Current law	S.54
Requires bona fide health care professional-patient relationship, meaning a treating or consulting relationship of not less than three months' duration, in the course of which a health care professional has completed a full assessment of the registered patient's medical history and current medical condition, including a personal physical examination. 18 V.S.A. § 4472(1)	No required length of time for health care professional- patient relationship.
Debilitating medical condition 18 V.S.A. § 4472(4)	<i>Qualifying</i> medical condition 7 V.S.A. § 951(8) *Actual definitions are identical
Language very proscriptive about what information is contained in the application and medical verifications form and process for confirmation of information. 18 V.S.A. § 4473(b)(1)-(3)	Board directed to establish application process through rulemaking, including creation of medical verification form. 7 V.S.A. § 952(d); 7 V.S.A. § 953(a)
Requirement that DPS act on application within 30 days. 18 V.S.A. § 4473(b)(4)	N/A
Establishes a Review Board for purposes of making recommendations to GA and hearing appeals of denials. 18 V.S.A. § 4473(b)(5)	Board decisions may be appealed within 30 days to executive director who assigns case to an appellate officer. Establishes basis for review. Right to appeal decision of appellate officer to the Vermont Supreme Court. 7 V.S.A. § 845.
Caregiver applicants must submit fingerprints and have a criminal background check. DPS may deny on basis of record. Disqualifying crimes include drug-related offenses, violent felonies, abuse of vulnerable adult. 18 V.S.A. § 4474	N/A
One-to-one ratio patient-caregiver except under 18 may have two caregivers. 18 V.S.A. § 4474(c)	Same. 7 V.S.A. § 954(b)
Application and annual renewal fee for patient (\$50.00) and caregiver (\$50.00). 7 V.S.A. § 4474a	Fees to be recommended to the GA by the Board on January 15, 2020. Sec. 5 of the bill.
Patient and caregiver are provided with Registry identification cards	Same.

Patients may cultivate 2 mature and 7 immature cannabis plants. 18 V.S.A. § 4472(14)	Same. 7 V.S.A. § 952(b)
Patients may possess up to two ounces. 18 V.S.A. § 4472(14)	Patients may possess up to three ounces. 7 V.S.A. § 952(b)
N/A	Cannabis cultivated from plants doesn't count toward three-ounce limit provided it is stored in an indoor facility on the property where the cannabis was cultivated and reasonable precautions are taken to prevent unauthorized access to the cannabis. 7 V.S.A. § 952(b)
Patient may designate only one dispensary. 18 V.S.A. § 4474h	N/A
Patient/caregiver must make appointment. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e(d)(2)(A)	N/A
Patient/caregiver must transport cannabis in locked container. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e(d)(2)(B)	N/A
Requirements for secure database for the records of all patients and caregivers accessible by authorized DPS employees only. DPS must maintain a separate secure electronic database accessible to law enforcement personnel 24 hours a day that uses a unique identifier system to allow law enforcement to verify that a person or entity is a registered patient or a registered caregiver. 18 V.S.A. § 4474d(a)	Individual names and identifying information about patients and caregivers on the Registry are exempt from public inspection and copying under the Public Records Act and shall be kept confidential. 7 V.S.A. § 952(c)(1)
In response to a person-specific or property-specific inquiry by a law enforcement officer or agency made in the course of a bona fide investigation or prosecution, DPS may verify the identities and registered property addresses of the registered patient and the patient's registered caregiver. 18 V.S.A. § 4474d(b)	Same. 7 V.S.A. § 952(c)(2)
Establishes Marijuana for Symptom Relief Oversight Committee for purpose of making recommendations to GA. 18 V.S.A. § 4474j	N/A

Dispensaries are limited in how much cannabis they may possess based on number of patients that have designated the dispensary. Licensee may possess 2 mature, 7 immature, and 4 ounces for every patient that has designated the dispensary. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e(a)(3)(A)	N/A. Board may establish limits by rule.
A dispensary shall have a sliding-scale fee system that takes into account a registered patient's ability to pay. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e(b)	Requires Board to adopt rules regarding pricing guidelines with a goal of ensuring cannabis and cannabis products are sufficiently affordable to patients and caregivers. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(23)
Requires biennial audit of dispensary. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e(d)(4)	Requires Board to adopt rules regarding recordkeeping, banking, and financial transactions. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(5) and (11)
Dispensaries required to label cannabis as follows: (1) Identify the particular strain of marijuana. Cannabis strains shall be either pure breeds or hybrid varieties of cannabis and shall reflect properties of the plant. (2) Identify the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol in each single dose marijuana- infused edible or potable product. (3) Contain a statement to the effect that the State of Vermont does not attest to the medicinal value of cannabis. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e(h)	Requires Board to adopt labeling requirements for <i>cannabis</i> that include: (1) requirements that cannabis is clearly identifiable with a standard symbol indicating that it is cannabis; (2) the potency of the cannabis represented by the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol in milligrams total; and (3) appropriate warnings concerning the potential negative consequences of consuming cannabis and the need to keep the product away from persons under 21 years of age. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(18) Requires Board to adopt labeling requirements for <i>cannabis products</i> that include: (1) requirements that cannabis products are clearly identifiable with a standard symbol indicating that it contains cannabis; (2) the potency of the cannabis represented by the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol in milligrams total and per serving; and (3) the length of time it typically takes for products to take effect and appropriate warnings concerning the potential negative consequences of consuming cannabis and the need to keep the product away from persons under 21 years of age. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(19)

N/A	Requires Board to adopt procedures and standards for testing cannabis for contaminants and potency and for quality assurance and control. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(21)
N/A	Requires Board to adopt restrictions on the use of pesticides that are injurious to human health and establish standards for both the indoor and outdoor cultivation of cannabis, including environmental protection requirements. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)
Only five dispensary licenses are authorized. Licensee may serve patients at two locations and have a separate cultivation facility. 18 V.S.A. § 4472(5) and 4474f(b)	Number of dispensary licenses to be determined by the Board.
Requires every applicant, owner, principal, financier, and employee of dispensary to submit to fingerprint- supported criminal background check. 18 V.S.A. § 4474g(b)	Same. 7 V.S.A. § 976(a)
Requires DPS to adopt rules to determine whether should be denied because his or her criminal history record indicates that the person's association with a dispensary would pose a demonstrable threat to public safety. Rules shall consider whether a person who has conviction not listed as disqualifier has been rehabilitated. 18 V.S.A. § 4474g(f)	Requires the Board shall adopt rules that set forth standards for determining whether a person should be denied a medical cannabis dispensary identification card because his or her criminal history record based on factors that demonstrate whether the applicant presently poses a threat to public safety or the proper functioning of the regulated market. 7 V.S.A. § 976(b)
A person is disqualified if they have a conviction or pending charge for a drug-related offense or a violent felony. 18 V.S.A. § 4474g(e)	Nonviolent drug offenses shall not automatically disqualify a candidate. 7 V.S.A. § 976(b)
Requires DPS to adopt rules regarding the medium and manner in which a dispensary may notify registered patients of its services. 18 V.S.A. § 4474f(a)(1)(F). Rules ban advertising,	Requires Board to adopt guidelines on advertising, marketing, and signage. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(8)

	There is language elsewhere in S.54 that can be imported:
	 Bans advertising that is deceptive, false or misleading; promotes overconsumption; represents that the use of cannabis has curative effects; offers a prize, award, or inducement for purchasing cannabis or a cannabis product, except that price discounts are allowed; depicts a person under 21 years of age consuming cannabis or cannabis products; or is designed to be or has the effect of being particularly appealing to persons under 21 years of age. No advertising products via flyers, television, radio, billboards, print, or Internet unless the licensee can show that not more than 30 percent of the audience is reasonably expected to be under 21 years of age. Advertising must be approved by the Board prior to dissemination.
	7 V.S.A. § 864
Requires DPS to provide educational and safety information developed by the Vermont Department of Health to each patient/caregiver. 18 V.S.A. § 4474m	Requires the Board to adopt requirements for the dissemination of educational materials to consumers who purchase cannabis and cannabis products. 7 V.S.A. § 974(b)(25)
Allows dispensaries to deliver to patients/caregivers. 18 V.S.A. § 4474d(f)	Same. 7 V.S.A. § 971
Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a municipality from prohibiting the establishment of a dispensary within its boundaries or from regulating the time, place, and manner of dispensary operation through zoning or other local ordinances. 18V.S.A. § 44741	 N/A. but there is language elsewhere in S.54 that can be imported: Municipalities can opt out by putting on the ballot for a vote Can issue local control license (similar to what they do with alcohol) Can require compliance with local ordinances and bylaws

VT LEG #341241 v.2