

## WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §19-16-3a

### **§19-16-3a. Industrial hemp seed certification program; requirements; fees; rulemaking.**

(a) The commissioner may create and administer an industrial hemp seed certification program to obtain and develop varieties of seeds which meet the purposes and provisions of §19-12E-1 et seq. of this code. The program shall be consistent with this article and applicable federal law. This program may include West Virginia landrace cannabis seed varieties. For the purposes of this article, "West Virginia landrace cannabis seed" means seed from the plant cannabis sativa that possesses characteristics of a unique and specialized cannabis seed variety that is present in West Virginia or has been recognized as produced in West Virginia.

(b) Persons or entities, licensed pursuant to §19-12E-1 et seq. of this code, may obtain a license for the development of industrial hemp varieties for certification. The commissioner may assess a fee, consistent with the provisions of §19-12E-7 of this code, to operate and administer the seed certification program. The fees shall be deposited in the Agricultural Fees Fund established by §19-1-4c of this code.

(c) The commissioner may promulgate emergency rules and shall propose rules for legislative approval pursuant to §29A-3-1 et seq. of this code for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this section.