

1 H.206

2 Introduced by Representatives Masland of Thetford and Troiano of Stannard

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 to waive the three-month professional–patient
10 relationship requirement for veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress
11 disorder, provided the patient has a documented diagnosis from the U.S.
12 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 three-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)(A) “Bona fide health care professional-patient relationship” means a
2 treating or consulting relationship of not less than three months’ duration, in
3 the course of which a health care professional has completed a full assessment
4 of the registered patient’s medical history and current medical condition,
5 including a personal physical examination.

6 (B) The three-month requirement shall not apply if:

7 (i) ~~a~~ A patient has been diagnosed with:

8 (I) a terminal illness;

9 (II) cancer;

10 (III) acquired immune deficiency syndrome; ~~or~~

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

14 (V) is currently under hospice care.

15 (ii) ~~a~~ A patient had been diagnosed with a debilitating medical
16 condition by a health care professional in another jurisdiction in which the
17 patient had been formerly a resident and the patient, now a resident of
18 Vermont, has the diagnosis confirmed by a health care professional in this
19 State or a neighboring state as provided in subdivision (6) of this section, and
20 the new health care professional has completed a full assessment of the

1 patient's medical history and current medical condition, including a personal
2 physical examination.

3 (iii) a A patient who is already on the registry changes health care
4 professionals three months or less prior to the annual renewal of the patient's
5 registration, provided the patient's new health care professional has completed
6 a full assessment of the patient's medical history and current medical
7 condition, including a personal physical examination.

8 * * *

9 (4) "Debilitating medical condition," provided that, in the context of the
10 specific disease or condition described in subdivision (A) or (B) of this
11 subdivision (4), reasonable medical efforts have been made over a reasonable
12 amount of time to relieve the symptoms, means:

13 (A) cancer, multiple sclerosis, positive status for human
14 immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, glaucoma, or
15 post-traumatic stress disorder, or the treatment of these conditions, if the
16 disease or the treatment results in severe, persistent, and intractable
17 symptoms; or

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

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1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.