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the buzz: Cannabis News & Policy Update | September 2025

Insight — September 25, 2025

Welcome back to *the buzz,* our monthly cannabis news and policy update. Your at-a-glance source for regulatory developments, agency announcements, and trends impacting the cannabis industry.

In this edition of *the buzz,* highlights include:

- **Rescheduling roadblock:** Will spending bill block the DOJ from using funds on rescheduling?
- **280E strikes again:** US Tax Court restricts QBI deduction benefits—WA cannabis businesses owe nearly $1M
- **New markets opening:** RI accepts applications for 24 adult-use retail licenses to be awarded through lottery; NE about to launch medical program with 60% potency caps
- **Around the states:** CA Gov. New Newsom reduces state cannabis tax from 19% to 15% through 2028. NY proposes new rules for advertising, packaging, and labeling
- **Upcoming cannabis ballot measures:** in MA (repealing adult-use market); MO (combine cannabis + hemp); OR (legalize social consumption site).
- **Hemp updates:** VA Rep Griffith proposed new framework to regulate hemp-derived cannabinoid products under FDA/DHS. TX Gov. Abbott moves forward on regulating hemp and incorporating hemp beverages into alcohol supply chain. MD appeals court OKs requiring cannabis licenses for higher-THC hemp products.

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