

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST
(Substituted, 6/6/2017)

[Administrative Code - Establishing an Office of Cannabis]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish an Office of Cannabis.

Existing Law

On November 8, 2016, the voters of the State of California approved Proposition 64, enacting the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (“AUMA”). AUMA legalizes the non-medical use of cannabis by adults, and creates a state regulatory and licensing system governing the commercial cultivation, testing, distribution, and sale of non-medical cannabis, and the manufacture of non-medical cannabis products.

Under Proposition 64, localities retain authority to regulate the non-medical cannabis industry, including but not limited to the authority to prohibit commercial activities relating to non-medical cannabis entirely, or to authorize such activities, and impose licensing requirements and land use restrictions.

Article 33 of the San Francisco Health Code regulates medical cannabis, and authorizes the San Francisco Department of Public Health to oversee the permitting of medical cannabis dispensaries. Currently, there is no City law that regulates non-medical cannabis, or that authorizes any department or commission to oversee the permitting of businesses that engage in commercial activities relating to non-medical cannabis.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance will create an Office of Cannabis under the direction of the City Administrator. The City Administrator will appoint a Director of the Office of Cannabis. The Director or his or her designee shall oversee the implementation of laws and regulations relating to cannabis, impose conditions on the issuance or renewal of cannabis permits, and coordinate with other City departments as necessary. The proposal specifies that it does not intend to limit or abridge the other City departments to regulate commercial businesses or real property in San Francisco.