

2022 ANNUAL REPORT: Section 4.1-1503 THE VIRGINIA CANNABIS CONTROL AUTHORITY

Discussion

The 2021 Cannabis Control Act ("Act") created the Virginia Cannabis Equity Business Loan Fund ("Fund"). See § 4.1-1501.

Money in the Fund is to be "used solely for the purposes of providing low-interest and zero-interest loans to social equity qualified cannabis licensees in order to foster business ownership and economic growth within communities that have been the most disproportionately impacted by the former prohibition of cannabis." The Act also directed the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority (CCA) to report annually on matters it "may deem appropriate, including the amount of funding committed to projects from the Fund." See § 4.1-1503.

Disbursements from the Fund to eligible licensees are contingent upon the creation of an adultuse cannabis market. That market has not been legislatively authorized so it did not exist in 2022. As a result, there have been no Fund disbursements or any other Fund-related activity or matter for the CCA to report in 2022.