

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Penalties for selling or possessing a small amount of marijuana
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Overview

This bill increases the penalty for selling, for no remuneration, or possessing a small amount (42.5 grams or less) of marijuana in a school zone or a park zone. The current penalty is a petty misdemeanor; the new penalty is a misdemeanor.

- 1 Possession or sale of small amounts of marijuana.** Increases the penalty for selling, for no remuneration, or possessing a small amount (42.5 grams or less) of marijuana in a school zone or a park zone. The current penalty is a petty misdemeanor; the new penalty is a misdemeanor.
- 2 Juvenile controlled substance offense.** Amends the definition of "juvenile controlled substance offense" to exclude the new misdemeanor crime proposed in section 1. The effect of this amendment is to treat these misdemeanor violations in the same manner that most other misdemeanors are treated under the juvenile code. Under the juvenile code, most misdemeanor violations are handled as petty offenses unless the juvenile has a record of two or more prior misdemeanor-level petty offenses. In such a case, the juvenile is handled under the juvenile court's delinquency jurisdiction and, upon adjudication, is subject to all the dispositions available for delinquents.
- 3 Effective date.** August 1, 1999, for violations occurring on or after that date.