

SENATE BILL 1493

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 4; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to cannabis for medical use.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act is known and may be cited as the "Veterans Medical Cannabis Access Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, is amended by adding the following as a new chapter:

**68-7-101.**

(a) Notwithstanding title 39, chapter 17, part 4, a patient who is a disabled veteran is authorized to possess and use, and such patient's caregiver is authorized to possess, cannabis oil in this state if the patient, or the patient's caregiver, in possession of the oil possesses:

(1) A signed letter from the patient's primary care or treating physician that:

(A) Attests that the patient has been diagnosed with quadriplegia;

and

(B) Affirms that the physician has discussed with the patient any potential risks or benefits from the use of cannabis oil to treat or alleviate the patient's symptoms associated with the patient's quadriplegia;

(2) A determination of the United States veterans' administration that the patient's quadriplegia was acquired in connection with the patient's service in the armed forces of the United States; and

(3) Proof the cannabis oil was purchased at retail in a jurisdiction where the sale of cannabis oil is lawful.

(b) A letter described in subdivision (a)(1) is valid only for a period of one (1) year from the date of signing.

(c) For purposes of this section, "cannabis oil" means a liquid extract of cannabis containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.