

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency, with respect to the need to amend the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1999 to define the term non-resident cardholder and amend the definition for qualifying patient, to establish a sunset date for qualifying patients and caregivers whose registration cards expired on or after March 1, 2020 to continue to purchase medicinal marijuana, to increase the amount of dried cannabis a qualifying patient may possess at any one time from 4 ounces to 8 ounces, to create a temporary non-resident qualifying patient registration process, to allow for the issuance of two-year qualifying patient and caregiver registration cards, to provide the Board with the authority to issue patient and caregiver registration cards at no cost, and 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.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Medical Marijuana Patient Access Second Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2022”.

Sec. 2. (a) On February 1, 2022, the Council unanimously approved the “Medical Marijuana Patient Access Extension Emergency Amendment Act of 2022.” The Act became law on February 18, 2022 and expired on May 1, 2022. On March 1, 2022, the Council unanimously approved the “Medical Marijuana Patient Access Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2022.” The Temporary Act became law on May 18, 2022 and expires on December 29, 2022.

36 (b) The emergency and temporary acts contained provisions allowing patients with
37 expired cards to continue to purchase medicinal cannabis until September 30, 2022. There is a
38 need to extend the provisions further while a permanent bill, the Medical Cannabis Amendment
39 Act of 2021 (Bill 24-113), is under consideration in the Committees to which it was referred.

40 (c) The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) has implemented a thirty (30) day
41 temporary registration process for District residents that has resulted in the issuance of over
42 5,000 temporary registrations since August 2022. There remains a need to expand upon patient
43 access to medical cannabis for qualifying non-resident patients visiting the District of Columbia
44 who are not enrolled in another jurisdiction's medical cannabis program.

45 (d) Several other jurisdictions, including Hawaii and Oklahoma, already allow visiting
46 patients from other jurisdictions to register and obtain temporary patient registrations cards from
47 the jurisdiction being visited to purchase medical cannabis.

48 (e) To attract and retain patients in the medical cannabis program, there is a need to allow
49 the Board by rulemaking to make patient and caregiver registrations available to District
50 residents at no cost.

51 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
52 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the
53 "Medical Marijuana Patient Access Extension Second Emergency Amendment Act of 2022" be
54 adopted after a single reading.

55 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.