



<b>Issue</b> .....	<b>Possible Points</b>
<b>PATIENT RIGHTS &amp; CIVIL PROTECTION (total) .....</b>	<b>100 75</b>
Arrest protection .....	40 40
Affirmative defense .....	15 15
Child custody .....	10 0
DUID protections .....	5 0
Employment .....	5 3
Explicit privacy standards.....	7 7
Housing protections .....	5 0
Does not create new criminal penalties for patients .....	5 5
Organ transplants .....	5 5
Reciprocity .....	3 0

<b>EASE OF NAVIGATION (total).....</b>	<b>100 93</b>
Comprehensive qualifying conditions.....	50 50
<b>Adding new conditions (total).....</b>	<b>10 10</b>
Law/Regs allow for new conditions .....	5 5
System works for adding new conditions.....	5 5
Reasonable access for minors.....	10 9
Reasonable caregiver background check requirements..	4 2
Number of caregivers .....	2 2
Patient/Practitioner focused task force/advisory Board ..	2 2
Reasonable fees (patients & caregivers).....	10 8
Allows multiple-year registrations .....	2 0
Reasonable physician requirements.....	5 5
Does not classify cannabis as medicine of last resort.....	5 5

<b>ACCESS TO MEDICINE (total) .....</b>	<b>100 74</b>
<b>Allows distribution programs (total).....</b>	<b>40 25</b>
Allows access to dried flowers.....	15 15
Allows delivery .....	5 0
No sales tax or reasonable sales tax.....	5 4
Reasonable number of dispensing facilities .....	5 3
Does not require vertical integration .....	2 2

Ownership/Employment restrictions .....	2 1
Provisions for labor standards .....	2 0
Environmental impact regulations .....	2 0
Unrestricted choice of dispensary .....	2 0
<b>Non-commercial cultivation (total) .....</b>	<b>20 11</b>
Personal cultivation.....	15 10
Collective gardens .....	5 1
Explicit right to edibles/concentrates/other forms .....	10 10
Does not impose limits or bans on THC .....	10 10
Does not impose minimum CBD requirements.....	10 10
Municipal bans/zoning .....	10 8

<b>FUNCTIONALITY (total).....</b>	<b>100 74</b>
Patients are able to obtain medicine.....	50 40
Free of significant administrative or supply problems..	15 11
Legal protections within reasonable time frame .....	10 8
Reasonable possession limit (ounces) .....	5 4
Reasonable purchase limits.....	5 3
Allows patients to medicate where they chose .....	5 3
Covered by insurance/state health aide .....	3 0
Financial hardship (fee waivers/discount medicine).....	7 5

<b>PRODUCT SAFETY (total - see back for details).....</b>	<b>100 43</b>
Dispensing .....	25 15
Cultivation .....	25 15
Manufacturing .....	25 13
Lab.....	25 0

<b>Improvement Bonus.....</b>	<b>25</b>
Total out of 500.....	384
Score percentage .....	77

**Final Grade = C+**

**Areas for improvement:** The District’s medical cannabis program made some notable improvements in the past year by allowing physicians the right to recommend medical cannabis to any patient for whom the benefits outweigh the risks and increasing the plant count at cultivation facilities. While there is no longer a supply issue at the present moment, those availability problems could re-emerge as the program adds more patients. The price of medicine in the District still remains among the steepest in the country. To address both concerns, the District should eliminate the plant count and get rid of the single dispensary designation requirement. Additionally, the District could improve its program by adopting independent lab testing, product safety guidelines, and civil discrimination protections in the areas of housing, employment, organ transplants, and child custody.

**Background:** The voters of Washington, D.C. first approved medical cannabis in 1998 with the passage of Initiative 59 (I-59), but the law was blocked by Congressional action under its constitutional authority over the laws of the District until 2009. In 2010, once Congress dropped its opposition, the D.C. Council introduced B18-0622: Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 2010 as a replacement for I-59, which was non-binding. The final version of B18-0622 created a “closed system” in which medical cannabis is tracked from cultivation to sales. Registered patients are allowed to possess up to two ounces of usable cannabis or its equivalent in other forms (ie. edibles, tinctures, topicals, etc.). I-59 allowed personal cultivation but the current law does not. Registered cultivation centers supply medical cannabis dispensaries. Patients whose income is less than 200% of the federal poverty level are entitled to purchase medicine at a reduced rate. In 2014, the Department of Health began having public meetings of the Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee, and issued regulations adding several new qualifying conditions in May 2014. In July 2014, the DC Council passed emergency legislation to lift the physician restrictions on determining qualifying conditions. The District has since enacted emergency and temporary legislation to increase the plant limit to 1,000 plants.

**PRODUCT SAFETY point breakdown**

(Point totals by section included in grade calculation on reverse)

<b>Issue</b> .....	<b>Possible Points</b>		
<b>DISPENSING (total)</b> .....	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>MANUFACTURING (total).....25 13</b>
Dispensary training .....	5	5	Manufacturing training .....
<b>Operating Procedures and Protocols</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols</b> .....
Facility sanitary conditions .....	Y or N	Y	Facility and equipment sanitary conditions ..
Storage protocols .....	Y or N	Y	Workforce safety protocols .....
Reasonable security protocols .....	Y or N	Y	Storage protocols .....
Inventory control .....	Y or N	Y	Reasonable security protocols .....
Recall protocol and adverse event reporting .....	5	0	Batch and lot tracking .....
<b>Product Labeling</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Product Labeling</b> .....
Product contents including source material ID .....	Y or N	Y	Product contents with source material ID .....
Allergens .....	Y or N	N	Allergens .....
Potency/compound identification .....	Y or N	Y	Potency/compound identification .....
<b>Required Testing</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Required Testing</b> .....
Active ingredient identification .....	Y or N	N	Active ingredient identification .....
Contaminants .....	Y or N	N	Contaminants .....
Potency .....	Y or N	Y	Potency .....
			Shelf life testing .....
			Sample retention .....
<b>CULTIVATION (total).....</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	Recall protocol and adverse event reporting: .....
Cultivation training.....	5	5	
<b>Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>LABORATORY (total).....</b>
Facility and equipment sanitary conditions ..	Y or N	Y	Lab operations training.....
Workforce safety protocols .....	Y or N	N	Method validation in accordance with AHP guidelines ..
Storage protocols (short and long term) .....	Y or N	Y	Result reporting - disclose the type of testing used.....
Reasonable security protocols .....	Y or N	Y	Independent or third party certification.....
Batch and lot tracking .....	Y or N	Y	<b>Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols</b> .....
Disposal/waste .....	Y or N	Y	Equipment and instrument calibration .....
Water management .....	Y or N	Y	Sample tracking .....
<b>Pesticide Guidance and Protocols</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	Facility and equipment sanitary conditions ..
Pesticide guidance.....	Y or N	Y	Disposal/waste protocols .....
Product labeling .....	Y or N	N	Storage protocols .....
Required testing .....	5	2	Workforce safety protocols .....
Active ingredient identification .....	Y or N	N	
Contaminants .....	Y or N	N	<b>Total out of 100.....</b>
Potency .....	Y or N	Y	<b>43</b>
Sample retention .....	Y or N	N	
Recall protocol and adverse event reporting.....	5	0	

**Tools for Success:**

Improving your state law has never been easier. In the appendix of this report you will find model legislation and regulators guides for product safety protocols. ASA staff are all also available to draft and/or review legislative and regulatory language. Our website has many resources online including access to our policy shop at [http://www.safeaccessnow.org/policy\\_shop](http://www.safeaccessnow.org/policy_shop), information for regulators available at <http://patientfocusedcertification.org/about/information-for-regulators/> and a breakdown of all the state laws at [http://www.safeaccessnow.org/state\\_and\\_federal\\_law](http://www.safeaccessnow.org/state_and_federal_law).



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