

1 AN ACT relating to the creation of the Kentucky Center for Cannabis Research and  
2 making an appropriation therefor.

3 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

4 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 164 IS CREATED TO  
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *(1) The Kentucky Center for Cannabis Research is hereby established at the*  
7 *University of Kentucky to advance the study of the use of cannabis and cannabis*  
8 *derivatives for the treatment of certain medical conditions and diseases as*  
9 *indicated and recommended by the center's advisory board.*

10 *(2) The role and mission of the center shall be to:*

11 *(a) Conduct and fund research related to cannabis and cannabis derivatives,*  
12 *including pharmaceutical development and the efficacies of cannabis and*  
13 *cannabis derivatives for the treatment of certain medical conditions and*  
14 *diseases;*

15 *(b) Conduct and fund research related to the potential risks or side effects of*  
16 *the use of cannabis and cannabis derivatives;*

17 *(c) Review current and future cannabis research literature, clinical studies,*  
18 *and clinical trials;*

19 *(d) Monitor, to the extent that appropriate and sufficient data is available,*  
20 *patient outcomes in states with medicinal cannabis programs; and*

21 *(e) Examine, to the extent that sufficient data is available, the health effects of*  
22 *the use of combustible cannabis.*

23 *(3) The university shall:*

24 *(a) Develop and maintain the center in accordance with its administrative and*  
25 *governing regulations related to the formation of multidisciplinary research*  
26 *centers and institutes;*

27 *(b) Establish an internal advisory board to oversee the activities, research*

- 1 agenda, and finances of the center. Members of the advisory board shall be  
2 appointed by the president of the University of Kentucky and may include:
- 3 1. The director of the University of Kentucky, Center for Cannabis  
4 Research;
  - 5 2. The director of the University of Kentucky, Center on Drug and  
6 Alcohol Research;
  - 7 3. The dean of the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food  
8 and Environment or his or her designee;
  - 9 4. The dean of the University of Kentucky, College of Pharmacy or his or  
10 her designee;
  - 11 5. The dean of the University of Kentucky, College of Medicine or his or  
12 her designee;
  - 13 6. Physicians who are licensed by the Kentucky Board of Medical  
14 Licensure and who are certified by the appropriate board in the  
15 following specialties:
    - 16 a. Oncology;
    - 17 b. Pain and addiction medicine;
    - 18 c. Neurology;
    - 19 d. Psychiatry; and
    - 20 e. Ophthalmology;
  - 21 7. Researchers from a college or university that currently conducts  
22 cannabis research or that receives funds from the center pursuant to  
23 subsection (5) of this section, if any; and
  - 24 8. Any other individual appointed at the discretion of the president of the  
25 University of Kentucky; and
- 26 (c) Report to the secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and  
27 the Legislative Research Commission by September 1 each year for the

1 preceding fiscal year, outlining the center's activities and expenditures.

2 (4) The center shall:

3 (a) Employ a director and necessary staff;

4 (b) Seek, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from private or public  
5 sources to support the role and mission of the center;

6 (c) Conduct clinical research, clinical studies, and clinical trials as approved by  
7 appropriate federal agencies;

8 (d) Publicly disseminate the research conducted or funded by the center; and

9 (e) Host an annual cannabis research symposium.

10 (5) (a) The center may award research funds to any nonprofit Kentucky-based  
11 research entity or any Kentucky institution of higher education and any  
12 research entity association with such an institution.

13 (b) If the center awards research fund to any other entity, the center shall use  
14 an open, competitive grant application process using national best practices.

15 (c) Any entity or institution that receives research funds from the center shall  
16 present the results of its research at the center's annual research  
17 symposium in the year after the research is concluded and shall, upon  
18 request from the center, present an update on any ongoing research at the  
19 center's annual research symposium if the research has not concluded.

20 ➔Section 2. There is hereby appropriated to the University of Kentucky General  
21 Fund moneys in the amount of up to \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2020-2021 and up to an  
22 additional \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2021-2022 for the creation and operation of the  
23 Kentucky Center for Cannabis Research with the actual appropriation in each fiscal year  
24 equaling \$2,000,000 minus any other funds, including federal grants or appropriations,  
25 secured by the University of Kentucky for the purpose of creating or operating the center.

26 ➔Section 3. Appropriations authorized by this Act shall be paid from the General  
27 Fund Surplus Account (KRS 48.700) or the Budget Reserve Trust Fund Account (KRS

1 48.705).