



## House Commerce Finance and Policy – OCM Budget Presentation

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# Legislative Budget Recommendations

OCM continues to build the foundation for a safe, well-regulated, equitable, and sustainable cannabis market and has identified a series of targeted budget proposals to support continuity for implementation and a timely market launch.

# Operating Adjustment to Support Regulatory Duties

- The governor recommends adjusting the office operating budget to support current services.
- For the Office of Cannabis Management, this funding will help cover expected growth in employee compensation and insurance, rents, IT services, and other operating costs.
- FY26 \$278,000 and \$564,000 each year thereafter

# Building Continuity for Community Reinvestment Grant

- Proposes extending the availability of the CanRenew community restoration grant program's first year of funds as program is established, accountability metrics are designed and RFP is released and contracts put into place.
- This request is budget neutral.

# Testing Facility Licensing Variance

- Proposes changes to the process for issuing a cannabis testing facility license to alleviate the significant barrier to entry for facilities that are otherwise equipped to conduct testing effectively and safely.
- Supports market launch, maintains standards.
- The request has programming costs for the licensing system that the agency will absorb.

# Amend Social Equity Criteria

- Proposes changes to definitions for the qualifying criteria for individuals to be verified under social equity status to also include justice impacted individuals who have stays of adjudications or adjudications of delinquency
- Current law includes seven criteria:
  - Has a cannabis sale or possession conviction
  - Had a parent, guardian, child, spouse or dependent who has a cannabis conviction
  - Was a dependent of an individual convicted
  - Military veteran
  - Military veteran or National Guard member who lost honorable status due to possession or sale of cannabis
  - Has been a resident for five years of qualifying areas: enforcement rate, poverty rate, family income, SNAP, SVI
  - Small farmer
- The request has programming costs for the licensing system that the agency will absorb.

Thank You!