


**Council of the District of Columbia
COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MEMORANDUM**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

TO: Chairperson Phil Mendelson
FROM: Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie 
RE: Request to Agendize Measures for the June 6, 2023, Legislative Meeting
DATE: June 1, 2023

I write to request that the following measures be placed on the agenda for the June 6, 2023, Legislative Meeting:

Emergency Legislation

- **2023 Women’s World Cup Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023**
- **2023 Women’s World Cup Emergency Amendment Act of 2023**

The 2023 Women’s World Cup Tournament is scheduled to occur between July 20, 2023 and August 20, 2023 in the host nations of Australia and New Zealand. This event takes place every 4 years and is a Super-Bowl-type sporting event for soccer fans. Australia and New Zealand are ahead of the District of Columbia by 14 hours and 16 hours, respectively. Notwithstanding the time difference, local soccer fans are expected to watch the 2023 Women’s World Cup tournament regardless of the hour. To meet the demand, some licensed establishments will likely want to amend their hours for this sporting event. To allow on-premises retailers, manufacturers, and temporary license holders to remain open for operation, sale, service and consumption of alcoholic beverages during the hours of the Women’s World Cup tournament, as was done previously with the 2022 FIFA World Cup Tournament, emergency action is necessary so that licensees can avail themselves of the extended hours.

Emergency and Temporary Legislation

- **Medical Cannabis Manufacturer Clarification Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023**
- **Medical Cannabis Manufacturer Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2023**
- **Medical Cannabis Manufacturer Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2023**

There exists an immediate need to (1) increase medical cannabis product availability in the District, and (2) provide that the five cultivation center registration applicants that submitted a medical cannabis facility registration application to the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board (“ABC Board) between November 29, 2021 and March 28, 2022 (“open application period”) that scored 150 points or more be considered for a manufacturer license.

During the open application period for a cultivation center registration, the medical cannabis manufacturer license category did not exist in the District. Prior to March 22, 2023, a cultivation center registration was required to manufacture medical cannabis products in the District. A number of cultivation center applicants that scored 150 points or more applied to the Board with the intention of manufacturing medical cannabis products as part of their business plan. On March 22, 2023, the Medical Cannabis Amendment Act of 2023 took effect, which now requires a medical cannabis business to obtain a manufacturer license, to manufacture and sell medical cannabis products for resale.

Four of the five cultivation center registration applicants that scored 150 points or more as a result of the open application period have been designated by the Department of Small and Local Business Development as a Medical Cannabis Certified Business Enterprise with an equity impact enterprise certification subcategory. With the open application period for unlicensed establishments, including but not limited to retailer and internet retailer applications, beginning on November 1, 2023, it is imperative that the District increase the production of and the availability of medical cannabis products in the District. Consequently, it is necessary for the Council to pass this legislation on an emergency basis.

The draft measures are attached. Feel free to contact Doni Crawford, Legislative Director, at dcrawford@dccouncil.gov, with any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia
Office of the Secretary
Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Budget Director