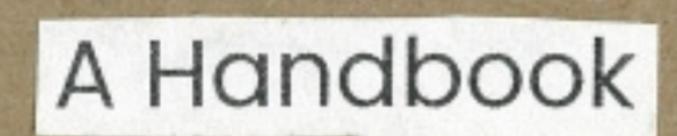


GANNABIS

LEGALIZATION

IN MARYLAND





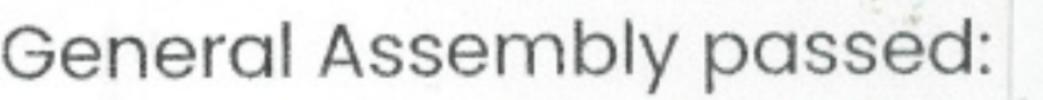
House Bill 1-

Amendment to Maryland's constitution

People in Maryland over 21 can legally have and use cannabis in certain situations.

Voters can pass or strike down HB1 during the general election in November 2022, it will be Question 4 on the ballot. If the amendment is passed, it will become law on July 1, 2023.





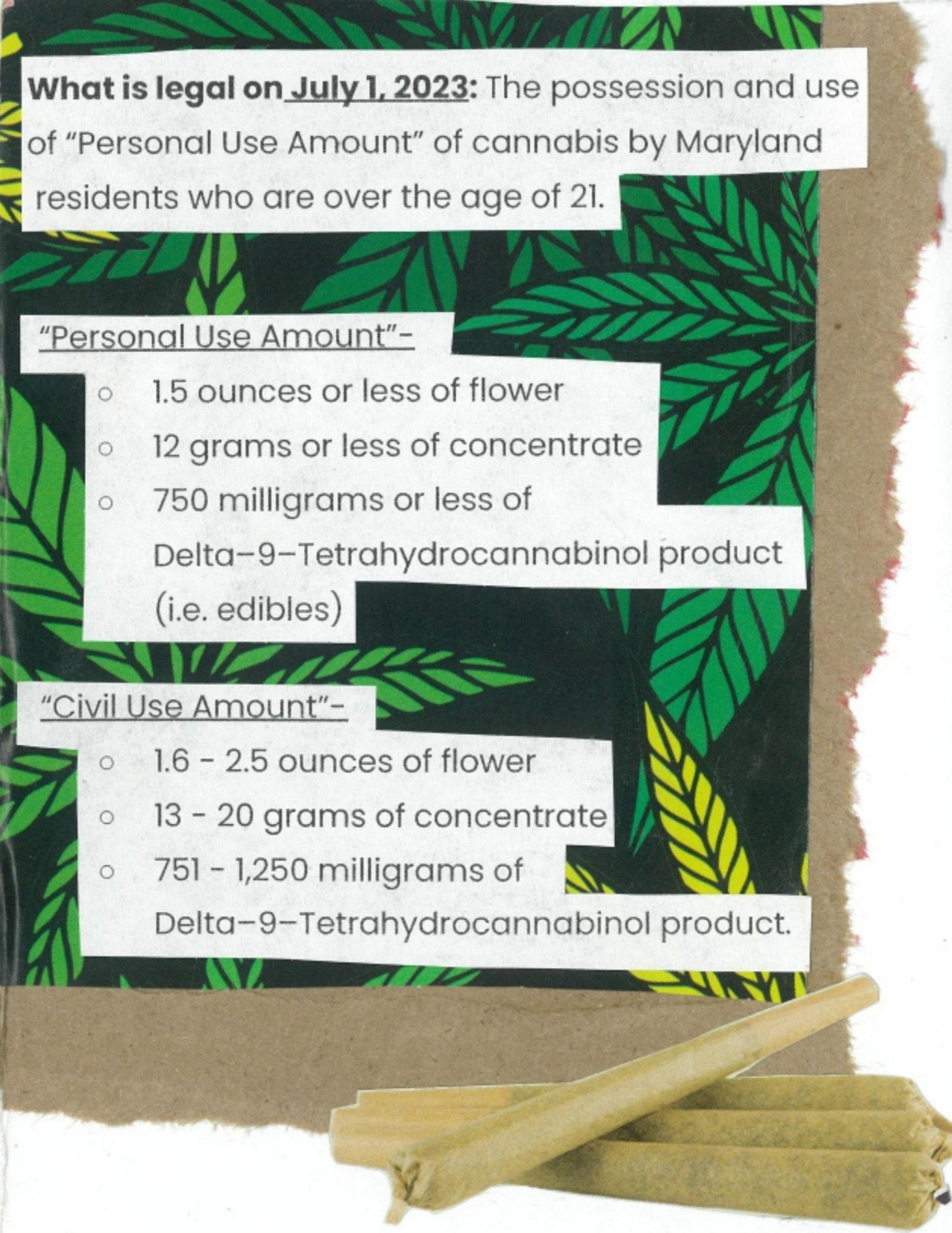


House Bill 837-

Requires MD to report on cannabis use in the state and provide rules for cannabis businesses.

Establishes rules for sentencing and expungement for cannabis related offenses.

All of the rules in HB837 will take effect on or before July 1, 2023.



What is illegal:

Possession/use of cannabis products by anyone under 21

- o Civil, not criminal, offense
- o Fine of up to \$250
- Court can order attendance in a drug treatment program

Possession of more than a "Civil Use Amount"

- may be charged with possession with intent
 to distribute and may result in misdemeanor offense
- o fine up to \$1,000
- o prison sentence up to 6 months

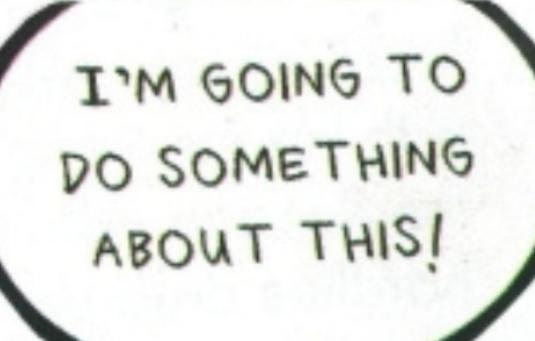
Smoking cannabis in a public place

o can result in a civil offense and \$250-\$500 fines

Possession of more than two cannabis plants

by an individual or household

- o may result in a misdemeanor
- o fine up to \$5,000
- o prison sentence up to 3 years





Expungement:

People can petition for expungement under these laws if:

- They are <u>convicted</u> of cannabis possession with intent to distribute.
- It has been <u>3 years</u> after the sentence was satisfied (including parole, probation and supervision).
- By July 1, 2024, the Department of Public Safety
 and Correctional Services should automatically
 expunge cases with charges of possession
 of cannabis that were issued before July 1, 2023.

Police searches:

As of July 2022, police can legally use the smell of burnt or unburnt cannabis to conduct a search of a person, a car, or other property. This may change by December 2022, depending on an opinion from the Maryland Attorney General.



Cannabis can only be purchased in a state licensed shop.

Sharing cannabis is considered:

- o Transferring cannabis between people
- The people involved must be at least 21 years old
- There is no money exchanged. It is a (legal) gift.

*Under this definition, police could possibly charge someone for paying a friend back for picking up cannabis, or paying someone in cannabis for a service.

Medical card holders in the era of recreational weed in MD:

This remains to be known. We hope to gain more insight into this as we get closer to the November ballot initiative.

Read House Bill 1:

https://bit.ly/legislation-HB0001

Read House Bill 837:

https://bit.ly/legislation-HB0837

Register to vote:

https://bit.ly/mdvoter-registration

*Since 2016, persons who were convicted of a felony regain their right to vote once they have served their court mandated sentence.



https://www.baltimoreactionlegal.org/