

1 H.245

2 Introduced by Representatives Zagar of Barnard and Masland of Thetford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; therapeutic use of cannabis; marijuana for medical symptom
6 use by persons with severe illness

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add Crohn's
8 disease, colitis, glaucoma, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis to the conditions
9 that qualify for the therapeutic use of cannabis and to waive the requirement
10 for patients with chronic, debilitating, lifelong medical conditions to submit a
11 medical verification form upon application for the renewal of a registration
12 card.

13 An act relating to expanding the list of qualifying medical conditions for the
14 medical marijuana registry and conditions for renewal of patient registry
15 cards

16 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

17 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4472(4) is amended to read:

18 (4) "Debilitating medical condition," provided that, in the context of the
19 specific disease or condition described in subdivision (A) or (B) of this
20 subdivision (4), reasonable medical efforts have been made over a reasonable
21 amount of time without success to relieve the symptoms, means:

1 (A) cancer, Crohn's disease, colitis, glaucoma, amyotrophic lateral
2 sclerosis, multiple sclerosis, positive status for human immunodeficiency
3 virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or the treatment of these
4 conditions, if the disease or the treatment results in severe, persistent, and
5 intractable symptoms; or

6 (B) a disease, medical condition, or its treatment that is chronic,
7 debilitating, and produces severe, persistent, and one or more of the following
8 intractable symptoms: cachexia or wasting syndrome; severe pain; severe
9 nausea; or seizures.

10 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 4474a is amended to read:

11 § 4474a. REGISTRATION; FEES

12 (a) The ~~department~~ Department shall collect a fee of \$50.00 for the
13 application authorized by sections 4473 and 4474 of this title. The fees
14 received by the ~~department~~ Department shall be deposited into a registration
15 fee fund and used to offset the costs of processing applications under this
16 subchapter.

17 (b)(1) ~~A~~ Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, a
18 registration card shall expire one year after the date of issue, with the option of
19 renewal, provided the patient submits a new application which is approved by
20 the ~~department of public safety~~ Department of Public Safety, pursuant to

1 section 4473 or 4474 of this title, and pays the fee required under subsection
2 (a) of this section.

3 (2) A patient diagnosed with a terminal illness or chronic, debilitating
4 lifelong condition shall not be required to submit a medical verification form
5 upon application for renewal.

6 (3) A patient diagnosed with cancer shall submit a medical verification
7 form once every three years upon application for renewal.

8 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

9 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.