



# Legalization of Marijuana in Virginia



**June 22, 2021**  
City Council Briefing

# LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA IN VIRGINIA (continued)

- The General Assembly of Virginia Approved Legislation making Marijuana legal starting Thursday, July 1, 2021

# I. POSSESSION

A person **21** years of age or older may lawfully possess on his person or in any public place not more than one ounce of marijuana

- A. Possessing greater than an ounce but less than one pound results in a **\$25** fine
- B. Possessing more than a pound results in **1–10** years prison and a fine of up to **\$250,000**
- C. Possessing on public school grounds is a class **2** misdemeanor

## II. SALES

illegal, but may gift up to an ounce, not in public

## III. CONSUMING

- A. Illegal to consume in public; **\$25** fine
- B. “Public place” does not include hotel or restaurant dining areas or ballrooms or offices for private parties; private recreational or chartered boats

## IV. GROWING

- A. May grow up to **4** plants per household
- B. Cannot be visible from street
- C. Precautions to prevent access by minors
- D. Plants must be tagged

## **VI. DRIVING**

- A. Driving under the influence is a crime
- B. Presumption that driver has consumed if open container found in passenger area
- C. No law enforcement officer may lawfully stop, search, or seize any person, place or thing solely based on the odor of marijuana

## **VII. RETAIL SALES**

- **2024**, if not rescinded

## VIII. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- A. Local Option for Retail Sales-  
referendum by **December 31, 2022**
- B. Tax-**21%** state tax; city  
can apply **3%** tax to retail sales
- C. Prohibit or regulate opened marijuana in local parks and other  
public places
- D. Zoning, land use requirements, business license requirements,  
hours of operation

The logo features the letters 'Q', '&', and 'A' in a stylized font. The 'Q' and 'A' are outlined in dark blue, while the ampersand is a solid red color. The letters are set against a white background with a subtle drop shadow, and the entire logo is enclosed within a red border that follows the shape of the white area.

Q&A