

ORDINANCE 2024 -003

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A MORATORIUM ON ADULT USE CANNABIS OPERATORS, TESTING LABORATORIES AND INDIVIDUALS REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED BY THE OHIO REVISED CODE IN THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2023 voters in the State of Ohio approved Issue 2, which legalized the adult use of cannabis and took effect on December 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Senate approved the new legislation but the Ohio House has not taken action yet on this issue; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kent City Council wishes to see the rules, regulations, and guidelines for the use of cannabis established by the State prior to developing any codified ordinance amendment to the zoning code to regulate the use within the City limits in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kent City Council requests the administration to provide timely updates of the rules, regulations and guidelines yet to be established by the State legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the Kent City Council hereby approves and enacts a moratorium on adult-use cannabis operators, testing laboratories, and individuals required to be licensed by the Ohio Revised Code within the Kent City limits until such a time as the City Council has the opportunity to review the State of Ohio's adopted rules, regulations and guidelines and to adopt zoning code regulations for the same. The legal use of cannabis shall not be affected by this enactment.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: January 17, 2024
Date

Jerry T. Fiala
Jerry T. Fiala
Mayor and President of Council

EFFECTIVE: January 17, 2024
Date

ATTEST: Amy Wilkens
Amy Wilkens, CMC
Clerk of Council

I, AMY WILKENS, CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF *ORDINANCE No.* 2024-003, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON January 17, 2024

(SEAL)

Amy Wilkens
AMY WILKENS, CMC