
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 329-121, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending the definition of "written certification" to
3 read as follows:

4 "Written certification" means the qualifying patient's
5 medical records or a statement signed by a qualifying patient's
6 physician or advanced practice registered nurse, stating that in
7 the physician's or advanced practice registered nurse's
8 professional opinion, the qualifying patient has a debilitating
9 medical condition and the potential benefits of the medical use
10 of cannabis would likely outweigh the health risks for the
11 qualifying patient. The department of health may require,
12 through its rulemaking authority, that all written
13 certifications comply with a designated form. "Written
14 certifications" are valid for one year from the time of signing;
15 provided that the department of health may allow for the
16 validity of any written certification for [~~up to~~] three years if
17 the qualifying patient's physician or advanced practice



1 registered nurse states that the patient's debilitating medical
2 condition is chronic in nature."

3 SECTION 2. Section 329-123, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) Physicians or advanced practice registered nurses who
6 issue written certifications shall provide, in each written
7 certification, the name, address, patient identification number,
8 and other identifying information of the qualifying patient.
9 The department of health shall require, in rules adopted
10 pursuant to chapter 91, that all written certifications comply
11 with a designated form completed by or on behalf of a qualifying
12 patient. The form shall require information from the applicant,
13 primary caregiver, and physician or advanced practice registered
14 nurse as specifically required or permitted by this chapter.
15 The form shall require the address of the location where the
16 cannabis is grown and shall appear on the registry card issued
17 by the department of health. The certifying physician or
18 advanced practice registered nurse shall be required to have a
19 [~~bona fide~~] physician-patient relationship or [~~bona fide~~]
20 advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship, as
21 applicable, with the qualifying patient. All current active



1 medical cannabis permits shall be honored through their
2 expiration date."

3 SECTION 3. Section 329-126, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "§329-126 Protections afforded to a treating physician or
6 advanced practice registered nurse. (a) No physician or
7 advanced practice registered nurse shall be subject to arrest or
8 prosecution, penalized in any manner, or denied any right or
9 privilege for providing written certification for the medical
10 use of cannabis for a qualifying patient; provided that:

11 (1) The physician or advanced practice registered nurse
12 has diagnosed the patient as having a debilitating
13 medical condition, as defined in section 329-121;

14 (2) The physician or advanced practice registered nurse
15 has explained the potential risks and benefits of the
16 medical use of cannabis, as required under section
17 329-122;

18 (3) The written certification is based upon the
19 physician's or advanced practice registered nurse's
20 professional opinion after having completed a full
21 assessment of the patient's medical history and



1 current medical condition made in the course of a
2 [~~bona fide~~] physician-patient relationship or [~~bona~~
3 ~~fide~~] advanced practice registered nurse-patient
4 relationship, as applicable; and

5 (4) The physician or advanced practice registered nurse
6 has complied with the registration requirements of
7 section 329-123.

8 (b) For purposes of this section, a [~~bona fide~~] physician-
9 patient relationship may be established via telehealth, as
10 defined in section 453-1.3(j), and a [~~bona fide~~] advanced
11 practice registered nurse-patient relationship may be
12 established via telehealth, as defined in section 457-2;
13 provided that treatment recommendations that include certifying
14 a patient for the medical use of cannabis via telehealth shall
15 be allowed only after an initial in-person consultation between
16 the certifying physician or advanced practice registered nurse
17 and the patient."

18 SECTION 4. Section 329D-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended as follows:

20 1. By adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
21 and to read as follows:



1 "Waiting room" means a designated area at the public
2 entrance of a retail dispensing location that may be accessed by
3 a member of the general public who is waiting for, assisting, or
4 accompanying a qualifying patient, primary caregiver, qualifying
5 out-of-state patient, or caregiver of a qualifying out-of-state
6 patient who enters or remains on the premises of a retail
7 dispensing location for the purpose of a transaction conducted
8 pursuant to sections 329D-6 and 329D-13, provided that the
9 storage, display, and retail sale of cannabis and manufactured
10 cannabis products shall be prohibited within the waiting room
11 area."

12 2. By amending the definition of "manufactured cannabis
13 product" to read as follows:

14 "Manufactured cannabis product" means [any]:

15 (1) Any capsule, lozenge, oil or oil extract, tincture,
16 ointment or skin lotion, pill, transdermal patch, or
17 pre-filled and sealed container used to aerosolize and
18 deliver cannabis orally[~~7~~] or by inhalation, such as
19 an inhaler [~~e~~], nebulizer, or device that provides
20 safe pulmonary administration, that has been
21 manufactured using cannabis[~~7~~];



- 1 (2) Edible cannabis products;
- 2 (3) Pre-rolled cannabis flower products; or [any]
- 3 (4) Any other products as specified by the department
- 4 pursuant to section 329D-10(a)(11)."

5 SECTION 5. Section 329D-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsection (r) to read as follows:

7 "(r) The department may authorize a dispensary to purchase
8 cannabis and manufactured cannabis products from another
9 dispensary in a manner prescribed by the department by rules
10 adopted pursuant to [~~this chapter and chapter 91,~~] section 329D-
11 27; provided that:

- 12 (1) The purchasing dispensary establishes to the
13 department's satisfaction that:
 - 14 (A) The purchase is necessary to ensure that
15 qualifying patients have continuous access to
16 cannabis for medical use; or
 - 17 (B) The cannabis and manufactured cannabis products
18 are for medical, scientific, or other legitimate
19 purposes approved by the State;
- 20 (2) The selling dispensary may transport no more than
21 eight hundred ounces of cannabis or manufactured



1 cannabis products to the purchasing dispensary within
2 a thirty-day period[+] or other amounts with prior
3 approval by the department;

4 (3) The cannabis and manufactured cannabis products are
5 transported between the dispensaries for medical,
6 scientific, or other legitimate purposes approved by
7 the State; and

8 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall relieve any
9 dispensary of its responsibilities and obligations
10 under this chapter and chapter 329."

11 SECTION 6. Section 329D-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 "**§329D-7 Medical cannabis dispensary rules.** The
14 department shall establish standards with respect to:

15 (1) The number of medical cannabis dispensaries that shall
16 be permitted to operate in the State;

17 (2) A fee structure for:

18 (A) The submission of applications and renewals of
19 licenses to dispensaries; provided that the
20 department shall consider the market conditions



- 1 in each county in determining the license renewal
2 fee amounts;
- 3 (B) The submission of applications for each
4 additional production center; and
- 5 (C) Dispensary-to-dispensary sales authorized by
6 section 329D-6(r);
- 7 (3) Criteria and procedures for the consideration and
8 selection, based on merit, of applications for
9 licensure of dispensaries; provided that the criteria
10 shall include but not be limited to an applicant's:
- 11 (A) Ability to operate a business;
- 12 (B) Financial stability and access to financial
13 resources; provided that applicants for medical
14 cannabis dispensary licenses shall provide
15 documentation that demonstrates control of not
16 less than \$1,000,000 in the form of escrow
17 accounts, letters of credit, surety bonds, bank
18 statements, lines of credit, or the equivalent to
19 begin operating the dispensary;
- 20 (C) Ability to comply with the security requirements
21 developed pursuant to paragraph (6);



- 1 (D) Capacity to meet the needs of qualifying patients
2 and qualifying out-of-state patients;
- 3 (E) Ability to comply with criminal background check
4 requirements developed pursuant to paragraph (8);
5 and
- 6 (F) Ability to comply with inventory controls
7 developed pursuant to paragraph (13);
- 8 (4) Specific requirements regarding annual audits and
9 reports required from each production center and
10 dispensary licensed pursuant to this chapter;
- 11 (5) Procedures for announced and unannounced inspections
12 by the department or its agents of production centers
13 and dispensaries licensed pursuant to this chapter;
14 provided that inspections for license renewals shall
15 be unannounced;
- 16 (6) Security requirements for the operation of production
17 centers and retail dispensing locations; provided
18 that, at a minimum, the following shall be required:
19 (A) For production centers:



- 1 (i) Video monitoring and recording of the
2 premises; provided that recordings shall be
3 retained for fifty days;
- 4 (ii) Fencing that surrounds the premises and that
5 is sufficient to reasonably deter intruders
6 and prevent anyone outside the premises from
7 viewing any cannabis in any form;
- 8 (iii) An alarm system; and
- 9 (iv) Other reasonable security measures to deter
10 or prevent intruders, as deemed necessary by
11 the department;
- 12 (B) For retail dispensing locations:
- 13 (i) Presentation of a valid government-issued
14 photo identification and a valid
15 identification as issued by the department
16 pursuant to section 329-123 by a qualifying
17 patient or caregiver, or section 329-123.5
18 by a qualifying out-of-state patient or
19 caregiver of a qualifying out-of-state
20 patient, upon entering the premises;



- 1 (ii) Video monitoring and recording of the
2 premises; provided that recording shall be
3 retained for fifty days;
- 4 (iii) An alarm system;
- 5 (iv) Exterior lighting; and
- 6 (v) Other reasonable security measures as deemed
7 necessary by the department;
- 8 (7) Security requirements for the transportation of
9 cannabis and manufactured cannabis products between
10 production centers and retail dispensing locations and
11 between a production center, retail dispensing
12 location, qualifying patient, primary caregiver,
13 qualifying out-of-state patient, or caregiver of a
14 qualifying out-of-state patient and a certified
15 laboratory, pursuant to section 329-122(f);
- 16 (8) Standards and criminal background checks to ensure the
17 reputable and responsible character and fitness of all
18 license applicants, licensees, employees,
19 subcontractors and their employees, and prospective
20 employees of medical cannabis dispensaries to operate
21 a dispensary; provided that the standards, at a



1 minimum, shall exclude from licensure or employment
2 any person convicted of any felony;

3 (9) The training and certification of operators and
4 employees of production centers and dispensaries;

5 (10) The types of manufactured cannabis products that
6 dispensaries shall be authorized to manufacture and
7 sell pursuant to sections 329D-9 and 329D-10;

8 (11) Laboratory standards related to testing cannabis and
9 manufactured cannabis products for content,
10 contamination, and consistency;

11 (12) The quantities of cannabis and manufactured cannabis
12 products that a dispensary may sell or provide to a
13 qualifying patient, primary caregiver, qualifying out-
14 of-state patient, or caregiver of a qualifying out-of-
15 state patient; provided that no dispensary shall sell
16 or provide to a qualifying patient, primary caregiver,
17 qualifying out-of-state patient, or caregiver of a
18 qualifying out-of-state patient any combination of
19 cannabis and manufactured products that:



1 (A) During a period of fifteen consecutive days,
2 exceeds the equivalent of four ounces of
3 cannabis; or

4 (B) During a period of thirty consecutive days,
5 exceeds the equivalent of eight ounces of
6 cannabis;

7 (13) Dispensary and production center inventory controls to
8 prevent the unauthorized diversion of cannabis or
9 manufactured cannabis products or the distribution of
10 cannabis or manufactured cannabis products to a
11 qualifying patient, primary caregiver, qualifying out-
12 of-state patient, or caregiver of a qualifying out-of-
13 state patient in quantities that exceed limits
14 established by this chapter; provided that the
15 controls, at a minimum, shall include:

16 (A) A computer software tracking system as specified
17 in section 329D-6(j) and (k); and

18 (B) Product packaging standards sufficient to allow
19 law enforcement personnel to reasonably determine
20 the contents of an unopened package;



- 1 (14) Limitation to the size or format of signs placed
- 2 outside a retail dispensing location or production
- 3 center; provided that the signage limitations, at a
- 4 minimum, shall comply with section 329D-6(o)(2) and
- 5 shall not include the image of a cartoon character or
- 6 other design intended to appeal to children;
- 7 (15) The disposal or destruction of unwanted or unused
- 8 cannabis and manufactured cannabis products;
- 9 (16) The enforcement of the following prohibitions against:
- 10 (A) The sale or provision of cannabis or manufactured
- 11 cannabis products to unauthorized persons;
- 12 (B) The sale or provision of cannabis or manufactured
- 13 cannabis products to a qualifying patient,
- 14 primary caregiver, qualifying out-of-state
- 15 patient, or caregiver of a qualifying out-of-
- 16 state patient in quantities that exceed limits
- 17 established by this chapter;
- 18 (C) Any use or consumption of cannabis or
- 19 manufactured cannabis products on the premises of
- 20 a retail dispensing location or production
- 21 center; and



- 1 (D) The distribution of cannabis or manufactured
2 cannabis products, for free, on the premises of a
3 retail dispensing location or production center;
- 4 (17) The establishment of a range of penalties for
5 violations of this chapter or rule adopted thereto;
6 [and]
- 7 (18) A process to recognize and register patients who are
8 authorized to purchase, possess, and use medical
9 cannabis in another state, a United States territory,
10 or the District of Columbia as qualifying out-of-state
11 patients; provided that this registration process may
12 commence no sooner than January 1, 2018[-]; and
- 13 (19) Security requirements and restrictions regarding
14 waiting rooms, including but not limited to:
- 15 (A) Security measures to prevent unauthorized access
16 to any area within the retail dispensing location
17 outside of the waiting room;
- 18 (B) Restrictions on marketing and advertising within
19 the waiting room;
- 20 (C) Restrictions on signage within the waiting room;
21 and



1 (D) Other reasonable security measures or
2 restrictions as deemed necessary by the
3 department."

4 SECTION 7. Section 329D-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

6 "(a) The types of medical cannabis products that may be
7 manufactured and distributed pursuant to this chapter shall be
8 limited to:

- 9 (1) Capsules;
10 (2) Lozenges;
11 (3) Pills;
12 (4) Oils and oil extracts;
13 (5) Tinctures;
14 (6) Ointments and skin lotions;
15 (7) Transdermal patches;
16 (8) Pre-filled and sealed containers used to aerosolize
17 and deliver cannabis orally~~[r]~~ or by inhalation, such
18 as ~~[with]~~ an inhaler ~~[or]~~, nebulizer~~[r]~~, or device
19 that provides safe pulmonary administration; provided
20 that ~~[containers]~~:



1 (A) Containers need not be manufactured by the
2 licensed dispensary but shall be filled with
3 cannabis, cannabis oils, or cannabis extracts
4 manufactured by the licensed dispensary~~[7]~~ or
5 purchased from another dispensary pursuant to
6 section 329D-6(r); but shall not contain
7 nicotine, tobacco-related products, or any other
8 non-cannabis derived products; and ~~[shall be~~
9 ~~designed to be used with devices used to provide~~
10 ~~safe pulmonary administration of manufactured~~
11 ~~cannabis products,~~

12 ~~(9) Devices]~~

13 (B) For devices that provide safe pulmonary
14 administration~~[7, provided that]~~:

15 ~~[(A)]~~ (i) The heating element of the device, if any,
16 ~~[is]~~ shall be made of inert materials such as
17 glass, ceramic, or stainless steel, and not of
18 plastic or rubber;

19 ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) The device ~~[is]~~ shall be distributed solely
20 for use with single-use, pre-filled, tamper-



1 resistant, sealed containers that do not contain
2 nicotine or other tobacco products;

3 ~~[(C) The device is used to aerosolize and deliver~~
4 ~~cannabis by inhalation, such as an inhaler,~~
5 ~~medical grade nebulizer, or other similar medical~~
6 ~~grade volitization device;~~

7 ~~(D)]~~ (iii) There ~~[is]~~ shall be a temperature control
8 on the device that is regulated to prevent the
9 combustion of cannabis oil; and

10 ~~[(E)]~~ (iv) The device need not be manufactured by the
11 licensed dispensary;

12 (9) Pre-rolled cannabis flower products, as specified by
13 the department;

14 (10) ~~[Other products, including edible]~~ Edible cannabis
15 products, as specified by the department; and

16 (11) Other products as specified by the department."

17 SECTION 8. Section 329D-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

19 "(a) No person shall intentionally or knowingly enter or
20 remain upon the premises of a medical cannabis retail dispensing
21 location unless the individual is:



- 1 (1) An individual licensee or registered employee of the
2 dispensary;
- 3 (2) A qualifying patient, primary caregiver, qualifying
4 out-of-state patient, or caregiver of a qualifying
5 out-of-state patient;
- 6 (3) A government employee or official acting in the
7 person's official capacity; or
- 8 (4) Previously included on a current department-approved
9 list provided to the department by the licensee of
10 those persons who are allowed into that dispensary's
11 facilities for a specific purpose for that dispensary,
12 including but not limited to construction,
13 maintenance, repairs, legal counsel, providers of
14 paratransit or other assistive services required by a
15 qualifying patient, primary caregiver, qualifying out-
16 of-state patient, or caregiver of a qualifying out-of-
17 state patient to access a retail dispensary location,
18 or investors; provided that;
- 19 (A) The person has been individually approved by the
20 department to be included on the list;



- 1 (B) The person is at least twenty-one years of age,
2 as verified by a valid government issued
3 identification card;
- 4 (C) The department has confirmed that the person has
5 no felony convictions;
- 6 (D) The person is escorted by an individual licensee
7 or registered employee of the dispensary at all
8 times while in the dispensary facility;
- 9 (E) The person is only permitted within those
10 portions of the dispensary facility as necessary
11 to fulfill the person's purpose for entering;
- 12 (F) The person is only permitted within the
13 dispensary facility during the times and for the
14 duration necessary to fulfill the person's
15 purpose for entering;
- 16 (G) The dispensary shall keep an accurate record of
17 each person's first and last name, date and times
18 upon entering and exiting the dispensary
19 facility, purpose for entering, and the identity
20 of the escort; and



1 (H) The approved list shall be effective for one year
2 from the date of the department approval~~[+]~~i
3 provided that a member of the general public may enter or remain
4 within the waiting room of a retail dispensing location."

5 SECTION 9. Section 329D-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

7 "(b) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this
8 chapter or the rules adopted pursuant thereto shall be fined not
9 less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 for each [~~violation.~~]
10 separate violation. Each day on which a violation occurs or
11 continues shall be counted as a separate violation."

12 SECTION 10. Section 329D-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "~~+~~**§329D-26**~~+~~ **Public education.** [~~(a) The department~~]
15 Medical cannabis dispensaries, in conjunction with physicians
16 and advanced practice registered nurses who issue written
17 certifications pursuant to section 329-123, shall conduct a
18 continuing education and training program to explain and clarify
19 the purposes and requirements of this chapter or to provide
20 substance abuse prevention and education. The program shall
21 target community partner agencies, physicians and other health



1 care providers, patients and caregivers, law enforcement
2 agencies, law and policy makers, and the general public.

3 ~~[(b) The department shall employ at least one full-time~~
4 ~~staff member whose qualifications and duties include the~~
5 ~~provision of medical cannabis health education.]"~~

6 SECTION 11. (a) The office of medical cannabis control
7 and regulation, in collaboration with the chairpersons of the
8 senate committee on health and human services and the house of
9 representatives committee on health and homelessness, shall
10 convene a medical and adult use of cannabis working group to
11 research, develop, and finalize recommendations for the creation
12 of a dual use regulatory system allowing access to medical
13 cannabis and cannabis for adult use.

14 (b) The medical and adult use of cannabis working group
15 shall include the following:

- 16 (1) The chairperson of the senate committee on health and
17 human services, or the chairperson's designee;
- 18 (2) The chairperson of the house of representatives
19 committee on health and homelessness, or the
20 chairperson's designee;



- 1 (3) The chairperson of the senate committee on agriculture
2 and environment, or the chairperson's designee;
- 3 (4) The chairperson of the house of representatives
4 committee on agriculture and food systems, or the
5 chairperson's designee;
- 6 (5) The attorney general, or the attorney general's
7 designee;
- 8 (6) The director of health, or the director's designee;
- 9 (7) The chairperson of the board of agriculture, or the
10 chairperson's designee;
- 11 (8) The director of taxation, or the director's designee;
- 12 (9) The prosecuting attorney of the city and county of
13 Honolulu, or the prosecuting attorney's designee;
- 14 (10) A police chief chosen by the Law Enforcement and
15 Security Coalition of Hawaii, or the police chief's
16 designee;
- 17 (11) A representative of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii;
- 18 (12) A representative from the Coalition for a Drug-Free
19 Hawaii;
- 20 (13) Four participants in Hawaii's medical marijuana
21 program, one of whom is a patient over the age of



1 eighteen, one of whom is a patient or guardian of a
2 patient who is under the age of ten, one of whom is a
3 named caregiver of a patient, and one of whom is a
4 representative of a licensed dispensary; and

5 (14) Any other participants identified in consultation with
6 the office of medical cannabis control and regulation,
7 and the chairpersons of the senate committee on health
8 and human services and the house of representatives
9 committee on health and homelessness.

10 (c) The medical and adult use of cannabis working group
11 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
12 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later
13 than ten days prior to the convening of the regular session of
14 2024.

15 SECTION 12. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 2050.



Report Title:

Medical Cannabis Dispensary System; Physician-Patient Relationship; Advanced Practice Registered Nurse-Patient Relationship; Written Certification; Waiting room; Violations; Continuing Education; Working Group

Description:

Requires that written certifications for a patient with a chronic condition be valid for three years. Removes the requirement that a certifying physician or advanced practice registered nurse have a "bona fide" physician-patient or advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship to certify that a patient has a debilitating medical condition pursuant to chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Amends the definition of "manufactured cannabis product" to include devices that provides safe pulmonary administration, edible cannabis products, and pre-rolled cannabis flower products. Defines "waiting room" within a medical cannabis retail dispensary. Allows primary caregivers, qualifying out-of-state patients, and caregivers of a qualifying out-of-state patient to access the waiting room. Allows selling dispensaries to transport not more than eight hundred ounces of cannabis or manufactured cannabis products to purchasing dispensaries within a thirty-day period, or other amounts with prior approval of the Department of Health. Clarifies the types of medical cannabis products that may be manufactured and distributed pursuant to the State's medical cannabis dispensary system. Clarifies that each day of a violation of chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is a separate violation. Amends the rule-making authority for dispensary-to-dispensary sales. Requires medical cannabis dispensaries, in conjunction with physicians and advanced practice registered nurses who issue written certifications pursuant to section 329-123, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to conduct the continuing education and training program required by section 329D-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, rather than the Department of Health. Establishes a Medical and Adult Use of Cannabis Working Group. Effective 6/30/2050. (SD2)

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