



OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 2017-002
DATE January 30, 2017

**AN ORDER REGARDING EXECUTIVE BRANCH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION ACT**

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, November 8, the People of Maine voted to approve the "Marijuana Legalization Act" by a majority of the votes given and the Act will be effective beginning January 30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the 128th Maine Legislature has not yet taken action to ensure the proper oversight of the Act, or appropriated the necessary funds to enable the rulemaking for licensing and enforcement of the Act and will not have taken such action by the time the Act becomes operative; and

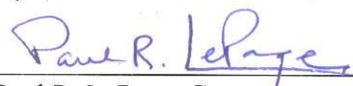
WHEREAS, the Executive Branch will be required to expend substantial funds in order to conduct the rulemaking required by the Act; and

WHEREAS, the retail sales, licensing, enforcement, and rulemaking expertise of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services is beneficial and necessary to the development and enforcement of the rules required by the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paul R. LePage, Governor of the State of Maine, hereby order as follows:

1. Pursuant to the "Act To Delay the Implementation of Certain Portions of the Marijuana Legalization Act," the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is directed to delegate rulemaking authority granted under the "Marijuana Legalization Act" to the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services for rule-making, which shall rely on the expertise of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations.
2. No employee or department of the Executive Branch may expend funds for the purpose of implementing the Marijuana Legalization Act until an appropriation is made by the Legislature for that purpose.

The effective date of this Executive Order is January 30, 2017.


Paul R. LePage, Governor