

California could reshape pot rules as legal market struggles

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The nation's largest legal marijuana market is struggling.

Illicit sales continue to thrive. A shaky supply chain has customers looking at barren shelves in some shops. There are testing problems. And a proposal to allow home marijuana deliveries in cities that have banned pot sales could lead to a courtroom fight.

A Los Angeles hearing Tuesday provided a window into the state's emerging cannabis economy, in which early enthusiasm for broad legal sales has been followed by anxiety and frustration across a swath of the industry.

The state's top marijuana regulator, Lori Ajax, said after the hearing that the state remains in a challenging transition period as it attempts to transform what was once a largely illegal market into a multibillion-dollar, regulated economy.

"Unfortunately, there is confusion out there," Ajax said.

California kicked off broad legal sales on Jan. 1, and since then temporary rules have governed sales, growing and manufacturing of everything from pot-spiked munchies to infused lotions and balms. The state is now considering changes to those rules, though it's likely to take months before any revisions go into effect.



JP Noda stocks cannabis at The Apothecarium shortly before the store opened for its first day of recreational marijuana sales in San Francisco in January 2018.

At the hearing, dozens of marijuana business owners, industry lawyers, activists and consumers each got 90 seconds to tell Ajax what needed to be done to create a more orderly, fair and, hopefully, prosperous marketplace.

Over two hours, she heard complaints about big business threatening mom-and-pop shops, a shortage of licenses and various suggestions for revamping testing rules that are intended to ensure the quality of products that reach store shelves.

Others complained about shifting rules for packaging. A string of speakers

focused on a proposed change in state rules that the League of California Cities says would allow unchecked home marijuana deliveries in places that have banned local pot sales.

To its critics, the change would create an unruly world of shady sales, but supporters say too many Californians are cut off from legal pot, even in a state where voters overwhelmingly approved it.

The fledgling legal system has created a patchwork of local laws, with some cities and counties embracing legal cannabis while others have limited sales or outlawed all commercial pot activ-

ity. That's created so-called pot deserts, where sales are forbidden.

Mina Layba, from the Los Angeles suburb of Thousand Oaks, said the proposal would conflict with a local law that bans deliveries. If approved, she said it would undercut licensed shops.

"Who then gets the benefit of taxes from deliveries?" she asked.

The state Bureau of Cannabis Control has said it is merely clarifying what has always been the case: that a licensed pot delivery can be made to "any jurisdiction within the state."

Oregon rate of unemployment lowest in 42 years

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon says its unemployment rate for July was the lowest in 42 years of keeping comparable records.

The state reported Tuesday that the July rate was 3.9 percent, a slight dip from June's rate of 4.0 percent.

That's the lowest rate since 1976.

The U.S. unemployment rate exactly matched Oregon's rate in both months.

During the past two

years, Oregon's unemployment rate has been remarkably low and steady.

The rate was either 4.1 percent or 4.2 percent each month stretching from January 2017 to May 2018.

In July, Oregon's non-farm payroll employment rose by 5,400 jobs, following a revised over-the-month gain of 6,600 jobs in June.

Monthly job gains were concentrated in retail trade, construction and health care and social assistance.

Pilot fighting northeast Washington wildfire survives plane crash

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Authorities say a pilot who was fighting a wildfire in northeast Washington has survived a plane crash.

A post on the Northeast Washington Fire Information Facebook page says an aviation mishap occurred on the Horns Mountain fire at about 2 p.m. Tuesday.

The state Department of Natural Resources tells KXLY-TV that the pilot survived the crash and

crawled to a nearby road to get help. The pilot was flying one of five FireBoss single-engine amphibious scooper air tankers assigned to the fire.

DNR spokesman Joe Smillie told SeattlePI.com that the pilot was being evaluated for injuries.

The fire, which started Saturday, is burning near the U.S.-Canadian border. It was sparked by lightning and has burned more than 1 square mile.

Small plane crashes near Baker City, kills 2 people

NAMPA, Idaho (AP) — Authorities say a fatal plane crash in eastern Oregon killed two people including a retired Idaho doctor.

The Baker County Sheriff's Office says 77-year-old William J. Watts and 70-year-old Mihoko Matsuda Nelsen were identified as the two passengers killed when a small passenger airplane nosedived into a hay field near Baker City on Saturday.

Dr. Charles Davis with the Saint Alphonsus Medical Group told the *Idaho Press* in an emailed statement that Nelsen was a neurologist with the group who practiced in Saint Al's facilities in Nampa and Fruitland before retiring about a year ago.

Authorities say Watts was piloting the plane that left from Caldwell.

The cause of the crash is being investigated.

Whooping cough outbreak worsens in southwestern Idaho

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Health officials say a whooping cough outbreak has now sickened roughly 122 people in southwestern Idaho, and they're warning those numbers could increase with the start of the school year.

Cases of pertussis have been found throughout the Southwest District Health region, which includes Adams, Canyon, Gem, Owyhee, Payette and Wash-

ington counties.

But the bulk of them have occurred in Canyon County, where 94 people have contracted the disease. Some of those patients have been hospitalized, but health officials didn't immediately have that number available.

"July was the largest number of cases we've had so far this year with 33 cases," said Jami Delmore, environmental health super-

visor of Southwest District Health. "We're concerned with the school season starting up that the numbers will go up."

Numbers from the Idaho Department of Health and

Welfare show counties in central and southern Idaho have also been hit, with nearly 260 cases reported statewide so far in 2018. That compares to just 32 reported for all of 2017.

Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

EAST OREGONIAN

— Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211
333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed major holidays

www.eastoregonian.com

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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and postal holidays, by the EO Media Group, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Periodicals postage paid at Pendleton, OR. Postmaster: send address changes to East Oregonian, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Copyright © 2018, EO Media Group

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Single copy price:

\$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday

Circulation Manager:

541-966-0828

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AccuWeather Forecast

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TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hazy sun	Hazy sunshine	Pleasant with some sun	Partly sunny	Abundant sun and very warm

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

97°	67°	98°	63°	91°	62°	92°	62°	96°	62°
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HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

99°	66°	101°	64°	95°	61°	95°	57°	99°	54°
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ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	90°	53°
Normals	88°	58°
Records	107° (1933)	40° (1910)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"

Month to date 0.00"

Normal month to date 0.18"

Year to date 6.49"

Last year to date 11.37"

Normal year to date 8.13"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	91°	51°
Normals	88°	58°
Records	105° (1992)	44° (1931)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"

Month to date 0.00"

Normal month to date 0.09"

Year to date 5.10"

Last year to date 6.65"

Normal year to date 6.01"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:55 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:03 p.m.
Moonset today	11:02 a.m.
Moonset today	10:44 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Aug 18	Aug 26	Sep 2	Sep 9

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Cloudy this morning, then some sun in central parts this afternoon; partly sunny elsewhere.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Hot today with hazy sun. Partly cloudy tonight, except clear across the north.

Western Washington: Hazy sun today. Clear to partly cloudy tonight.

Eastern Washington: Sunny today, except hazy sun across the south and toward the Cascades.

Cascades: Hazy sunshine today; very warm across the north. Clear to partly cloudy tonight.

Northern California: Mostly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight, but clear in central parts.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Thu.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	70	56	pc	67	55	pc
Baker City	96	57	pc	94	56	pc
Bend	92	57	pc	89	53	pc
Brookings	64	53	pc	66	53	pc
Burns	90	48	pc	92	51	pc
Enterprise	93	59	pc	92	57	pc
Eugene	91	56	pc	89	50	pc
Heppner	95	66	pc	94	61	pc
Hermiston	99	66	pc	101	64	pc
John Day	95	58	pc	95	56	pc
Klamath Falls	89	53	pc	88	52	pc
La Grande	95	60	pc	94	58	pc
Meacham	93	57	pc	92	55	pc
Medford	96	64	pc	95	61	pc
Newport	62	53	pc	62	50	pc
North Bend	86	56	pc	86	53	pc
Ontario	98	65	pc	98	68	pc
Pasco	98	62	pc	100	59	pc
Pendleton	97	67	pc	98	63	pc
Portland	93	60	pc	86	55	pc
Redmond	94	54	pc	92	50	pc
Salem	93	56	pc	90	52	pc
Spokane	92	64	s	94	63	s
Ukiah	94	55	pc	91	52	pc
Vancouver	92	58	pc	85	54	pc
Walla Walla	98	72	pc	98	68	pc
Yakima	97	62	pc	97	59	pc

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Thu.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	88	73	s	89	70	pc
Hong Kong	87	80	t	88	81	t
Jerusalem	85	67	s	86	67	s
London	78	61	pc	70	52	r
Mexico City	73	57	t	74	54	t
Moscow	80	57	pc	72	54	c
Paris	81	59	s	89	58	t
Rome	84	68	pc	86	69	s
Seoul	96	79	c	92	70	s
Sydney	79	55	s	68	46	s
Tokyo	89	77	pc	88	76	pc

WINDS

(in mph)

	Today	Thursday
Boardman	SW 3-6	WSW 6-12
Pendleton	N 4-8	W 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

2 4 7 7 4 2

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary:

Downpours will drench northern New England today and may bring the risk of localized flooding to the middle Mississippi Valley. Storms will dot the Southeast and Southwest. Most of the West will stay dry.

Yesterday's National Extremes:

(for the 48 contiguous states)
High 110° in Needles, Calif. Low 32° in Angel Fire, N.M.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Thur.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	91	67	pc	90	68	t
Atlanta	92	73	pc	90	73	pc
Atlantic City	89	76	pc	89	77	pc
Baltimore	91	69	s	91	73	pc
Billings	89	58	s	92	63	c
Birmingham	95	74	pc	92	74	pc
Boise	99	68	pc	98	67	s
Boston	85	73	pc	89	72	pc
Charleston, SC	91	76	pc	91	76	t
Charleston, WV	87	67	pc	88	71	t
Chicago	79	71	t	82	68	c
Cleveland	88	70	pc	80	71	t
Dallas	94	78	pc	97	79	s
Denver	90	57	pc	89	59	pc
Detroit	87	70	pc	78	69	t
El Paso	95	74	pc	94	72	c
Fairbanks	59	45	c	61	48	c
Fargo	82	55	s	87	59	s
Honolulu	90	78	pc	89	77	s
Houston	93	77	pc	94	77	pc
Indianapolis	80	70	t	82	69	t
Jacksonville	92	73	sh	91	73	t
Kansas City	82	67	t	89	69	pc
Las Vegas	100	83	s	98	82	pc
Little Rock	90	74	t	91	74	t
Los Angeles	85	67	pc	85	68	pc
Louisville	85	73	c	84	74	t
Memphis	93	76	pc	90	75	t
Miami	91	79	pc	91	80	pc
Milwaukee	81	70	t	80	67	