



— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE —
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LAS VEGAS, NV - The Chamber of Cannabis joined dozens of industry leaders to witness the CCB's vote to finalize Nevada's consumption lounge regulations. The unanimous decision came after months of arduous work and thousands of hours of research, public and private dialogue, and coordination between the CCB, industry stakeholders, and community advocates including the Chamber of Cannabis.

"The decision by the CCB is a big step in cannabis commerce, tourism, and the expansion of ownership opportunities in Nevada to a much more diverse pool of applicants and winners," said Chamber President, Tina Ulman. "Twenty new licenses will be issued, ten of them will be going to social equity applicants and the other ten will need to prove to the CCB that their company and business model is diverse and inclusive," she said. "These wins mean one thing, the CCB is listening to the activists and our asks."

The Chamber of Cannabis was the lead advocacy organization for AB 341, the piece of legislation sponsored by Chairman Yeager to create cannabis consumption lounges in Nevada in 2021, said Chamber lobbyist Scot Rutledge of Argentum Partners. In addition to working closely with Chairman Yeager to draft and amend the initial bill, "The Chamber also organized testimony for hearings and met with dozens of lawmakers to advocate for passage of the bill," he said.

Once the legislation was passed in June of 2021, the Chamber provided feedback and comments to the Cannabis Advisory Commission and Cannabis Control Board staff during the preparation of the regulations," he said. Rutledge and the Chamber worked closely with Chairman Yeager, regulators, and industry stakeholders throughout the legislative and promulgation processes of the state.

After Tuesday's unanimous decision and barring no challenges to the regulations or actions that would require a review by the Legislative Commission, Rutledge said to expect the rules to be filed with the Secretary of State sometime before July 15, 2022. After that, it will be up to jurisdictions to issue local ordinances, and the CCB will begin a public information and education effort for prospective applicants to learn about applying. The CCB has stated they will provide webinars, educational videos, and other options to help prepare prospective applicants for the application window in the fall as well said Rutledge.

While Tuesday's rules are a win for prospective cannabis entrepreneurs, this is just the beginning of the work for industry stakeholders and advocates, said Chamber Vice President, Dani Baranowski.

"Local jurisdictional leaders are left with a unique challenge of creating and fine-tuning policy that will shape this new aspect of the regulated cannabis industry," she said. "Nevada is progressive in that its citizens have recognized the economic opportunity of consumption lounges and pushed policy forward."

The next critical stage for industry stakeholders to keep their eyes on, will be the drafting and approval of Clark County's ordinance for cannabis lounges as well as amending the City of Las Vegas' Social Use Venue ordinance to conform with the new state law, said Rutledge, who worked on the City's ordinance for two years prior to its passing in 2019. These processes will include opportunities for Chamber members and the public at large to provide comments and input.

The Chamber provides opportunities to connect, share resources, and collaborate with like-minded members — both online and off. Grounded in a culture dedicated to the community over individual glory, humility before pride, teamwork, and positivity, the Chamber of Cannabis is here to help shine a light on the incredible potential of Nevada's cannabis industry. To attend a meeting, donate, or learn more about becoming a member, visit thechamberofcannabis.org, or reach out to their team at chamberofcannabis@gmail.com.

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