



Chairman Phil Mendelson

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A BILL

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To amend, on an emergency basis, the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999 to allow qualifying patients with a written recommendation from an authorized practitioner within the last two years to register with ABRA; to allow qualifying patients and caregivers whose registration cards expired or will expire between March 1, 2020 to January 31, 2022 to continue purchasing, possessing and administering cannabis until January 31, 2022, at which point the qualifying patient or caregiver will need to acquire a new registration card; to increase the amount of dried cannabis a qualifying patient may possess at any one time from 4 ounces to 8 ounces; to issue biennial registration cards to patients and caregivers who register with ABRA by January 31, 2022; and to amend Section 501 of Title 22-C of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations to allow qualifying patients to establish residency in the District with one document, including a telephone bill or bank statement containing their District address.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Medical Marijuana Patient Access Emergency Amendment Act of 2021.”

Sec. 2. The Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999, effective February 25, 2010 (D.C. Law 13-315; D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.01 et seq.) is amended as follows:

(a) Section 3 is amended as follows:

(1) Subsection (c)(1)(A) is amended to read as follows:

38                   “(1)(A) Obtained a signed, written recommendation from an authorized  
39 practitioner within the last two years in accordance with § 7-1671.04; and”.

40                   (2) A new subsection (c-1) is added to read as follows:

41                   “(c-1) Where a qualifying patient’s or caregiver’s registration identification card expired  
42 or will expire at any time between March 1, 2020 to January 31, 2022, and the qualifying patient  
43 or caregiver has not submitted an application for a new registration identification card, the  
44 qualifying patient or caregiver may continue to purchase, possess and administer medical  
45 marijuana in accordance with this chapter and the rules issued pursuant to § 7-1671.13 until  
46 January 31, 2022. On or after February 1, 2022, the qualifying patient or caregiver must possess  
47 a valid registration identification card to continue to purchase, possess and administer medical  
48 marijuana.”.

49                   (b) Section 4(a) is amended by striking the phrase “is 2 ounces of dried medical  
50 marijuana; provided, that the Mayor, through rulemaking, may increase the quantity of dried  
51 medical marijuana that may be possessed up to 4 ounces; and” and inserting the phrase “is 8  
52 ounces of dried medical marijuana; provided, that the Mayor” in its place.

53                   (c) Section 6(3) is amended to read as follows:

54                   “(3) Issue nontransferable registration identification cards that expire annually to  
55 registered persons and entities, which may be presented to and used by law enforcement to  
56 confirm whether a person or entity is authorized to administer, cultivate, dispense, distribute,  
57 test, or possess medical marijuana, or manufacture, possess, or distribute paraphernalia; provided  
58 that, qualifying patients and caregivers who register after the effective date of the act prior to  
59 January 31, 2022 shall be issued nontransferable registration identification cards that expire  
60 biennially;”.

61 (c) Section 8(b) is repealed.

62 Sec. 3. Section 501.2(b) of Subtitle C of Title 22 of the District of Columbia Municipal  
63 Regulations (22-C DCMR 501.2(b)) is amended as follows:

64 (a) Lead in language in subsection (b) is amended by striking the phrase “two (2)” and  
65 inserting the phrase “one (1)” in its place.

66 (b) Paragraph (9) is amended to read as follows:

67 “(9) Utility bills from a period within the two (2) months immediately preceding  
68 the application date in the name of the applicant on a District of Columbia residential address;”.

69 (c) Paragraph (10) is redesignated at paragraph (11).

70 (c) A new paragraph (10) is added to read as follows:

71 “(10) A bank statement addressed to the applicant from a period within the two  
72 (2) months immediately preceding the application date in the name of the applicant on a District  
73 of Columbia residential address; or”.

74 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

75 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact  
76 statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975, approved  
77 October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

78 Sec. 5. Effective date.

79 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
80 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than  
81 90 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section  
82 412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788;  
83 D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).