



2021 Bill Analysis Template

<u>Bill Number:</u> SB 5365	<u>Bill Title:</u> Establishing a Washington state cannabis commission	<u>Assigned To:</u> Justin Nordhorn
<u>Division:</u> Choose an item. Policy and External Affairs	<u>Date Assigned:</u> 1/27/2021	<u>Date Due:</u> 1/29/2021

Bill Sponsor(s):
Stanford

Bill Digest or brief summary:

This bill creates a WA State Cannabis Commission, and provides details as to the role, responsibilities, structure, and funding of the commission.

Describe what the bill requires LCB to do or how it impacts current agency activities. (Consider workload, funding needs, feasibility of implementation)

The two primary areas of impacts to the LCB involve financial appropriations, as specified in sec 8, and generally an on-going working relationship with the board to include information sharing and providing data and reports, which is assumed to be by a request to the board.

Other areas of potential impact could include rulemaking cost reimbursement as briefly referenced in section 12, but WSLCB rulemaking is not mandatory in the bill. Also, the ability for potentially broader marketing of cannabis products, as referenced in section 2. This language is not straightforward in expanding marketing, but references strict regulation for marketing.

The bill creates surcharges, which may increase product price for retailers and consumers. The charges also impact our finance division for appropriation and assuming distribution. I was unclear as which state entity the surcharge is remitted to.

Does the bill align with the agency's mission, goals and priorities (consider also the three-tier system)?

Yes – this bill create more focus on the economic promotion of the cannabis industry, while not changing the LCB mission of public safety.

How could the bill impact access, availability or pricing of regulated substances? (Consider youth, vulnerable populations, general public and social norms)

In section 1, the bill refers to “important stabilizing effect on prices”. The draft language is unclear as to how this bill or the creation of the commission will achieve this impact, so it is difficult to determine the actual impact on market pricing. The bill does not appear to create further accessibility, however depending on the marketing strategies for the industry, the results could increase visibility of the cannabis market. This could be appositive for legitimate business normalization, while also creating concern around excessive visibility and normalization for youth access and perceptions of harm.

Would the bill impact advertising and marketing of regulated substances? (Consider exposure for populations listed above)

There is a possibility, please refer to the above paragraph.

How might the bill impact external stakeholders, including state and local agencies, Tribes, public health and prevention? (Pro/Con):

Creation of the commission will provide for improved industry relations and interaction with external stakeholders, Tribes, and state and local governments. This appear to be a positive, as research conducted by the commission can be shared with associated partners to assist with informed decision making.

Recommended LCB Position on Bill:

- Support
- Concerns
- Oppose
- No position

If recommending concerns or oppose, are there amendments to address problems?

Defer the surcharge costs to the finance perspective.



Washington State
Liquor and Cannabis Board

FOR SUBSTITUTE/AMENDED VERSION(S):

Identify Substitute/Amended Version:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Summarize changes to the bill.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Recommended LCB Position on Bill:

- Support
- Concerns
- Oppose
- No position

If recommending concerns or oppose, are there amendments to address problems?

Click or tap here to enter text.

For any questions, please contact [Chris Thompson](#)