88R19088 CJD-D

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     et al.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the medical use of low-THC cannabis by patients with certain medical conditions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 169.001(3), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(3)  "Low-THC cannabis" means the plant Cannabis sativa L., and any part of that plant or any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, preparation, resin, or oil of that plant that contains not more than 10 milligrams [~~one percent by weight~~] of tetrahydrocannabinols in each dosage unit.

SECTION 2.  Section 169.003, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 169.003.  PRESCRIPTION OF LOW-THC CANNABIS. (a) A physician described by Section 169.002 may prescribe low-THC cannabis to a patient if:

(1)  the patient is a permanent resident of the state;

(2)  the physician complies with the registration requirements of Section 169.004; and

(3)  the physician certifies to the department that:

(A)  the patient is diagnosed with:

(i)  epilepsy;

(ii)  a seizure disorder;

(iii)  multiple sclerosis;

(iv)  spasticity;

(v)  amyotrophic lateral sclerosis;

(vi)  autism;

(vii)  cancer;

(viii)  an incurable neurodegenerative disease;

(ix)  post-traumatic stress disorder; [~~or~~]

(x)  a condition that causes chronic pain, for which a physician would otherwise prescribe an opioid;

(xi)  a medical condition that is approved for a research program under Subchapter F, Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code, and for which the patient is receiving treatment under that program; or

(xii)  a debilitating medical condition designated by the Department of State Health Services under Subsection (b); and

(B)  the physician determines the risk of the medical use of low-THC cannabis by the patient is reasonable in light of the potential benefit for the patient.

(b)  The Department of State Health Services by rule may designate debilitating medical conditions for which a physician may prescribe low-THC cannabis under this section.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.