

IMPROVE THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA REGULATION AND SAFETY ACT

AB 1575

Authored by Assemblymember BONTA

SUPPORT

Location: ASSEMBLY

AB 1575 makes important improvements to the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act (MMRSA), the landmark legislation that will finally license and regulate commercial medical cannabis activity in California. AB 1575 is an important first step in improving and successfully implementing the MMRSA.

The bill will standardize packaging requirements statewide, simplify the transfer of medicine between license holders, increase security measures for dispensaries and deliveries, clarify testing procedures, and extend the "cooperative and collective" defense for an additional year. Furthermore, AB 1575 provides legal protection to industry workers, researchers, and financial institutions serving license holders.

The MMRSA is a long and complicated bill. Amendments like these are inevitable and beneficial. Medical cannabis patients will be best served by industry regulations that are as thorough and reasonable as possible. Americans for Safe Access strongly supports this ongoing process, in hopes of seeing continued improvement in areas including: (1) eliminating mandatory distributors, wherever possible, (2) reducing the cost of licensure and compliance (such expenses flow through to patients), (3) increasing the amount of medical cannabis that patients can cultivate for their own use without a state license, and (4) protecting patients from discrimination.

**See reverse side for information on
AB 2516 ('cottage' cultivator licensing)
and constituent comments on both bills.**



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CREATE LICENSING FOR COTTAGE CULTIVATORS

AB 2516

Authored by Assemblymember GIPSON

SUPPORT

Location: ASSEMBLY

The Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act (MMRSA) creates state licenses for commercial medical activities, including various types of licenses for cultivation. **AB 2516 would create a new Type 1C, or "specialty cottage," state license for smaller cultivators.** Type 1C licensees would be authorized to cultivate 2,500 square feet or less of total canopy size for mixed-light cultivation, up to twenty-five plants for outdoor cultivation, or 500 square feet or less of total canopy size for indoor cultivation, on one premises. The licensee may use a combination of natural and supplemental artificial lighting, at a maximum threshold to be determined by the licensing authority.

Americans for Safe Access strongly supports licensing and sensible regulations for commercial medical cannabis cultivation and other activity. The addition of a license for smaller-scale cultivators is an important improvement to the MMRSA. Some patients may need a specific variety of medical cannabis that is not commonly cultivated (e.g. medicine high in Cannabidiol to treat certain types of seizures). This is an ideal niche for smaller licensed cultivators.

It serves the interests of medical cannabis patients to provide a legal space for smaller cultivators. These small cultivators will play an important role in preserving biodiversity in commercially available varieties, creating innovation in breeding and cultivation, and improving the quality of medical cannabis. AB 2516 helps create that necessary legal space.

Constituent Comments on AB 1575 & AB 2516

Constituent Contact Information

Name: _____

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