

Navigating the Complexities of Hemp & Cannabis Regulation: The New Cannabinoid Industry

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## Understanding the Plant Cannabis sativa l

A Difference without a Distinction

## Marijuana

**Marijuana** is not a scientific term - it was slang created to demonize users during Prohibition in the 1930s.

"Cannabis" is the correct term for the flower with higher levels of  $\Delta 9$ -THC in the biomass. Cannabis can produce CBD and other minor cannabinoids as well.

The purpose of cannabis agriculture is to produce compounds with intoxicating effects. Final form products are inhaled, ingested, and applied topically

# Both are the same plant: Cannabis sativa l Both produce

cannabinoids and terpenes

### Hemp

**Hemp** is not a scientific term either. This word for cannabis is now applied by statute for most industrial produced cannabis that has:

Minimal to no intoxicating compounds in the biomass.

A  $\Delta 9$ -THC level at harvest of below .3%,

Higher levels of CBD and minor cannabinoids



## Cannabis sativa l: Industrial Hemp vs. Cannabis



Industrial Hemp is grown for fiber, seed and stalk. Often planted close together leading to long stems for fiber decortication.



Cannabis Sativa L (female) flowers are grown for cannabinoid and other compounds. Hemp grown for flowering tops is cannabis.



## The Consequence of the 2018 Farm BIll

The 2018 Farm Bill intended to <u>limit</u> delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol ( $\Delta$ 9-THC) to a *de minimus* amount.

SEC. 297Al,4

"Hemp--The term `hemp' means the plant Cannabis sativa L. <u>and any part of that plant</u>, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, <u>whether growing or not</u>, with a <u>delta-9</u> tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than

0.3 percent on a dry weight basis."

However, hemp-derived, intoxicating, THC manufactured products are freely sold across the country in an unregulated manner because of language in the 2018 Farm Bill, posing direct threats to public health and safety.



## **Intoxicating Hemp Derived Cannabinoids (IHDC)**

With relatively simple science and use of volatile chemicals and heavy metals, CBD from hemp can be chemically converted into other intoxicating cannabinoids. IHDC hold market size of 400M with pace to be 1,000M by 2025.

- The explosion of Intoxicating Hemp Derived Cannabinoids (IHDC) began in 2020 with the new cannabinoid de jure
   Delta 8-THC (followed by HHC, THC-O, D-10, THC-V, THCjd, etc). These ADCs are cast as alternatives to Δ9-THC.
   Most IHDCs are created by chemically converting hemp-derived CBD into a new/novel cannabinoid compounds, some of which are as intoxicating as Δ9-THC, some which are less so and others which are significantly more potent. These products can have residual solvents which can turn these legal products into lethal ones.
- Δ9-THC sourced from cannabis/marijuana is **molecularly identical** to Δ9-THC sourced from hemp. The intoxicating | impairing effects are indisitinguable to the consumer. The current legal threshold for Δ9-THC of .3% on a dry weight basis does not include the unlimited allowance for ADCs to be added to these products for increased potency.
- The current regulatory landscape is overly focused on source material. It fails to recognize cannabinoids as commodities allowing their comparable intoxication and impairment potential to be unaddressed and harmful to misinformed consumers.



## Understanding the Relative Strengths of Novel Cannabinoids

NOT all Phytocannabinoids, THCs or THC Isomers are Created Equal

Δ9-THC

HHC is similar in strength to Δ9-THC

HHC

The control is set at Δ9-THC.

The effects of all other cannabinoids are quantified as compared to the pharmacological and experiential effects of Δ9-THC

Approval of Novel Cannabinoids as ingredients in food and beverages rightfully falls under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA.) In order to protect public health and safety, the FDA must define and consumers must be made aware of a product's "total intoxicating cannabinoid concentration" based on the relative strengths of cannabinoids compared to  $\Delta 9$ -THC.



**THC-O** can be 3x stronger than its is said to have semi-hallucinogenic effects. It's an acetate and could cause serious lung disease if smoked.



THC-P

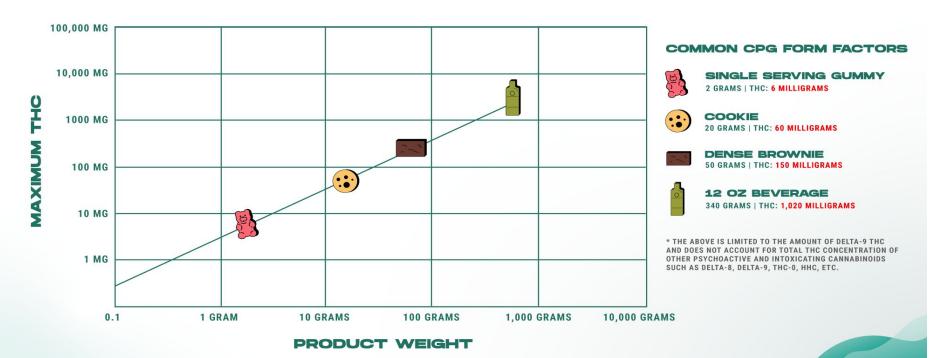
THC-JD is said to be 10x stronger than Δ9-THC.

THC-P is said to be 30x more effective at binding to cannabinoid receptors than Δ9-THC making it extremely potent.

**Δ8-THC** is said to be about half as potent as Δ9-THC

**Δ8-THC** 

## THE TRUTH OF USING .3% THC AS FUNCTION OF WEIGHT





### **ASSESSMENT OF ALASKA'S HEMP FRAMEWORK**

#### Codified the 2018 Farm Bill definition of hemp with additional Regulatory Oversight

11 AAC 40.910(40) Industrial hemp product or hemp product: means an item derived from all parts of and varieties of the plant Cannabis Sativa L. Containing not more than .3% of Delta-9 THC. (FFP)

Fails to account for non-THC isomers and other intoxicating cannabinoids in final form products.

11 AAC 40.415 Hemp Product Sizing: A processed industrial hemp product intended for human or animal consumption may not contain more than 50 milligrams of delta-9-THC per individual product.

What is a individual "product" - the unit or the individual servings? Half of the regulated cannabis allowance for potency (Delta-9) for the same intoxicant.

**11 AAC 40.420. Labeling:** (a)(8) if the product contains any delta-9-THC, the statement "warning: contains THC"

Only required to inform the consumer if there is THC not if there are isomers or other intoxicating cannabinoids or their amounts for the container or the serving. Fails to account for any other warnings that are associated with marijuana.



## **ASSESSMENT OF ALASKA'S HEMP FRAMEWORK**

**11 AAC 40.320 Testing.** (a)(1)cannabinoid concentration and profile; (2) residual solvents; (3) microbials; (4) pesticides; and (5) heavy metal concentrations.

The testing is required by a registrant but this does not address products which are sold direct to consumers via eCommerce websites.

11 AAC 40.630. Cannabinoid and terpene potency. (b) all processed industrial hemp products intended for human or animal consumption must also undergo a cannabinoid potency test that must at least determine the concentration of tetrahydrocannabinol, cannabinol, cannabichromene, cannabigerol, cannabichromene, and cannabidivarin, including acid forms.

While the testing procedure requires testing for various cannabinoids and acids forms there is no translation to label or otherwise to inform the consumer. Furthermore, there lacks any testing for known intoxicating cannabinoids such as Delta-8, etc.

11 AAC 40.515 Incorporation of a processed hemp product into a non-hemp product intended for human or animal consumption.

There are strict restrictions in regulated marijuana for pre-packaged final form products sold expressly at retail outlets. Allows non-marijuana outlets such as restaurants and coffee shops to combine intoxicating products with non-marijuana ingredients directly to end-use consumers sans any requirement to communicate potency other than not to exceed 50mg of Delta-9.



## A Comparative Analysis of Intoxicating Cannabinoid Supply Chains Cannabis/Marijuana ( $\Delta 9THC$ ) vs. Hemp (IHDC)

## Regulated Cannabis / Marijuana Products (Adult Use & Medical Programs)

- ★ THC Potency Cap:
  - Per serving not to exceed 10mg
  - Per package not to exceed 100mg
  - Standard micro dose 2.5mg
- Age verification at retail required and enforced
- Testing for contaminants to parts per billion on final form products
- Packaging and Labeling cannot be attractive to children, use cartoons
- + Robust track & trace requirements
- Required Government Warning Labels
- + Required child resistant packaging
- Edibles cannot imitate existing commercially available candy or snack food (i.e. sour patch kids, doritos, etc).
- Restricted advertising close to schools, where children are present
- + Sold in licensed Dispensaries

#### **Intoxicating Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Products**

 $\Delta 9 ext{-THC Potency: }\mathbf{50mg}$  limit on package size

NO limit on serving size

Does not account for any other THC isomer

- **X** NO Age Restriction
- **X NO** Tax Collection
- **X** NO Government Warning
- **X NO** requirement to verify age of consumer
- **X NO** track & trace requirements
- **X NO** government warning labels
- NO child resistant packaging
- **NO** restrictions on familiar candy, cookies brands that are known to be attractive to children
- **NO** restrictions on recognizable shapes gummy bears, etc
- NO advertising restrictions limited to health and medical claims
- Sold everywhere eCommerce & mixed directly into non-cannabis products by retail registrant



## Novel Cannabinoids - Legal → Lethal



THC-P: known as THC-Heptyl or trans-delta-9- tetrahydrocannabiphorol structurally similar to  $\Delta 9$ -THC but modified to include two additional carbon atoms on the side chain. It's believed to be 30x more effective at binding to cannabinoid receptors than  $\Delta 9$ -THC making it extremely potent.

**THCj:** Also known as tetrahydrocannabioctyl is semi-synthetic. Being hailed for its "psychedelic effect" it is reported to be 19x more potent than **A9-THC**.

THC-H: Also known as tetrahydrocannabihexol is said to be 10 to 15x more potent than  $\Delta 9$ -THC.

THC-O: is Δ8-THC that's been further modified to be more mind-altering. According to Leafly, a leading industry media company, THC-O "can be 3x stronger than its more mainstream cousin" and borders on "hallucinogenic." It is also an acetate linking it when inhaled to VAPI | EVALI and seizures. It is associated with delayed effects.

HHC | HXC, or hexahydrocannabinol: On a molecular level, HCC is  $\Delta 9$ -THC with extra hydrogen atoms. It's reportedly stronger than  $\Delta 8$ -THC and  $\Delta 10$ -THC and similar to traditional  $\Delta 9$ -THC in its effect



500mg of a 'knockout blend' featuring hemp derived HHC, THC-O, Δ8-THC, and THC-P! Say goodbye to reality and wrap your mind with one of our extremely powerful SHOCKWAVE sour belts.



## Warnings on Intoxicating Products

#### **Alcohol Product**

ABC WINERY

AMERICAN MERLOT

ALC. 15.5% BY VOL.

BOTTLED BY XYZ VINTNERS, CITY, STATE

50 ML

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH DEPOIL BIAS.

## Non-Dispensary, Hemp Derived Intoxicating Product



## No required government warnings

**CONTAINS THC limited D9** (is the only thing required)

#### **Regulated Marijuana Product**

11 AAC 306.345(b)(3)

- A) Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming and addictive;
- (B) Marijuana impairs concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under its influence;
- (C) There are health risks associated with consumption of marijuana
- (D) For use only by adults twenty-one and older. Keep out of the reach of children;" and
- (E) Marijuana should not be used by women who are pregnant or breast feeding;





## Lack of Uniform Standards → Poor Business Practices Consumers Pay the Price

## Fraudulent, Unfair & Deceptive Trade Practices

THC-O Example: THC-O is an acetate similar to Vitamin E Acetate (responsible for EVAL VAPI crisis) when inhaled. Coincidentally, 3Chi introduced a "delta9o" product around the same time studies about the dangers of vaping THC-O were published.



The FDA's policies & statements on  $\Delta 8$ -THC and CBD, along with the enforcement letters regarding inaccurate and fraudulent health claims regarding CBD, are greatly appreciated. These acts spark conversation and receive large press and social media coverage

These alone are <u>not</u> enough

Combatting the impacts to ill-informed and uninformed consumers means creating a culture of educational awareness utilizing the tools at the FDA's disposal:

- Expanding the policy statements and consumer notification to all chemically converted cannabinoids
- Coordinate with the Attorney General Office on enforcement actions to the egregious bad actors.





Say hello to the next evolution in ultra pure cannabis products - Delta 9o! Also known as D9o,  $\Delta$ 9o, Delta 9 THC-o-acetate, and Delta 9 THC0, our delta 9o products deliver a similar yet smoother, stronger, and longer-lasting euphoria compared to traditional marijuana products. This high-quality and federally legal hemp-derived product raises the bar for what you should expect from a cannabis product in both effects and experience!





## Minnesota

In a joint investigation with the FDA Minnesota's Board of Pharmacy filed a lawsuit against Northland Vapor Moorhead, LLC for their delta-8 Death by Gummy Bears.

The products sold are up to 50 times the allowable 5mg THC/serving and 50mg THC per package threshold, sold products without the requisite testing,

and sold products that appealed to children.

The affidavit from the MN Board of Pharmacy Investigator contains a couple adverse event reports from the FDA regarding gummies produced by Northland Vapor which are incredibly concerning. One of the adverse event reports involved five female high school students which consumed ½ - 2 gummies. Each gummy contained 100mg of delta-8 THC. The high school students reported symptoms including severe difficulty breath, hypotension, tachycardia and decrease in consciousness.





This is an extremely concerning development and perfectly captures our concerns with the under-regulated intoxicating hemp derived cannabinoid market.



Tennessee has a prohibition on medical and adult use cannabis.

1st legal "cannabis" bar and restaurant, <u>Buds & Brews</u>, now open featuring Δ9-THC from Hemp. "Cannabis" infused sauces include 5 mgs. of Δ9-THC each.

Also serving alcohol, this restaurant would fall outside of the regulated system in all adult-use states.



# CRAFT CANNABIS INFUSED SAUCES 60mg Full-Sowethum Henne Extract (Sing Third) per source. (All Parlings contain Third) 20z 1 7 BBQ Cojum Butter Hot Mustard Soy Source Buffolo Dark Chocolate Ketchup Steak Bitau Cheese Gorlic Butter Morinara White Sauce Caeser Horb Butter Moyonnaise Yellow Mustard Canna-Butter Honey Carranel Honey Mustard Ranch Coconut Oil Hot Wing Sauce Sessione Seed Oil

#### SHAREABLES

CHEESE CURDS Ughtly Battered & Fried. Side of Ranch Pairings Mannaro, White Sauce, Ranch	9.99	NUGGED OUT NACHOS Tortilla Chips, Homemade Chill, Queso, Shredded Lettu Shredded Cheese & Fire Roosted Salsa. Side of Sour C ADD Chicken \$5	
SOUTHWEST CHICKEN ROLLS Seasoned Chicken, Corn., Black Beans & Peppers in a C	10.99	Pairings (BBQ, Hot Wing, Ranch)	
Flour Wrapper, Side of Ranch		420 PRETZEL	12.49
Pairings Ranch, White Sauce, Honey Mustard		10oz Soft Bavarian Twisted Pretzel. Side of Queso & Dijon Sp Pairings (Hot Mustard, Yellow Mustard, Garlic Butter)	icy Mustard
CHICKEN TENDERS	12.49		
3 Fried or Grilled Chicken Tenders. Comes with Fries or	Tots.	CHILI - CUP	4.99
*Try the Fried Nashville Hoti \$1		Original Chili Featuring Ground Beef, Jalapene Peppers	s, Beans,
Pairings Honey Mustard, Ranch, BBQ		Onions & Signature Blend of Spices. Topped with Mixec & Jalapenos. Side of Sour Cream & Crackers	Cheese
FRIED PICKLES	7.99	Pairings Hot Wing	
Spicy Hand Breaded Pickle Chips. Side of Ranch			
Pairings Ranch, Hot Wing, Buffalo		DUDE WHERE'S MY WINGS	11.99
		Choose from Buffalo, BBQ, Nashville Hot or Naked	
		Pairings Buffalo, Hot Wing, BBQ, Bleu Cheese, Ranch	

#### WRAPS & SANDWICHES

Served with Fries or Tots, Sub Side for \$1, Moon Rocked Loaded Tots or Fries \$

BUDS BURGER Two Pressed 4oz All Beer Patties; Lettuce, Tomoto, Pickle & Colino no Kolser Bun or Flour Wap, Choice of Cheese \$1: American, Cheddar, Pepper Jack Pairings Majjonnoise, Ketchup, Yellow Mustarc	CHICKEN SANDWICH Grilled or Fried Chicken, Lettuce & Tomato on a Kaiser Bun or Rour Wrap. "Try the Fried Nashville Hot! \$1 Choice of Cheese \$1, American, Cheddar, Pepper Jack Pairings <sup>M</sup> (uk Wing Souce, Ranch, Blau Cheese	12.99
CANNABIS CLUB Sticel Turkey, Ham & Bacon, Layered with Lettuce, Tomato & Chipotte Mayo on Three Stices of Sourdough Breod or Floor Yogh, Stice of Yoney Muttack, American Cheeses Politings (Macjonicus Honey Mussical) (How Musica)	HALF BAKED BLAT  Bocon, Lettuce, Avocado & Tomato on Toosted Soundaugh Bread or Flour Wrop. Choice of Cheese \$1: American, Cheeddar, Pepper Jock Politings Mulgrandse, Ranch, Horous Mustard	9.99
VEGGED OUT BURGER 13.99 Two Pressed 4oz Impossible Burger Meatless Patties, Lettuce,	rullings megorinase, ranar, morey mesono	

#### FAVORITES

WAKE C BAKE TACOS	10.99	SOUTHERN CHICKEN	12.99
(3) Hashbrowns (Smashed Tots), Scrambled Eggs, M	Itsed Cheese,	Chicken Fried Chicken, Served with 2 Sides.	
Bacon, Pepper Gravy & Fire Roasted Salsa in a Cor	n Tortilla.	Pairings Soy Sauce, White Sauce	
Side of Sourcream			
Pairings Hot Wing, Buffalo, Ketchup		GRILL MUNCHIES 8.99	
		Grilled Cheese on sourdough served with Fries	or Tota
PHISH TACOS	10.99	Pairings Honey Mustard, Hot Sauce, Cajun Bu	
(3) Fried White Fish, Coleslaw, Tomatoes & Chipotle	Mayo in a		
Corn Tortilla. Side of Tartar Sauce.		OLD SCHOOL PEPPERONI PIZZA	5 9 9
Try it Nashville Hot! \$1		A take back to the Cafeteria Pizza upu ate at so	
Pairings Buffalo, Hot Sauce, Soy Sauce		Erles or Tota	
		Pairings Ranch, Marinara, Gartic Butter	
FRIED PHISH PLATTER	12.99	U 24	
Fried 8oz White Fish & Tartar Sauce. Choice of 2 sid	ies.	LUCKY CHARMS 3.99	
Try it Nashville Hot! \$1		A bowl of Lucku Charms	
Pairings Cajun Butter, Garlic Butter, Canna Butter		Pairings Rice Crispy Treat	

#### JALAUJ

Add Fried or Grilled Chicken \$5 or Nashville Hot Fried Chicken \$

HOUSE SALAD	8.49	CAESAR	11.99
Wixed Green Leaf & Romaine Lettuce, Tomator	s, Bacon, Onions,	Romaine Lettuce, Rarmesan Cheese & Croutons	
Avecade & Croutens		Pairings Caesar, Bleu Cheese, Ranch	
Pairings Bleu Cheese, Ranch, Buffalo			

#### NON-INFUSED DRESSINGS

Balsamic Vinaigrette - Bleu Cheese - Caesar - Honey Mustard - Italian - Ranch - Creamy Ital

DESSERTS	SIDES	
POT-TARTS 3.49 Poirings Dark Chocolate, Caramel, Honey	COLESLAW	2.99
CHRONIC CHURROS STICKS 5.99 Pairings Dark Chocolate, Honey	MAC 'N' CHEESE	2.99
*STONE SKILLET COOKIE SHAREABLE 23.99 Served with Vanilla Bean lee Cream	MASHED POTATOES	2.99
Pairings Dark Chocolate, Caramel, Honey  *BLAST OFF BROWNIF SHARFARLE 23.99	ONION RINGS	2.99
Served with Vanilla Bean los Cream Pairings Dark Chacolate, Caramel, Honey	SIDE WINDER FRIES	2.99
*DANCING BEARS SHAREABLE 23.99	TATER TOTS	2.99
* Contains THC	SEASONAL SIDE	2.99
	MOON ROCKED LOADED TOTS OR FRIES 5.99 Topped with cheese, baron & scallions	

#### BUDS C BREWS

Cannabis Barik Relaturari ti the place in hashrillia whee you'can anyly paring food with cultural cannabis Sauses. All dirinks food & allatentials dies Sauses by laderatuld on to contain any cannabis extends a lare not coeked with cannabis or lay which Christophara (Cannabis labeled sauses and mock talls contain cannabis catacit so a divorg served separate. See front page "Cost!" Cannabis Intelled Sauses and mock talls contain cannabis catacity as extend separate. See front page "Cost!"

#### WE FOLLOW ALL STATE & FEDERAL LAWS

All Extracts are 100% help derived. All products have less than 0.3% Delta-9 THC. For more info, please incurse with our management

THC affects everyone differently... Please use proper judgement!

Consuming raw or under cooked meats, poultry and seafood may increase your risk of foodbome illness

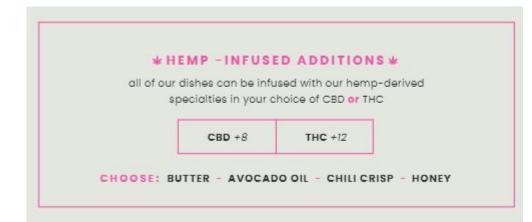


## Texas

TX existing allowance & limited

The trend is proliferating in States with marijuana prohibitions like TX, with the <u>announcement</u> of <u>Wild Montrose</u> restaurant in Houston featuring Δ9-THC infused food & drinks.

THC & CBD being added directly to alcohol, coffee & food in the restaurant kitchen with **NO** final form testing or information for the consumer.







## Examples of State Addressing IHDCs

Colorado	SB22-205 Intoxicating Hemp and Tetrahydrocannabinol Product SB22-205 created a task force specific to IHDCs
Washington	Hemp in Food Task Force
California	AB45 includes language to ensure testing parity with regulated cannabis and to address the function of weight loophole and psychoactive cannabinoids requiring a total amount of THC concentration
Oregon	The first State to prohibit synthetic cannabinoids Adult Use Cannabis and Hemp Concentration Limits
Kentucky	KY has a prohibition on cannabis but by <u>Executive Order</u> addressed delta-8 THC products by aligning with the State's allowance for hemp derived CBD.



## Avenues for State Level Engagement

- Continued Collaboration with Governor's Advisory Task Force address the inconsistencies and areas for improvement within the Hemp Regulations to advance public health and safety
  - Age Gating
  - Labeling Parity with Marijuana
  - Addressing all intoxicating cannabinoids not singling out delta-9
  - Serving and package cannabinoid caps
  - o Removing the incorporation of intoxicant out of a regulated environment
- Engagement with Attorney General
  - Consumer Warnings
  - Enforcement to those who are not adhering to the existing requirements of the Hemp program especially from online direct to consumer sales.



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