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By Laura Hancock – [cleveland.com](https://cleveland.com) (via TNS).

A bipartisan pair of Northeast Ohio lawmakers is sponsoring a bill that would legalize recreational marijuana, including allowing up to six cannabis plants to be

grown per household.

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initiated statute proposal in November to legalize recreational marijuana. The Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol coalition [is gathering signatures across the state](#) in hopes of qualifying for the November ballot. Ohio already has a medical marijuana program.

Callender is trying to make the case to Republican legislative leadership that they need to seriously consider HB 168, which would ensure the legislature can have control over the finer details of the bill. If Ohioans legalize the initiated statute proposal, those details are to be decided by the coalition, which is made up of companies in the medical marijuana program.

Under the bill:

- People aged 21 and over could purchase marijuana, taxed at 10%.
- The taxes from recreational sales would be sent to the Ohio Department of Public Safety to combat illegal drug trafficking; to K-12 education; to the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to assist people suffering from chemical dependency or substance abuse; to local governments; and to the state's General Revenue Fund.
- People can grow up to six marijuana plants per household, with three or fewer being mature, flowering plants. Cultivation would have to be in an enclosed, locked place. The marijuana would have to be for personal use and not available for sale.

Read more: [Coverage of recreational marijuana in Ohio](#)

“Our bill is an expansion of the medical program,” Callender said. “All of the product would be grown, inspected and labeled the same way it is now in the medical program.”

Under current law, medical marijuana patients are not allowed to smoke the drug.

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law if the legislature doesn't address the issue first.

“The scrutiny you go under to get into this industry is pretty intense,” he said. “That’s why I like this better than the ballot initiative.”

Weinstein said in a prepared statement that neighboring states such as Michigan have recreational marijuana, and are drawing Ohioans to their program.

“It’s time for Ohio to act on this before we fall too much further behind our neighbors,” he said. “Adult-use is good for our economy, good for our justice system, and the right thing to do. Ohioans are ready to legalize cannabis, and I am proud to offer this bipartisan bill to get it done.”

[Laura Hancock](#) covers state government and politics for [The Plain Dealer and cleveland.com](#).

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