Medical Marijuana Program Bulletin Number 2020-3

New Product Packaging and Labeling Requirements
Extension of Compliance Deadline Until September 25, 2020

This Bulletin is issued by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (“DBR”), Office of Cannabis Regulation (“OCR”) with respect to the new product packaging and labeling requirements for retail-ready marijuana products set forth in § 1.5 of the Rules and Regulations Related to the Medical Marijuana Program Administered by the Office of Cannabis Regulation at the Department of Business Regulation, 230-RICR-80-5-1, which became effective on March 25, 2020 (the “Amended Regulations”). This guidance is issued in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws § 21-28.6-1 et seq. (the “Act”) and the Regulations.

Section § 1.5.1(B) of the Amended Regulations requires compassion centers and licensed cultivators to comply with the new packaging and labeling requirements for retail-ready medical marijuana products (the “New RRP&P L Requirements”) no later than June 25, 2020. Due to supply chain shortages and delays occasioned by the current COVID-19 public health emergency, licensees are having difficulty procuring new supplies and materials required to comply with the New RRP&P L Requirements. In light of the foregoing, effective on the date of this Bulletin, OCR hereby extends the June 25, 2020 deadline for compliance with the New RRP&P L Requirements to September 25, 2020 for compassion center and cultivator licensees, provided that a licensee must continue to comply with the retail-ready packaging and labeling requirements set forth in the OCR Regulations that were in effect prior to the March 25, 2020 effective date of the Amended Regulations (the “Former RRP&P L Requirements” and the “Former Regulations” respectively), specifically § 1.4(I) of the Former Regulations applicable to compassion centers and § 1.7(H) of the Former Regulations applicable to licensed cultivators.

Any questions concerning this Bulletin or requirements under the Act and Regulations should be directed to dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov.

Pamela J. Toro
Associate Director

Dated: June 1, 2020