

#Cannabis Control Bill 2014

Cannabis Control Bill of 2014/5. Purpose of Bill

- To regulate the growing, consumption and trade of cannabis and its related products in a manner that promotes responsible use;
- To place an age restriction on the consumption of cannabis;
- To regulate the advertisement and commercial promotion of cannabis;
- To restrict the use of cannabis in public areas;
- Treat cannabis according to the harm it does - evidence based
- Establish Cannabis Control Council

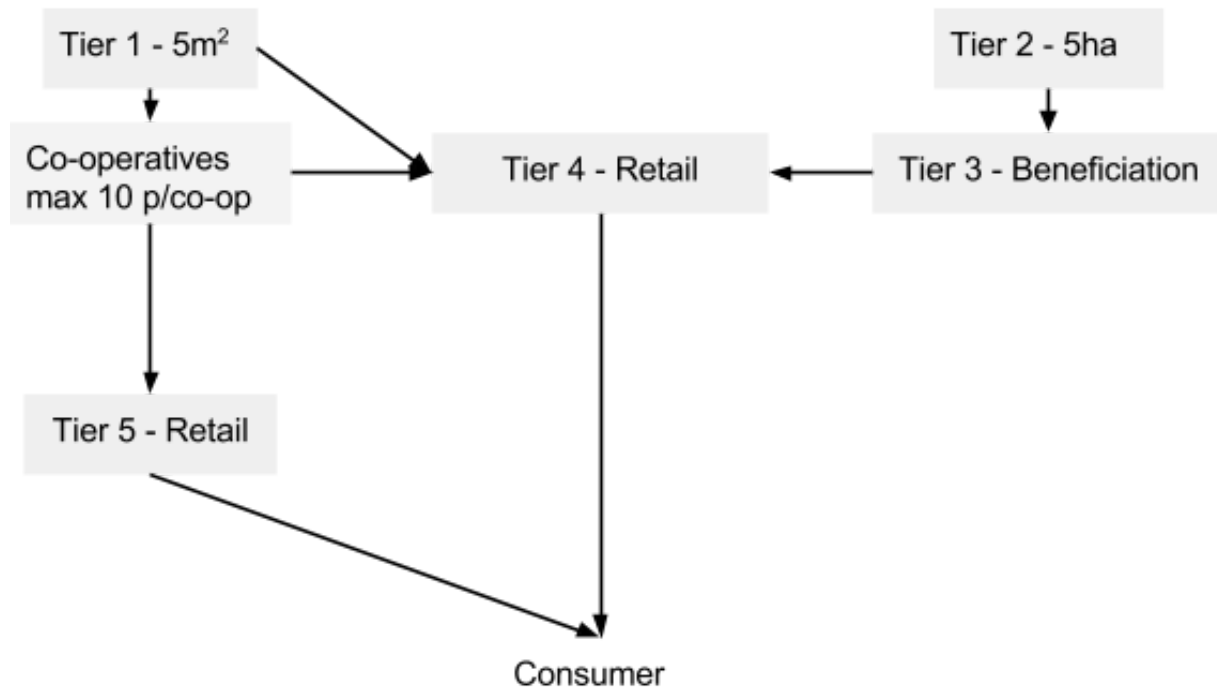
Suggested Methods of Regulation and Control

- Remove cannabis from the Drug and Drugs Trafficking Act Number 140 of 1992^[1]
- Remove cannabis from the Medicines and Related Substances Act 101 of 1965^[2]
- Remove the criminal records and deal with the incarcerations related to cannabis.
- Through intervention with government stakeholders and the DTI set the relevant rules and regulations with regard to:
 - License the growing of cannabis.
 - Create licensing structure for the sale of cannabis.
 - Labelling and warning protocols at point of sale.
- Create offence of providing cannabis to children, except by doctor's prescription.
- Advertising regulations.
- Restrictions on the use of cannabis in public.
- Local municipal control over sale and consumption.
- Create and maintain an environment that dissuades monopolisation
- Forbid the import, use, testing of GMO cannabis.

Effects of legalising cannabis

- Reduces number of arrests and criminal convictions.
- Reduction in prison population.
- Licensed retail outlets.
- Environmental impact.
- Reduces availability to children.
- Regulatory measures allow for improved control over the available supply of cannabis.
- Better protection for the consumer.
- Enforcement of quality standards..
- Reduces the caseload of the criminal justice system.
- Allows for further research and scientific inquiry.
- Pro-Poor initiative agricultural and secondary economic income can be formalised.
- Establishment of a licit market to divert funds away from organised crime and gangsterism.

Tiers



Explanation of the Tier System

- Licenses are only given to SA identity document holders who meet requirements.
- Should any person be found to be operating outside of their license restrictions may lose their license for a period no less than 4 years.
- Tier 1 can form co-operatives of no more than 5 members per co-op.
- No more than 10% of arable land on any farm can be used for the growing of cannabis.
- Each license is given for one year from (August to July) only, citizens must reapply each year. Allowing for timeous applications to allow for year on year planning.
- No license holder may apply for more than one license.
- Applicant's must adhere to security qualifications to prevent theft and unwanted access to plants and product for each license application.
- Labelling of products must comply with rules and regulations by the implementation of Tier 5.

Tier 1:

5m2 per license. With a maximum of 10 license holders per co-operative.

Tier 2:

Maximum 5ha per license. Maximum 1 Tier 2 license per farm, not allowed to form co-operatives, can only sell dried flowering tops and seeds to a Tier 3. Industrial useable products fiber and hurd may be used for whatever purpose sans further restriction.

Tier 3:

Beneficiation: Allows for the purchasing of cannabis flowering heads and beneficiation of seed flowering heads into oils and further processing. No Tier 3 may form co-operatives. Tier 3 may only trade their beneficiated products to a Tier 4.

Tier 4:

Shopfront retail this includes establishments that allow open spaces catering for consumption on the premises.

Tier 5:

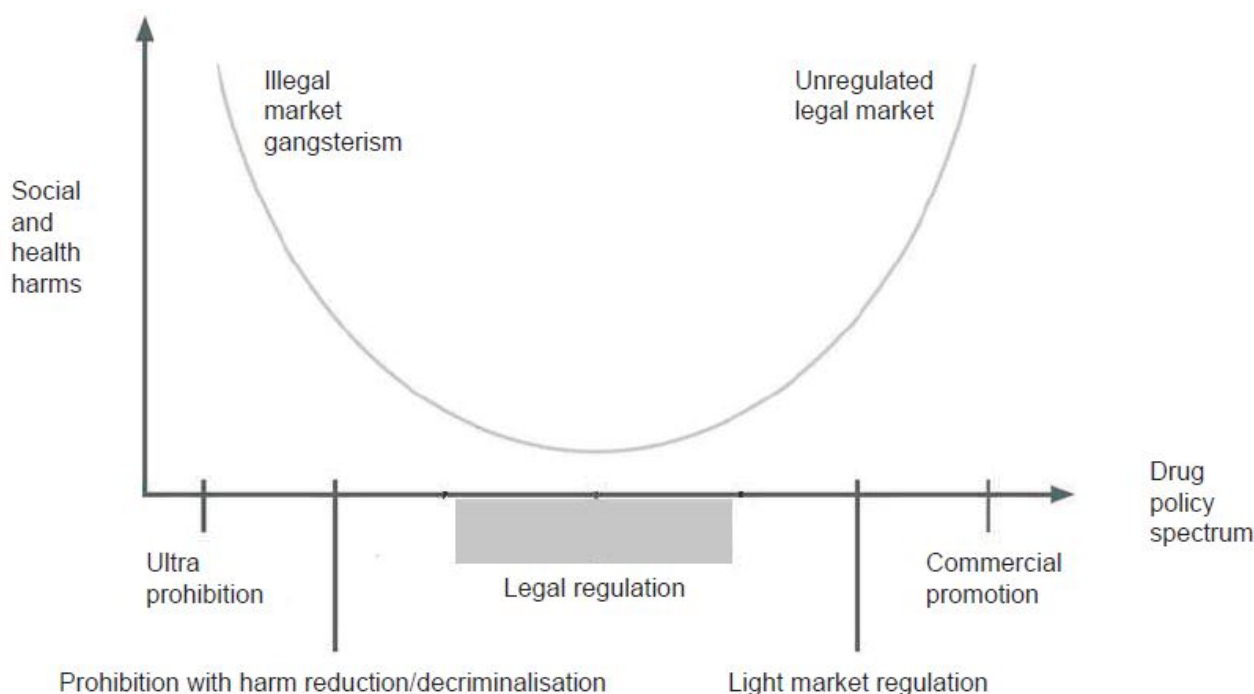
Formalised market of registered stalls at a farmers market or traders market in compliance with local municipal bylaws.

Suggested license fees:

Tier 1 R 100
 Tier 2 R 500 p/ha
 Tier 3 R 5000
 Tier 4 R 1500
 Tier 5 R 500

License fees will go to the running of the cannabis control council which will oversee compliance with all rules regulations set out including license applications, holders and transgressors.

Spectrum of drug policy options and their likely effects



DUSA Comments and Suggestions;

1. Only VAT applicable
2. A separate body monitoring and controlling licenses

[Already suggested in bill CCC to be run as this eg: http://www.safeaccessnow.org/patient_focused]

3. Some arguments for no age restriction - 18 age limit, prescription for minors
4. Jeremy & Mickey suggest a completely free economy - international example research for inclusion [North Korea] - Mickey & Jeremy
5. No suggestions on Swaziland & Lesotho
6. ...

www.cannabis.reforms.co.za

[1] <http://www.justice.gov.za/legislation/acts/1992-140.pdf>

[2] http://elearning.trree.org/pluginfile.php/34682/mod_folder/content/0/NationalLegislation/act-MedicinesRelatedSubstancesControl-101-1965.pdf?forcedownload=1

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