

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; and*

19 *(d) Monitor patient outcomes in states with medicinal cannabis programs.*

20 *(3) The university shall:*

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

24 *(b) Establish an internal advisory board to oversee the activities, research*
25 *agenda, and finances of the center. Members of the advisory board shall be*
26 *appointed by the president of the University of Kentucky and may include:*

27 *1. The director of the University of Kentucky, Center for Cannabis*

1

Research;

2

2. The director of the University of Kentucky, Center on Drug and

3

Alcohol Research;

4

3. The dean of the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture or his

5

or her designee;

6

4. The dean of the University of Kentucky, College of Pharmacy or his or

7

her designee;

8

5. The dean of the University of Kentucky, College of Medicine or his or

9

her designee;

10

6. Physicians who are licensed by the Kentucky Board of Medical

11

Licensure and who are certified by the appropriate board in the

12

following specialties:

13

a. Oncology;

14

b. Pain and addiction medicine;

15

c. Neurology;

16

d. Psychiatry; and

17

e. Ophthalmology;

18

7. Researchers from a college or university that receives funds from the

19

center pursuant to subsection (5) of this section, if any; and

20

8. Any other individual appointed at the discretion of the president of the

21

University of Kentucky; and

22

(c) Report to the secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and

23

the Legislative Research Commission by September 1 each year for the

24

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

25

(4) The center shall:

26

(a) Employ a director and necessary staff;

27

(b) Seek, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from private or public

- 1 sources to support the role and mission of the center;
2 (c) Conduct clinical research, clinical studies, and clinical trials as approved by
3 appropriate federal agencies;
4 (d) Publicly disseminate the research conducted or funded by the center; and
5 (e) Host an annual cannabis research symposium.
6 (5) (a) The center may award research funds to any nonprofit Kentucky-based
7 research entity or any Kentucky institution of higher education and any
8 research entity association with such an institution.
9 (b) If the center awards research fund to any other entity, the center shall use
10 an open, competitive grant application process using national best practices.
11 (c) Any entity or institution that receives research funds from the center shall
12 present the results of its research at the center's annual research
13 symposium in the year after the research is concluded and shall, upon
14 request from the center, present an update on any ongoing research at the
15 center's annual research symposium if the research has not concluded.

16 ➔Section 2. There is hereby appropriated to the University of Kentucky General
17 Fund moneys in the amount of \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2020-2021 and an additional
18 \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2021-2022 for the creation and operation of the Kentucky
19 Center for Cannabis Research.

20 ➔Section 3. Appropriations authorized by this Act shall be paid from the General
21 Fund Surplus Account (KRS 48.700) or the Budget Reserve Trust Fund Account (KRS
22 48.705).