

# SMC 6.500 Relating to regulation of marijuana businesses

Recommended amendments to align with state laws, provide equitable enforcement and to add clarity.

## Ordinance 124807 in 2015:

- Added Chapter 6.500 to the Seattle Municipal Code.
- Created a marijuana regulatory business license and accompanying regulations.
- Allowed for the full transition of the unregulated marijuana industry to a regulated system.

## Since 2015:

- Several updates to state law, affected items such as signage for marijuana retail establishments and minor access requirements.
- State law updates require amendments to provisions of Chapter 6.500.
- Other amendments are advisable to provide clarity, improve facilitation and compliance and allow for effective application and enforcement of Chapter 6.500.



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## Recommended changes and updates

### Alignment with state law

- Due to changes in state laws, medical marijuana dispensaries had the opportunity to transition to licensed regulated business by July 1, 2016. Related SMC section is now obsolete.

### Clarify definitions

- Updated to match the state law.
- “Premises” removed – this will streamline our regulatory authority over all marijuana businesses operating in Seattle, removal of the definition allows for equitable enforcement.



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## Recommended changes and updates (continued)

### Technical changes

- Added the term of the license period, reorganization of sections and corrections.

### New section

- Property owners must ensure that their lessee has a valid marijuana license before they open for business.

