
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish the
2 office of medical cannabis control and regulation, which shall
3 be responsible for implementing the medical cannabis dispensary
4 system and administering the medical cannabis patient registry.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
7 and to read as follows:

8 "§329D- Office of medical cannabis control and
9 regulation; established; duties. (a) There is established
10 within the department the office of medical cannabis control and
11 regulation, which shall report to the deputy director of health
12 resources administration.

13 (b) The office of medical cannabis control and regulation
14 shall administer medical cannabis dispensary licensure and
15 regulation, pursuant to this chapter, and the registration of
16 qualifying patients and primary caregivers, pursuant to part IX
17 of chapter 329."



1 SECTION 3. Section 329D-27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsections (b) and (c) to read as follows:

3 "(b) No later than January 4, 2016, the department shall
4 adopt interim rules, which shall be exempt from chapter 91 and
5 chapter 201M, to effectuate the purposes of this chapter;
6 provided that the interim rules shall remain in effect until
7 July 1, [~~2020,~~] 2025, or until rules are adopted pursuant to
8 subsection (a), whichever occurs sooner.

9 (c) The department may amend the interim rules, and the
10 amendments shall be exempt from chapters 91 and 201M, to
11 effectuate the purposes of this chapter; provided that any
12 amended interim rules shall remain in effect until July 1,
13 [~~2020,~~] 2025, or until rules are adopted pursuant to subsection
14 (a), whichever occurs sooner."

15 SECTION 4. Act 241, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, as
16 amended by Act 41, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, is amended by
17 amending section 14 to read as follows:

18 "SECTION 14. For the purposes of effectuating this Act,
19 the personnel hired and the contracts entered into by the
20 department of health, pursuant to this Act, shall be exempt from
21 chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for a period beginning on



1 July 1, 2015, and ending on June 30, [~~2020~~] 2025; provided
2 that:

3 (1) All personnel actions taken pursuant to this Act by
4 the department of health after June 30, [~~2020~~] 2025,
5 shall be subject to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised
6 Statutes, as appropriate; and

7 (2) Any employee hired by the department of health to
8 effectuate this Act, who occupies a position exempt
9 from civil service on July 1, [~~2020~~] 2025, shall:

10 (A) Be appointed to a civil service position; and

11 (B) Not suffer any loss of prior service credit,
12 vacation or sick leave credits previously earned,
13 or other employee benefits or privileges;

14 provided that the employee possesses the minimum
15 qualifications and public employment requirements for
16 the class or position to which appointed; provided
17 further that subsequent changes in status shall be
18 made pursuant to applicable civil service and
19 compensation laws."

20 SECTION 5. All appropriations records, equipment,
21 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,



1 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,
2 acquired, or held by the office of health care assurance
3 relating to the functions transferred to the office of medical
4 cannabis control and regulation shall be transferred with the
5 functions to which they relate.

6 SECTION 6. Employees performing duties related to medical
7 cannabis dispensary licensure and regulation pursuant to chapter
8 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and relating to the registration
9 of qualifying patients pursuant to section 329-123, Hawaii
10 Revised Statutes, shall be transferred to the office of medical
11 cannabis control and regulation without loss of salary,
12 seniority (except as prescribed by applicable collective
13 bargaining agreements), retention points, prior service credit,
14 any vacation and sick leave credits previously earned, and other
15 rights, benefits, and privileges, in accordance with state
16 personnel laws and this Act; provided that the employees possess
17 the minimum qualifications and public employment requirements
18 for the class or position to which transferred or appointed, as
19 applicable; provided further that subsequent changes in status
20 may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and
21 compensation laws.



1 Notwithstanding section 76-16(b)(17)(A), Hawaii Revised
2 Statutes, to the contrary, any employee who, prior to this Act,
3 is exempt from civil service and is transferred as a consequence
4 of this Act may retain the employee's exempt status, but shall
5 not be appointed to a civil service position as a consequence of
6 this Act. An exempt employee who is transferred by this Act
7 shall not suffer any loss of prior service credit, vacation or
8 sick leave credits previously earned, or other employee benefits
9 or privileges as a consequence of this Act; provided that the
10 employees possess legal and public employment requirements for
11 the position to which transferred or appointed, as applicable;
12 provided further that subsequent changes in status may be made
13 pursuant to applicable employment and compensation laws.

14 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for
17 staff and operations of the office of medical cannabis control
18 and regulation, including the establishment of four full-time
19 equivalent (4.00 FTE) positions as follows:

- 20 (1) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) program manager;



- 1 (2) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) information
2 technology specialist;
- 3 (3) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) administrative
4 assistant; and
- 5 (4) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) data analyst.
- 6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
7 health for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DOH; Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation;
Established; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation in the Department of Health to regulate and administer the registration of qualifying patients and primary caregivers and medical cannabis dispensaries. Extends civil service exemptions for persons in civil service exempt positions prior to enactment of this measure who will transfer into the office due to this measure. Extends interim rulemaking authority. Appropriates moneys for operations and staff of the office. Effective 7/1/3000. (SD1)

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