



## Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

**Bill Description:** Changing the term “marijuana” to the term “cannabis” throughout the Revised Code of Washington

**Bill Number:** 2SHB 1210

**Sponsor:** Representative Melanie Morgan

**Effective Date:** Most sections of the bill take effect June 9, 2022. However, several sections take effect or are repealed on other dates as specified in the bill.

**Amends:** Numerous statutes in Titles 9, 13, 15, 18, 20, 28A, 28B, 38, 42, 43, 46, 66, 69, 70, 79A, 82, and 84; and new sections are added to 69.50 RCW

### **Background**

This measure was introduced in the 2021 legislative session, but was not passed. It was revived in the 2022 session.

The intent section of the bill declares a legislative finding that the term “marijuana” has discriminatory origins, and should be replaced with the more scientifically accurate term “cannabis.” Bill sponsors and many advocates, particularly from communities of color, have argued that the use of the term “marijuana” is hurtful to many people of color because of its history and the link between racially and ethnically derogatory connotations of the term and the discriminatory effects of the nation’s War on Drugs.

### **Summary**

The measure changes the term “marijuana” to the term “cannabis” throughout the Revised Code of Washington. At the request of the LCB, the legislature amended the bill last year to direct the LCB to make this same change in terminology in Title 314 of the Washington Administrative Code. This amendment was retained in the final enacted bill, in section 168.

The bill directs LCB to change “marijuana” to “cannabis” throughout its regulations by means of expedited rulemaking, which enables the agency to use a streamlined process under the Administrative Procedures Act to change all the relevant regulations at one time in a single rule making project.

The intent section of the bill further provides that the measure is technical in nature and no substantive legal changes are intended or implied.

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