**PROPOSAL**

**Maryland Register**

**Issue Date: December 21, 2018**

**Volume 45 • Issue 26 • Page 1268-1269**

**Title 10
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**Subtitle 62 NATALIE M. LAPRADE MEDICAL CANNABIS COMMISSION**

**Notice of Proposed Action**

[18-325-P]

The Secretary of Health proposes to:

(1) Amend Regulation **.01** under **COMAR 10.62.01 Definitions**;

(2) Adopt New Regulation **.05** under **COMAR 10.62.02 General Regulations**;

(3) Amend Regulation **.05** under **COMAR 10.62.08 Medical Cannabis Grower License**;

(4) Amend Regulation **.04** under **COMAR 10.62.19 Medical Cannabis Processor License**; and

(5) Amend Regulation **.05** under **COMAR 10.62.25 Medical Cannabis Dispensary License**.

**Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of this action is to expand the evaluation criteria for medical cannabis licensing applications to address the needs of minority and women applicants. The proposed regulation aims to reduce barriers to entry and encourage participation in the medical cannabis industry by minorities and women.

The regulatory changes are being made pursuant to Health-General Article, §13-3305.2, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires the Commission to submit regulations to address the needs of minority and women business owners and entrepreneurs interested in becoming licensed in the medical cannabis industry.

**Comparison to Federal Standards**

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

**Estimate of Economic Impact**

The proposed action has no economic impact.

**Economic Impact on Small Businesses**

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

**Impact on Individuals with Disabilities**

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

Comments may be sent to Jake Whitaker, Acting Director, Office of Regulation and Policy Coordination, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 512, Baltimore, MD 21201, or call 410-767-6499 (TTY 800-735-2258), or email to mdh.regs@maryland.gov, , or fax to 410-767-6483. Comments will be accepted through January 22, 2019. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

   Editor’s Note: The text of this document will not be printed here because it appeared as a Notice of Emergency Action in 45:25 Md. R. 1201—1204 (December 7, 2018), referenced as [18-325-E].

ROBERT R. NEALL
Secretary of Health