

Holly C. Lasagna, Ward One  
Robert P. Hayes, Ward Two  
Andrew D. Titus, Ward Three  
Alfreda M. Fournier, Ward Four



Leroy G. Walker, Ward Five  
Belinda A. Gerry, At Large  
David C. Young, At Large

Jason J. Levesque, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDINANCE 03-06182018

#### CITY OF AUBURN CITY COUNCIL

#### MORATORIUM ORDINANCE ON SOCIAL CLUBS AND RETAIL MEDICAL MARIJUANA CAREGIVER STOREFRONTS

The City Council of the City of Auburn, Maine (the "City") hereby amends the City's Code of Ordinances by adding the following words to Chapter 61, immediately following Chapter 60 (Zoning):

#### CHAPTER 61. MORATORIA

#### ARTICLE I. MORATORIA

#### Sec. 61-1. Moratorium on Social Clubs and Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts.

WHEREAS, the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act, codified at 22 M.R.S. §§ 2421 to 2430-B, (the "Medical Act") authorizes the possession, cultivation, and furnishing of medical marijuana to qualifying patients by caregivers, as those terms are defined in 22 M.R.S. § 2422; and

WHEREAS, section 401 of the Marijuana Legalization Act, codified at 28-B M.R.S. ch. 1 (the "Adult Use Act") authorizes municipalities pursuant to home rule authority to regulate adult use marijuana establishments, including cultivation facilities, products manufacturing facilities, testing facilities, and marijuana stores, as those terms are defined in 28-B M.R.S. § 102; and

WHEREAS, neither the Medical Act nor the Adult Use Act nor any state agency rules promulgated thereunder expressly authorize the operation of retail stores by registered caregivers for the purpose of selling medical marijuana or medical marijuana products to qualifying patients (hereafter, "Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts") or the furnishing or sale of marijuana or marijuana products to consumers for on-premises consumption (hereafter, "Social Clubs"); and

WHEREAS, during the first regular session, the 128th Maine Legislature considered LD 1539, "An Act to Amend Maine's Medical Marijuana Law," which, if enacted, would amend the Medical Act to expressly authorize the operation of Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts, and LD 238, "An Act to Amend the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act," which, if enacted, would expressly authorize municipalities to regulate registered caregiver operations; however, the ultimate disposition of LD 1539 and LD 238 is unknown at this time; and

WHEREAS, no specific regulations governing Social Clubs or Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver

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Storefronts exist under the City's Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City's Code of Ordinances is insufficient to prevent serious public harm that could result from the unregulated siting and operation of Social Clubs or Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts within the City; and

WHEREAS, the unregulated siting and operation of Social Clubs or Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts within the City raises legitimate and substantial questions about the impact of such facilities and related uses and activities on the City, including questions as to compatibility of such facilities with existing and permitted land uses in the City; potential adverse health and safety effects on the community; the adequacy of the City's infrastructure to accommodate such facilities; and the possibility of unlawful sale of marijuana and marijuana products; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the foregoing issues, the siting and operation of Social Clubs or Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts and related uses and activities within the City has potentially serious implications for the health, safety, and welfare of the City and its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, an overburdening of public facilities and resources, including public safety resources, is a reasonably foreseeable result of unregulated Social Clubs or Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts and related uses and activities located and operated in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has established a working group charged with studying, reviewing, and making recommendations to the City Council regarding the regulation of adult and medical marijuana facilities, uses and activities, including Social Clubs and Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts; and

WHEREAS, the City and the working group needs time to understand the disposition of LD 1539, LD 238, and any State department rules promulgated pursuant to the Adult Use Act or the Medical Act in relation to its own Code of Ordinances and to evaluate the effects of Social Clubs and Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts and related uses and activities in order to prepare reasonable ordinance provisions governing the siting, licensing, and operation of such facilities, uses, and activities; and

WHEREAS, 30-A M.R.S. § 4356 authorizes the City to establish a moratorium on the processing or issuance of development permits or licenses; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the City Council, the foregoing findings constitute a necessity within the meaning of 30-A M.R.S. § 4356.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Auburn, Maine, as follows:

1. Moratorium. The City does hereby declare a moratorium on the siting, operation, or licensing of any Social Club or Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefront within the City. For purposes of this Moratorium Ordinance, these terms shall have the following meanings:



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- a. “Social Club” shall mean any premises where marijuana or marijuana products are furnished or sold to consumers for on-premises consumption, excluding the personal adult consumption of marijuana or marijuana products pursuant to 28-B M.R.S. § 1501(2) or the consumption of medical marijuana or medical marijuana products pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 2422 et seq.
  - b. “Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefront” shall mean a retail store, a retail business, or an establishment that resembles a retail storefront in terms of signage, hours of operation, and accessibility to patrons (including without limitation retail use or retail space, as those terms are defined in Article I, Sec. 60-2 of the City’s Code of Ordinances) where a licensed caregiver furnishes or sells marijuana or marijuana products to qualifying patients, as those terms are defined in 22 M.R.S. § 2422.
2. Date of Applicability. Notwithstanding 1 M.R.S. § 302 or any other law to the contrary, and regardless of the Effective Date, this Moratorium Ordinance shall govern and apply to all proceedings, licenses, and applications for a Social Club or Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefront that were or are pending before the City Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer, or the Planning Board on or any time after **May 31, 2018** and, to the extent allowed by 30-A M.R.S. § 3007(6), shall nullify the issuance of any final approval of the City Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer, or the Planning Board made on or at any time after **May 31, 2018** that authorizes the operation of a Social Club or Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefront (the “Date of Applicability”).
3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage by the City Council (the “Effective Date”) and shall remain in full force and effect for a period of 180 days, unless extended, repealed, or modified in accordance with applicable law.
4. Conflicts; Savings Clause. Any provisions of the City’s Code of Ordinances that are inconsistent with or conflict with the provisions of this Moratorium Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent applicable for the duration of this moratorium. If any section or provision of this Moratorium Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such a declaration shall not invalidate any other section or provision.
5. Violations. If any Social Club or Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefront is located or operates in the City, in violation of this Moratorium Ordinance, each day of any continuing violation shall constitute a separate violation of this Moratorium Ordinance and the City shall be entitled to all rights available to it pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 4452, including, but not limited to, fines and penalties, injunctive relief, and its reasonable attorney’s fees and costs in prosecuting any such violations.

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Given under our hands this 18th day of June, 2018.

*Holly C. Lasagna*  
*Robert P. Hayes*  
*Alfreda M. Fournier*  
*Belinda A. Gerry*

*Leroy G. Walker Sr.*

A Majority of the City Council of the City of Auburn, Maine.

Passage on 6/18/2018 7-0 a motion by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Young to suspend the rules and dispense of the second reading with a unanimous vote of the City Council.  
Passage 7-0.

Attest: A true copy of an ordinance entitled, "Moratorium Ordinance on Social Clubs and Retail Medical Marijuana Caregiver Storefronts," as certified to me by the municipal officers of the City of Auburn, Maine, on the 18th day of June, 2018.

*Susan Clements-Dallaire 6/18/18*  
Susan Clements-Dallaire, City Clerk  
City of Auburn, Maine