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2026 NFL season preview: Rams look unstoppable

Corpus Christi hemp businesses face THC ban that includes delta-8



Chloe Bethards, manager at The House of Hemp in Corpus Christi, places CBD flower into a jar on Aug. 13. FELICITY GUAJARDO/CALLER-TIMES

‘That is going way too far’

Felicity Guajardo
Corpus Christi Caller Times | USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

Corpus Christi hemp retailers have pulled products from their shelves in response to a Texas ban on a variety of THC products that took effect on July 31.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reclassified all synthetically created THC forms, including delta-8, delta-10, THCP and THCA flower, as Schedule I controlled substances. The move came after the Texas Supreme Court in May lifted a 2021 injunction that had blocked DSHS from enforcing the new classification. Now, it is illegal in Texas to sell or possess hemp-derived THC products.

Delta-9 products are still legal as long as they don’t contain more than 0.3% THC by dry weight, as defined under the federal 2018 Farm Bill.

How local hemp businesses are adjusting

Craig Bethards is the owner of The House of Hemp on Airline Road, Crazy Craig’s Custom Pipes on Ayers Street and Crazy Craig’s House of Hemp on South Padre Island.

Bethards said that since there were no frameworks regarding synthetic or hemp-derived THC within the 2018 Farm Bill, this opened the door for a new market.

He compared delta-8, found in trace amounts within cannabis, to vitamin C supplements that are made in a lab as opposed to natural vitamin C occurring in fruits or vegetables. That’s partly why he believes the new felony offense tied to synthetic THC is “ludicrous.”

“That is going way too far,” Bethards said. “There definitely needs

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Suit against city manager seeks over \$1M in damages

Kirsten Crow
Corpus Christi Caller Times
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

Hotel developers are seeking more than \$1 million in damages in a lawsuit against Corpus Christi City Manager Peter Zanoni, prompted by alleged interference in a settlement payment, according to court records.

Elevate QOF LLC, developers of the new Homewood Suites hotel down-

town, is pursuing litigation against Zanoni in both his official and individual capacity, filing on Aug. 18 a petition seeking declaratory judgment and a request for a temporary restraining order.

It is one of two temporary restraining orders related to the \$1.5 million settlement agreed to on Aug. 10 between Elevate and the Type B board, which oversees distribution of incentives for economic development projects, backed by a portion of revenue collected via sales

taxes.

The initial agreement had been between the company and the board, without the city of Corpus Christi listed as a party.

The temporary restraining orders

There has been dispute over whether the board has the authority to approve the settlement payment or whether the final decision rests with the council.

The city will abide by the second temporary restraining order, issued Aug. 19, which commands that officials not issue the payment. It had been requested by a competing hotelier in a lawsuit that seeks to undo the original tax incentives agreement between Elevate and the Type B board, as had been ratified by the City Council.

The first temporary restraining order,

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