What's New with Cannabis Legalization in MN?

- 1. Adult possession, use and home cultivation of cannabis is in effect as of August 1, 2023.
 - i. possess up to 2 ounces of cannabis flower, up to 8 grams of cannabis concentrates, and edible cannabis products containing up to a total of 800 milligrams of THC (~10 mg can get most people high)
 - ii. home possession: up to 2 pounds of cannabis (approx. 1,800 joints)
 - iii. home plants: 8 total plants, with no more than 4 flowering at any one time
- 2. Retail sales not likely until late 2024/early 2025.
 - i. cannabis flower, concentrates, topicals and edible products, such as candy and beverages (but not with alcohol)
- 3. Decriminalization also began on August 1, 2023 (review and expungement of prior cannabis-related convictions).
- 4. Office of Cannabis Management: to license cannabis and hemp businesses and oversee the legal recreational market and the existing medical cannabis and hemp-derived markets.
 - i. Medical Cannabis Program to be folded into this Office by 2025
- 5. Where to use? "strict limits on where consumption of cannabis products is allowed;" private residence ok; public use permitted if specifically allowed or licensed.
- 6. Highway safety: \$15 million allocated over the next two years to fund drug recognition training for law enforcement to help officers better identify impaired drivers.
- 7. Workplace safety: Except where required by federal law or for jobs in education, law enforcement, medical caregiving and other positions identified in the bill, applicants for jobs cannot be screened for marijuana as a condition for employment. Ongoing or random cannabis tests for many employees would also be banned.
- 8. Sales of cannabis products would be taxed at 10%, with the state getting 80% and local governments getting 20%.
- 9. Prevention and treatment \$\$: establishment of a prevention, treatment and recovery grant fund to be created in the "special revenue fund".
- 10. Baseline study and U of MN Center for Cannabis Research
 - i. by Feb. 2024, Hennepin County to produce a "statewide baseline high intensity drug trafficking area report on marijuana; must include information on past and present marijuana use in Minnesota, marijuana potency, public health impacts, emergency room admissions, traffic accidents, impaired driving citations and the illicit market, "among other things."
 - funds allocated to School of Public Health for a Center for Cannabis Research

Licensed Dental Professionals may NOT be impaired in any way by cannabis products when performing licensed duties (similar to how alcohol and other substances are treated).

If you are a licensee who uses recreational cannabis products or are enrolled in the medical cannabis program and have questions on the new law changes, please email: bridgett.anderson@state.mn.us

Thank you to Sheila Specker, MD, HPSP Medical Consultant and Kimberly Navarre, LMFT HPSP Program Director for their past presentation materials to the Board July 2023.