

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
COUNTY OF LAUDERDALE

**ORDER SETTING ELECTION  
UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CANNABIS ACT**

BE IT REMEMBERED, there came on for consideration before the Board of Supervisors of Lauderdale County, Mississippi, the matter of setting an election under the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act (“the Act”) at which there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Lauderdale County (“the County”) the question of whether or not the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products shall be legal in the unincorporated areas of the County as provided in this chapter.

The Board finds that under Section 30 of the Act, the City of Meridian did not opt out. Thus, currently, the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products is legal within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Meridian.

However, on May 2, 2022, as authorized by Section 30 of the Act, the Board of Supervisors of Lauderdale County (“the Board”) entered its Resolution opting out of allowing the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products in the unincorporated areas of the County. Thus, currently, the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products is illegal in the in the unincorporated areas of the County.

The Board’s May 2, 2022 decision to “opt out” does not prohibit persons from **possessing** medical cannabis or cannabis products in the unincorporated areas of

Lauderdale County if those persons have lawfully obtained such medical cannabis or cannabis products under the Act and its associated regulations as promulgated by the Mississippi Department of Health.

The Board finds that as authorized by Section 30(3)(a) of the Act, a proper petition was filed with the Clerk of the Board on September 9, 2022, requesting that the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products be legal in the unincorporated areas of the County. The Board finds that the petition was signed by 1,586 qualified electors of the County, as certified by the Circuit Clerk and County Registrar for the County.

The Board therefor finds that under Section 30(3)(a) of the Act, it is the duty of the Board to call an election at which there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the County the question of whether or not the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products shall be legal in the unincorporated areas of the County. It is therefore,

**ORDERED** that the Board of Supervisors hereby calls an election at which there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the County the question of whether or not the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products shall be legal in the unincorporated areas of the County. **Such election shall be held and conducted by the Lauderdale County Election Commissioners on November 8, 2022, which date is not more than sixty (60) days from the date of the filing of the subject petition.** It is further,

ORDERED that as required by Section 30(3)(b) of the Act, the election shall be held and conducted as far as may be possible in the same manner as is provided by law for the holding of general elections. The ballots used at the election shall contain a brief statement of the proposition submitted and, on separate lines, the words "I vote FOR allowing the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products, as applicable, in the unincorporated areas of Lauderdale County ( )", or "I vote AGAINST allowing the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products, as applicable, in the unincorporated areas of Lauderdale County ( )", with appropriate boxes in which the voters may express their choice. It is further,

ORDERED that as required by Section 30(3)(c) of the Act, the Election Commissioners shall canvass and determine the results of the election and shall certify the same to the Board which shall adopt and spread upon its minutes an order declaring such results. If, in such election, a majority of the qualified electors participating therein vote in favor of allowing the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products in the unincorporated areas of the County, the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act shall be applicable and operative in the unincorporated areas of the County, and the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products in the unincorporated areas of the County shall be lawful to the extent and in the manner permitted in the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act. If, on the other hand, a majority of the qualified electors participating in the election vote against

allowing the cultivation, processing, sale and/or distribution of medical cannabis and cannabis products, then it shall be illegal to cultivate, process, sell and/or distribute medical cannabis and cannabis products in the unincorporated areas of the County. In either case, no further election shall be held in Lauderdale County under the provisions of Section 30(3) for a period of two (2) years from the date of the prior election and then only upon the filing of a petition requesting same signed by at least twenty percent (20%) or fifteen hundred (1,500), whichever number is the lesser, of the qualified electors of the County as provided in Section 30(3) of the Act. It is further,

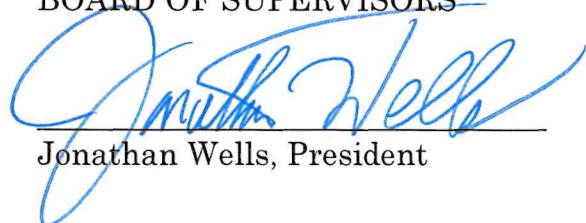
ORDERED that the County Administrator shall ensure that a certified copy of this Order shall be available on Lauderdale County's official website for the convenient access of the public. It is further,

ORDERED that a certified copy of this Order shall be published in *The Meridian Star*, a newspaper of general circulation within Lauderdale County, Mississippi in qualifying for the legal publication under Sections 13-3-31 and 19-5-22 of the Mississippi Code, for four (4) consecutive weeks on October 11, 2022, October 18, 2022, October 25, 2022 and November 1, 2022.

SO ORDERED, by the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY:



Jonathan Wells, President

ATTEST:

*Carolyn Mooney*

Clerk, Board of Supervisors



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
COUNTY OF LAUDERDALE

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Lauderdale County, Mississippi, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Order was passed by the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors on the day above mentioned.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, witness my hand and official seal of the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.



*Carolyn Mooney*

CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS