

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 are available,*
20 *patient outcomes in states with medicinal cannabis programs; and*

21 *(e) Examine, to the extent that sufficient data are available, the health effects*
22 *of 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 funds 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 2021-2022 for the creation
22 and operation of the Kentucky Center for Cannabis Research with the actual
23 appropriation equaling \$2,000,000 minus any gifts, donations, endowments, or other
24 contributions, not including grants or other funds designated for the purpose of
25 conducting research, received by the University of Kentucky for the purpose of creating
26 or operating the center.

27 ➔Section 3. Appropriations authorized by this Act shall be paid from the General

- 1 Fund Surplus Account (KRS 48.700) or the Budget Reserve Trust Fund Account (KRS
- 2 48.705).