

State of Louisiana

Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control



JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

JUANA MARIE-LOMBARD
COMMISSIONER

February 8, 2019

NOTICE REGARDING CBD AND THE AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2018

On December 20, 2018, the President signed H.R. 2, the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018, known more commonly as the 2018 Farm Bill, into law. The \$867-billion agricultural legislation effectively removed hemp from the list of controlled substances and allows states to regulate its production, commerce and research with approval from the USDA.

A provision in Section 12619 of the bill removed hemp from the definition of "marihuana" with hemp being defined as marijuana that contains no more than 0.3 percent (three-tenths of one percent) tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC for short. This federal act may be in conflict with State Law, specifically Louisiana's Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law (La. R.S. 40:961 et seq.) and the Louisiana Drug Policy Board is currently reviewing both laws and will issue an opinion soon.

While the Agency awaits the decision of the Louisiana Drug Policy Board, it will not issue any permits to CBD stores and the Agency's most recent January 10, 2019 *5th Updated List of Banned Substances and Wholesalers who are Selling Illegal Products* remains in full effect for all permit holders. Should you have any questions regarding same, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Juana Marie-Lombard".

Juana Marine-Lombard, Commissioner
Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control