reason of the failure of such contract or lease to comply with any other law of the
 1192 Commonwealth or any federal statute or regulation, to the extent such other law, statute, or regulation
 1193 provides that a violation of such law, statute, or regulation shall not invalidate or make unenforceable
 1194 such contract or lease.

1195 **§ 63.2-1803.01. Possession or administration of cannabis oil.**

1196 Assisted living facility staff members who are authorized to possess, distribute, or administer
 1197 medications to residents in accordance with the facility's written plan for medication management shall
 1198 be permitted to store, dispense, or administer cannabis oil to a resident who has been issued a valid
 1199 written certification for the use of cannabis oil in accordance with ~~subsection B~~ of § 54.1-3408.3
 1200 4.1-1601 and has registered with the Board of ~~Pharmacy~~ *Directors of the Virginia Cannabis Control*
 1201 *Authority*.

1202 2. That Article 4.2 (§§ 54.1-3442.5 through 54.1-3442.8) of Chapter 34 of Title 54.1 of the Code of
 1203 Virginia is repealed.

1204 3. That the twenty-first enactment of Chapter 550 and the twenty-first enactment of Chapter 551
 1205 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I, are repealed.

1206 4. That the Regulations Governing Pharmaceutical Processors (18VAC110-60) as promulgated or
 1207 amended by the Board of Pharmacy prior to July 1, 2023, shall remain in full force and effect and
 1208 shall be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority (the Authority) until the Board
 1209 of Directors (the Board) of the Authority promulgates regulations to implement the provisions of
 1210 this act, which shall model, to the greatest extent practicable, the Regulations Governing
 1211 Pharmaceutical Processors (18VAC110-60) promulgated by the Board of Pharmacy. With the
 1212 exception of § 2.2-4031 of the Code of Virginia, neither the provisions of the Administrative
 1213 Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia) nor public participation guidelines adopted
 1214 pursuant thereto shall apply to the Board's initial adoption of regulations to implement the
 1215 provisions of this act. The Authority shall be vested with all powers and duties held by the Board
 1216 of Pharmacy prior to July 1, 2023, in its administration of the provisions set forth in § 54.1-3408.3
 1217 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by this act, Article 4.2 (§§ 54.1-3442.5 through 54.1-3442.8)
 1218 of Chapter 34 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, as repealed by this act, and any regulations
 1219 promulgated pursuant thereto.

1220 5. That any valid, active permits, certifications, and registrations issued by the Board of Pharmacy
 1221 pursuant to § 54.1-3408.3 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by this act, Article 4.2 (§§
 1222 54.1-3442.5 through 54.1-3442.8) of Chapter 34 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, as repealed
 1223 by this act, or regulations promulgated pursuant thereto prior to July 1, 2023, shall remain valid
 1224 until their expiration date and be considered to have been issued by the Board of Directors of the
 1225 Virginia Cannabis Control Authority.