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CITY OF AMESBURY, MA

**CITY OF AMESBURY
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN**

SPONSORED BY:



Steven Stanganelli, Councilor-at-Large

BILL No. 2021-108

Anthony Rinaldi, Councilor District 2

Michael Hogg, Councilor District 6

An Ordinance to adopt a limit on the number of licenses that may be issued for local cannabis retail sales locations.

Summary: This ordinance implements the local option to limit the total number of retail cannabis licensees operating within the City.

Whereas the Massachusetts Marijuana Legalization Initiative, also known as Question 4, was approved in a state-wide ballot on November 8, 2016, and

Whereas the voters of the City of Amesbury voted in favor of Question 4 during the 2016 state-wide election, and

Whereas Massachusetts General Laws provide for the regulation and taxation of marijuana in MGL Chapter 334, and

Whereas the voters of the City of Amesbury also voted against a proposed ban on the sale of marijuana (cannabis) retail products during a municipal election on November 7, 2018, and

Whereas there is a compelling public policy benefit to regulate the retail sales of cannabis products by licensed establishments within the City's limits, therefore

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled and by the authority of the same, as follows:

That the City of Amesbury limit the total number of Adult Cannabis Retail Licensees for on-premises retail purchase to thirty (30) percent of the total number of liquor licenses issued pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 138, Section 15 (sale for off-premises consumption) in the City of Amesbury.

In the event that thirty (30) percent of the off-premise liquor licenses is not a whole number, the maximum number of licenses shall be rounded up to the next highest whole number regardless of the fraction.

This licensing limit does not apply to other categories of cannabis operations such as cultivation and delivery which may be regulated under separate rules.

The minimum number of Adult Cannabis Retail Licensees shall be two (2).

Reference:

https://mass-cannabis-control.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Final-Draft-Municipal-Guidance-Update-02.25.19_1.pdf