



# SENATE BILL 455: Conform Hemp with Federal Law.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	July 5, 2022
<b>Introduced by:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	Chris Saunders Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	S.L. 2022-32		

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**OVERVIEW:** S.L. 2022-32, as amended by S.L. 2022-73, permanently excludes hemp and hemp products from the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act, as well as tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) found in products with a delta-9 THC concentration of not more than 0.3%.

*This act became effective June 30, 2022.*

## BACKGROUND AND BILL ANALYSIS:

In August of 2021, the Industrial Hemp Commission submitted a resolution pursuant to S.L. 2015-299 that the State pilot program for hemp was no longer necessary because the United States Congress had removed industrial hemp from the federal Controlled Substances Act. The provisions of that act, including the State Controlled Substances Act exception, expired on June 30 of the fiscal year in which that resolution was submitted. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is currently operating the State's hemp program through the U.S. Domestic Hemp Production Program. Making the exception for hemp permanent maintains hemp's legal status and allows USDA to continue operating the State's hemp program.

**Section 1** defines the terms "hemp" and "hemp products" and makes permanent the exception for hemp in the definition of marijuana in the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act, which was scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2022.

**Section 2**, as amended by Section 8 of S.L. 2022-73, excludes THC found in products with a delta-9 THC concentration of not more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis from the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act became effective June 30, 2022.

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
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