

CHAPTER 275
SB 624-FN - FINAL VERSION

03/05/2026 0843s
23Apr2026... 1499h
14May2026... 1846h
06/04/2026 2152EBA

2026 SESSION

26-2219
09/08

SENATE BILL ***624-FN***

AN ACT restricting access to certain hemp-derived products and establishing the offenses of criminal adulteration and distribution of adulterated controlled substances.

SPONSORS: Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Rep. Litchfield, Rock. 32; Rep. M. Pearson, Rock. 34; Rep. Bernardy, Rock. 36

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits certain hemp-derived products, directs liquor licensees to comply with the prohibition, and amends the definition of hemp.

II. Establishes the offenses of criminal adulteration and distribution of adulterated controlled substances.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT restricting access to certain hemp-derived products and establishing the offenses of criminal adulteration and distribution of adulterated controlled substances.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 275:1 Hemp; Definition. Amend RSA 439-A:2, V to read as follows:

2 V. "Hemp" means the plant *Cannabis sativa* L. and any part of the plant, ~~[whether growing or not,~~
3 ~~with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration (THC) of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight~~
4 ~~basis]~~ ***including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and***
5 ***salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a total tetrahydrocannabinols concentration (including***
6 ***tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis.***

7 275:2 Hemp; Prohibitions. Amend RSA 439-A:4 to read as follows:

8 439-A:4 Hemp-Derived Products Containing THC Prohibited.

9 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the sale of products that are derived from hemp
10 which contain natural or synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) greater than 0.3 percent on a dry weight
11 basis, which appear in any formulation, including delta-8 THC, delta-9 THC, ***tetrahydrocannabinolic acid***
12 ***(THCA)***, or any other THC isomer variant. ***Such products are prohibited.***

13 275:3 Premises Restrictions; Unlawful Purpose. Amend RSA 179:50 to read as follows:

14 179:50 Unlawful Purpose.

15 I. No licensee shall use, or allow to be used, his or her premises for any purpose contrary to law.

16 II. ***All licensees shall comply with the provisions of RSA 439-A:4 relative to certain hemp-derived***
17 ***products containing THC prohibited.***

18 275:4 New Paragraph; Prohibited Sales. Amend RSA 179:5 by inserting after paragraph II the
19 following new paragraph:

20 III. No licensee, salesperson, nor any other person, shall sell or give away or cause or allow or
21 procure to be sold, delivered, or given away any product derived from hemp which contains natural or
22 synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in any amount, which appear in any formulation, including delta-8
23 THC, delta-9 THC, or any other THC isomer variant or tetrahydrocannabinolic acid (THCA), to a person
24 under the age of 21.

25 275:5 Legislative Findings. With respect to section 6 of this act, the general court finds that:

26 I. The presence of unapproved substances in the illicit drug supply poses an immediate and
27 severe threat to the health and safety of the citizens of New Hampshire.

28 II. The state of New Hampshire currently provides widespread access to harm-reduction testing
29 resources.

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1 III. The intentional adulteration of controlled substances with unapproved additives demonstrates
2 a reckless disregard for human life.

3 IV. The distribution of controlled substances without verification of contents, given the availability
4 of testing resources, constitutes a significant public safety hazard warranting enhanced penalties.

5 275:6 New Section; Criminal Adulteration and Distribution of Adulterated Controlled Substances.
6 Amend RSA 318-B by inserting after section 2-e the following new section:

7 318-B:2-f Criminal Adulteration and Distribution of Adulterated Controlled Substances.

8 I. A person is guilty of a class B felony if they knowingly combine, mix, or adulterate a controlled
9 substance with any substance not approved for human consumption, with the intent to distribute the
10 resulting mixture. The state may establish intent through the presence of processing equipment, including
11 but not limited to, scales, cutting agents, blenders, presses, or the simultaneous possession of a
12 controlled substance and an unapproved additive in a manufacturing context.

13 II. A person is guilty of a class A felony if they possess with intent to distribute, or distribute, any
14 controlled substance which they know or have reasonable cause to believe contains an unapproved
15 additive. For the purposes of this section, "reasonable cause to believe" includes the failure to utilize
16 accessible harm-reduction testing resources or the distribution of substances in a market known to be
17 contaminated with unapproved additives.

18 III. The penalties provided for in this section shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other
19 penalties or offenses provided for under this chapter or any other provision of law, and shall not be
20 construed to limit the state's authority to prosecute any other applicable criminal offense.

21 275:7 New Paragraph; Unlawful Purpose; Hemp-Derived Products. Amend RSA 179:50 by inserting
22 after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

23 V. All licensees shall comply with the provisions of RSA 439-A:4 relative to certain hemp-derived
24 products containing THC prohibited.

25 275:8 Contingency. If HB 1630 of the 2026 regular legislative session becomes law, section 3 of this
26 act shall not take effect and section 7 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027. If HB 1630 of the 2026
27 regular legislative session does not become law, section 3 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027 and
28 section 7 of this act shall not take effect.

29 275:9 Effective Date.

30 I. Sections 3 and 7 of this act shall take effect as provided in section 8 of this act.

31 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

Approved: July 02, 2026

Effective Date:

I. Sections 3 & 7 effective as provided in section 8

II. Remainder effective January 1, 2027

