

1 H.253

2 Introduced by Representatives Till of Jericho and Masland of Thetford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

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

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add
8 post-traumatic stress disorder to the list of qualified medical conditions for
9 therapeutic use of cannabis and also to waive the six-month
10 professional–patient relationship requirement for veterans diagnosed with
11 post-traumatic stress disorder provided the patient provides a documented
12 diagnosis from the U.S. Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

13 An act relating to adding post-traumatic stress disorder to the list of
14 qualified medical conditions for therapeutic use of cannabis and waiving the
15 six-month professional–patient relationship requirement for veterans with
16 post-traumatic stress disorder

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

18 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4472 is amended to read:

19 § 4472. DEFINITIONS

20 As used in this subchapter:

1 (1) “Bona fide health care professional-patient relationship” means a
2 treating or consulting relationship of not less than six months’ duration, in the
3 course of which a health care professional has completed a full assessment of
4 the registered patient’s medical history and current medical condition,
5 including a personal physical examination. The six-month requirement shall
6 not apply if a patient has been diagnosed with:

7 (A) a terminal illness;

8 (B) cancer with distant metastases; ~~or~~

9 (C) acquired immune deficiency syndrome; or

10 (D) post-traumatic stress disorder, provided that the patient is a U.S.
11 veteran who presents a documented diagnosis from the U.S. Department of
12 Veterans’ Affairs.

13 (2) “Clone” means a plant section from a female marijuana plant not yet
14 root-bound, growing in a water solution, which is capable of developing into a
15 new plant.

16 (3) “Criminal history record” means all information documenting an
17 individual’s contact with the criminal justice system, including data regarding
18 identification, arrest or citation, arraignment, judicial disposition, custody, and
19 supervision.

20 (4) “Debilitating medical condition,” provided that, in the context of the
21 specific disease or condition described in subdivision (A) or (B) of this

1 subdivision (4), reasonable medical efforts have been made over a reasonable
2 amount of time without success to relieve the symptoms, means:

3 (A) cancer, multiple sclerosis, post-traumatic stress disorder, positive
4 status for human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency
5 syndrome, or the treatment of these conditions, if the disease or the treatment
6 results in severe, persistent, and intractable symptoms; or

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

11 * * *

12 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on passage.