

Summary of Medical Cannabis Plan

Representative Daw

August 19, 2015

1. We are working on a Cannabis Bill that would allow patients who can benefit from treatment to have access to a medicinal cannabis product.
2. We would allow for the plants to be grown in Utah, processed/manufactured in Utah to a medical dosage form, and dispensed through dispensaries in Utah.
3. We would use a panel of physicians and researchers to determine the diagnosis codes that would be eligible for a patient to receive a cannabis product.
4. The physicians would be required to register with DOPL.
5. The patient would come to the physician, who would determine if the patient meets the diagnosis requirements. He/she would then verify the patient is eligible, at which time the patient would register with the Department of Health.
6. It would be required that the physician have a face-to-face relationship with the patient. The physician would give the recommendation to the patient, who would take it to the dispensary. The dispensary would be required to verify the accuracy and validity of the recommendation, then dispense the recommended dosage to the patient. The dispensary would send this information to the Controlled Substance Database.
7. The physician would be required to gather follow-up data on the patient outcome and submit this to the Dept. of Health to be used later for research by one of our research institutions. The panel of physicians and researchers would be charged to determine the research information to be collected by the physician. Combining this information with the Controlled Substance Database information would allow for continued research of the benefits of cannabis products in patients.
8. DOPL, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Health would all be involved with rule making and enforcement of the various aspects of the program.
9. Some things that we are considering but haven't come to a clear decision on are:
 - A. Should we require a licensed pharmacist to either be on staff as an employee or on a consultant basis with the dispensaries similar to what the state of Connecticut has done?
 - B. We are working on a fix to allow a banking institution to handle the money from the various entities.
 - C. We are also working with the drug companies that have cannabis drugs in trials. There appears to be a good possibility that we can find a path where these drugs can be available to patients in Utah on a compassionate use basis. We are pursuing this separate from our actual bill.
10. If any legislator has further questions or ideas please contact us individually. We would welcome those discussions.