

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on an emergency basis, the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999 to set a new expiration date for the issuance of two year qualifying patient and caregiver registration cards, to establish sunset date for qualifying patients and caregivers whose registration cards expired on or after March 1, 2020 to continue to purchase medicinal marijuana, to ease registration burdens for seniors entering and remaining in the medical cannabis program by allowing seniors 65 years and older to self-certify that they are utilizing cannabis for medical purposes until September 30, 2022, to increase the amount of dried cannabis a qualifying patient may possess at any one time from 4 ounces to 8 ounces, to amend 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 a District address, to declare a 4/20 medical cannabis sales tax holiday week to retain and bring patients back to the medical cannabis program, and to repeal the Medical Marijuana Patient Access Temporary Amendment Act of 2021.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Medical Marijuana Patient Access Extension 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 (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.02) is amended as follows:

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

“(1)(A) Obtained a signed, written recommendation from an authorized

38 practitioner within the last two years in accordance with § 7-1671.04, except for senior citizens  
39 sixty-five years of age and older who shall be permitted to self-certify on a form provided by  
40 ABRA that they are utilizing cannabis for medical purposes as part of the registration process  
41 until September 30, 2022.”.

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

43 “(c-1) Where a qualifying patient’s or caregiver’s registration identification card expired  
44 or will expire at any time between March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022, and the qualifying  
45 patient or caregiver has not submitted an application for a new registration identification card,  
46 the qualifying patient or caregiver may continue to purchase, possess and administer medical  
47 marijuana in accordance with this chapter and the rules issued pursuant to § 7-1671.13 until  
48 September 30, 2022. On or after October 1, 2022, the qualifying patient or caregiver must  
49 possess a valid registration identification card to continue to purchase, possess and administer  
50 medical marijuana.”.

51 (b) Section 4(a) (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.03(a)) is amended by striking the phrase  
52 “is 2 ounces of dried medical marijuana; provided, that the Mayor, through rulemaking,  
53 may increase the quantity of dried medical marijuana that may be possessed up to 4 ounces; and”  
54 and inserting the phrase “is 8 ounces of dried medical marijuana. The Mayor” in its place.

55 (c) Section 6(3) (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.05(3)) is amended to read as follows:

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

61 September 30, 2022 shall be issued nontransferable registration identification cards that expire  
62 biennially.”.

63 (d) Section 8(b) (D.C. Official Code § 7-1671.07(b)) is repealed.

64 Sec. 3. Section 501.2(b) of Title 22-C of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations  
65 (22-C DCMR § 501.2(b)), is amended as follows:

66 (a) The lead-in language is amended by striking the phrase “two (2)” and inserting the  
67 phrase “one (1)” in its place.

68 (b) Subparagraph (9) is amended to read as follows:

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

71 (c) Subparagraph (10) is redesignated as subparagraph (11).

72 (d) A new subparagraph (10) is added to read as follows:

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

76 Sec. 4. D.C. Official Code § 47-2002(a)(7)(A) shall be amended by deleting the period at  
77 the end and adding the phrase “except for sales or charges occurring during “4/20 Medical  
78 Cannabis Sales Tax Holiday Week”, which shall be the period of Friday, April 15, 2022 through  
79 Sunday, April 24, 2022.”.

80 Sec. 5. Repealers.

81 The Medical Marijuana Patient Access Temporary Amendment Act of 2021 (69 DCR  
82 204; Act 24-272) is repealed.

83 Sec. 6. Applicability.

84 This act shall apply as of February 3, 2022.

85 Sec. 7. Fiscal impact statement.

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

89 Sec. 8. Effective date.

90 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
91 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), and shall remain in effect for no longer than  
92 90 days, as provided for emergency acts of the Council of the District of Columbia in section  
93 412(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788;  
94 D.C. Official Code § 1-204.12(a)).