

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 642**

**Representative Carruthers**

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**A BILL**

To require the Director of Agriculture to adopt 1  
recommendations regarding adult-use hemp 2  
products. 3

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** (A) The Director of Agriculture, in 4  
consultation with the Department of Public Safety, shall conduct 5  
a study regarding the sale and use of hemp products that could 6  
be used for intoxicating purposes. Not later than thirty days 7  
after the effective date of this section, the Director shall 8  
issue a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with 9  
division (B) of section 101.68 of the Revised Code, and include 10  
in the report recommendations concerning the following: 11

(1) A definition of adult-use hemp products that captures 12  
all possible forms of hemp and hemp products that can be used 13  
for intoxicating purposes. The definition may include 14  
restrictions on the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) 15  
permitted in adult-use hemp products. The recommended 16  
restrictions shall be based on serving size and THC content per 17  
package of hemp product. 18

(2) Locations where adult-use hemp products may be sold, 19

including any restrictions or requirements on how or where the	20
adult-use hemp products may be stored at the time of retail	21
sale;	22
(3) Minimum age requirements for persons permitted to	23
purchase adult-use hemp products;	24
(4) Penalties for selling adult-use hemp to an underage	25
person;	26
(5) Testing standards and requirements for adult-use hemp	27
products;	28
(6) Advertising restrictions and labeling requirements for	29
adult-use hemp products;	30
(7) Enforcement mechanisms, such as providing the Ohio	31
Investigative Unit in the Department of Public Safety with	32
inspection authority;	33
(8) Any other recommendations that the Director, in	34
consultation with the Department of Public Safety, determines	35
will aid the General Assembly in ensuring that adult-use hemp	36
products are safe and not available to children and other	37
underage persons.	38
(B) Upon making recommendations under division (A) of this	39
section, the Director may adopt rules in accordance with Chapter	40
119. of the Revised Code implementing the recommendations made	41
under that division. If rules are adopted, the rules shall be	42
effective for one year after the issuance of the	43
recommendations. Thereafter, the rules shall not be operative.	44
Notwithstanding any provision of section 121.95 of the	45
Revised Code to the contrary, a regulatory restriction contained	46
in a rule adopted under this section is not subject to sections	47

121.95 to 121.953 of the Revised Code.

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