

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR ENGROSSED
6 SENATE BILL NO. 522

By: Taylor of the Senate

and

Echols of the House

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11 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

12 An Act relating to medical marijuana; requiring
13 Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority to contract with
14 third-party vendor to provide certain services;
15 directing Authority to determine minimum services;
16 directing third-party vendor to conduct certain
17 functions for applicants; requiring third-party
18 vendor to issue certain credential or badge;
19 providing for certain appeal; excluding third-party
20 vendor from certain liability; directing promulgation
21 of rules; providing for codification; and providing
22 an effective date.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

24 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 427.3a of Title 63, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 Beginning January 1, 2024, the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana
2 Authority within the State Department of Health shall contract with
3 one or more third-party vendors to provide the licensing services
4 necessary to carry out the provisions of Section 420 et seq. of
5 Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes and the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana
6 and Patient Protection Act relating to the licensing of medical
7 marijuana research licensees, medical marijuana education facility
8 licensees, medical marijuana business licensees and employees of
9 such entities.

10 B. The Authority shall determine the minimum services to be
11 provided by such third-party vendor and shall establish costs and
12 prices. A third-party vendor shall on behalf of the Authority
13 conduct the statutorily required background checks and verify
14 eligibility and suitability for any license applicant for a medical
15 marijuana research license, medical marijuana education facility
16 license, any category of medical marijuana business license, and
17 employees of such entities.

18 C. Upon successful completion by the third-party vendor of the
19 statutorily required background checks and verification of
20 eligibility and suitability for a license applicant or employee, the
21 third-party vendor shall issue a credential or badge to the
22 applicant or employee. The results of background checks and
23 verification shall be provided to the Authority by the third-party
24 vendor.

1 D. In the event that the third-party vendor determines that an
2 applicant, or its employee, does not meet the minimum statutory
3 requirements for a license, the applicant or employee shall have no
4 recourse against the third-party vendor but may appeal such adverse
5 determination to the Authority.

6 E. The third-party vendor shall bear no liability for any acts
7 taken in good-faith compliance with the provisions Section 420 et
8 seq. of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes and the Oklahoma Medical
9 Marijuana and Patient Protection Act, and the rules promulgated by
10 the State Commissioner of Health.

11 F. The State Commissioner of Health may promulgate rules to
12 implement the provisions of this section.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND CONTROLLED
16 SUBSTANCES, dated 04/08/2021 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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