

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 213(JUD)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/14/99  
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the medical use of marijuana; and providing for an effective  
2 date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 11.71 is amended by adding a new section to article 1 to read:

5 **Sec. 11.71.090. Affirmative defense to a prosecution under AS 11.71.030 -**  
6 **11.71.060; medical use of marijuana.** (a) In a prosecution under AS 11.71.030 -  
7 11.71.060 charging the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to  
8 manufacture or deliver, use, or display of a schedule VIA controlled substance, it is  
9 an affirmative defense that the defendant is a patient, or the primary caregiver or  
10 alternate caregiver for a patient, and

11 (1) at the time of the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession  
12 with intent to manufacture or deliver, use, or display, the patient was registered under  
13 AS 17.37;

14 (2) the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to

1 manufacture, deliver, use, or display complied with the requirements of AS 17.37; and

2 (3) if the defendant is the

3 (A) primary caregiver of the patient, the defendant was in  
4 physical possession of the caregiver registry identification card at the time of  
5 the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to manufacture or  
6 deliver, use, or display; or

7 (B) alternate caregiver of the patient, the defendant was in  
8 physical possession of the caregiver registry identification card at the time of  
9 the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to manufacture or  
10 deliver, use, or display.

11 (b) In this section,

12 (1) "alternate caregiver" has the meaning given in AS 17.37.070;

13 (2) "patient" has the meaning given in AS 17.37.070;

14 (3) "primary caregiver" has the meaning given in AS 17.37.070.

15 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 11.71.190(b) is amended to read:

16 (b) Marijuana is a schedule VIA controlled substance [EXCEPT FOR  
17 MARIJUANA POSSESSED FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES UNDER AS 17.37].

18 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 17.37.010 is amended to read:

19 **Sec. 17.37.010. Registry of patients and listing of caregivers [PATIENTS].**

20 (a) The department shall create and maintain a confidential registry of patients who  
21 have applied for and are entitled to receive a registry identification card according to  
22 the criteria set out [FORTH] in this chapter. **The registry must also contain the**  
23 **name of the primary caregiver and the name of the alternate caregiver of a**  
24 **patient, if either is designated by the patient. Only one primary caregiver and**  
25 **one alternate caregiver may be listed in the registry for a patient. The registry**  
26 **and the information contained within it are not a public record under**  
27 **AS 09.25.100 - 09.25.220. Peace officers and** authorized employees of state or  
28 **municipal** [LOCAL] law enforcement agencies shall be granted access to the  
29 information contained within the department's confidential registry only

30 **(1) in the course of a criminal investigation of an individual**  
31 **suspected of a violation of AS 11.71, AS 17.30, or this chapter;**

1                   (2) for the purpose of verifying that an individual who [THAT] has  
 2 presented a registry identification card to a state or municipal [LOCAL] law  
 3 enforcement official is lawfully in possession of such card; or

4                   (3) for the purpose of determining that an individual who claims  
 5 to be lawfully engaged in the medical use of marijuana is registered or listed with  
 6 the department or is considered to be registered or listed under (g) of this section.

7                   (b) Except as provided in (a) of this section, a [NO] person, other than  
 8 authorized employees of the department in the course of their official duties, may  
 9 not [SHALL] be permitted to gain access to names of patients, physicians, primary or  
 10 alternate caregivers, [CARE-GIVERS] or any information related to such persons  
 11 maintained in connection with the department's confidential registry [, EXCEPT FOR  
 12 AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF  
 13 THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES AND AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF STATE OR  
 14 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WHO HAVE STOPPED OR  
 15 ARRESTED A PERSON WHO CLAIMS TO BE ENGAGED IN THE MEDICAL  
 16 USE OF MARIJUANA AND IN THE POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY  
 17 IDENTIFICATION CARD OR ITS FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENT PURSUANT TO  
 18 (e) OF THIS SECTION].

19                   (c) In order to be placed on the state's confidential registry for the medical use  
 20 [USES] of marijuana, an adult [A] patient or a parent or guardian of a minor  
 21 patient shall provide to the department

22                   (1) a statement signed by the patient's physician

23                   (A) stating that the physician personally examined the  
 24 patient and that the examination took place in the context of a bona fide  
 25 physician-patient relationship and setting out the date the examination  
 26 occurred;

27                   (B) [THE ORIGINAL OR A COPY OF WRITTEN  
 28 DOCUMENTATION] stating that the patient has been diagnosed with a  
 29 debilitating medical condition; and

30                   (C) stating that the physician has considered other approved  
 31 medications and treatments that might provide relief, [AND THE

1           PHYSICIAN'S CONCLUSION] that are reasonably available to the patient,  
 2           and that can be tolerated by the patient, and that the physician has  
 3           concluded that the patient might benefit from the medical use of marijuana;

4                   (2) a sworn application on a form provided by the department  
 5           containing the following information:

6                           (A) the name, address, date of birth, and Alaska driver's  
 7           license or identification card [SOCIAL SECURITY] number of the patient;

8                           (B) [(3)] the name, address, and telephone number of the  
 9           patient's physician; and

10                          (C) [(4)] the name, [AND] address, date of birth, and Alaska  
 11           driver's license or identification card number of the patient's primary  
 12           caregiver and alternate caregiver [CARE-GIVER,] if either [ONE] is  
 13           designated at the time of application, along with the statements required  
 14           under (d) of this section; and

15                          (3) if the patient is a minor, a statement by the minor's parent or  
 16           guardian that the patient's physician has explained the possible risks and benefits  
 17           of medical use of marijuana and that the parent or guardian consents to serve as  
 18           the primary caregiver for the patient and to control the acquisition, possession,  
 19           dosage, and frequency of use of marijuana by the patient.

20                          (d) A person may be listed under this section as the primary caregiver or  
 21           alternate caregiver for a patient if the person submits a sworn statement on a  
 22           form provided by the department that the person

23                                   (1) is at least 21 years of age;

24                                   (2) has never been convicted of a felony offense under AS 11.71 or  
 25           AS 11.73 or a law or ordinance of another jurisdiction with elements similar to  
 26           an offense under AS 11.71 or AS 11.73; and

27                                   (3) is not currently on probation or parole from this or another  
 28           jurisdiction.

29                          (e) A person may be a primary caregiver or alternate caregiver for only  
 30           one patient at a time unless the primary caregiver or alternate caregiver is  
 31           simultaneously caring for two or more patients who are related to the caregiver

1 by at least the fourth degree of kinship by blood or marriage.

2 (f) The department shall review the application and [VERIFY] all  
3 information submitted under (c) and (d) of this section within 30 days of receiving it.  
4 The department shall notify the patient [APPLICANT] that the patient's [HIS OR  
5 HER] application for a registry identification card has been denied if the department's  
6 [ITS] review of the information that [WHICH] the patient has provided discloses that  
7 the information required under [PURSUANT TO] (c) of this section has not been  
8 provided or has been falsified or that the patient is not otherwise qualified to be  
9 registered. If the department determines that the primary caregiver or alternate  
10 caregiver is not qualified under this section to be a primary caregiver or alternate  
11 caregiver, or if the information required under this section has not been provided  
12 or has been falsified, the department shall notify the patient of that determination  
13 and shall proceed to review the patient's application as if a primary caregiver or  
14 alternate caregiver was not designated. The patient may amend the application  
15 and designate a new primary caregiver or alternate caregiver at any time. The  
16 department may not list a newly designated primary caregiver or alternate  
17 caregiver until it determines that the newly designated primary caregiver or  
18 alternate caregiver is qualified under this section and that the information  
19 required under this section has been provided. Otherwise, not more than five days  
20 after verifying the [SUCH] information, the department shall issue a [SERIALLY  
21 NUMBERED] registry identification card to the patient, and, if a primary caregiver  
22 for a patient has been listed in the registry, the department shall issue to the  
23 patient a duplicate of the patient's card clearly identified as the caregiver registry  
24 identification card, stating

25 (1) the patient's name, address, date of birth, and Alaska driver's  
26 license or identification and [SOCIAL SECURITY] number;

27 (2) that the patient is registered with the department [PATIENT'S  
28 NAME HAS BEEN CERTIFIED TO THE STATE HEALTH AGENCY] as a person  
29 who has a debilitating medical condition that [WHICH] the patient may address with  
30 the medical use of marijuana;

31 (3) the dates of issuance and expiration of the registry identification

1 card; and

2 (4) the name, [AND] address, date of birth, and Alaska driver's  
 3 license or identification card and number of the patient's primary caregiver and  
 4 alternate caregiver [CARE-GIVER], if either [ANY] is designated [AT THE TIME  
 5 OF APPLICATION].

6 (g) [(e)] If the department fails to deny the application and issue a registry  
 7 identification card within 35 days of receipt of an application, the patient's application  
 8 for the [SUCH] card is considered [WILL BE DEEMED] to have been approved.  
 9 Receipt of an application shall be considered [DEEMED] to have occurred upon  
 10 delivery to the department [OR DEPOSIT IN THE UNITED STATES MAIL].  
 11 Notwithstanding this subsection, an [THE FOREGOING, NO] application may not  
 12 [SHALL] be considered to have been [DEEMED] received before [PRIOR TO]  
 13 June 1, 1999. If the department subsequently registers a patient or lists a primary  
 14 caregiver or alternate caregiver, if either is designated, or denies the application  
 15 or listing, that registration or listing or denial revokes the approval that is  
 16 considered to have occurred under this subsection.

17 (h) A patient or a primary caregiver who is questioned by a [ANY] state or  
 18 municipal [LOCAL] law enforcement official about the patient's or primary  
 19 caregiver's [HIS OR HER] medical use of marijuana shall immediately show proper  
 20 identification to the official and inform the official that the person is a registered  
 21 patient or listed primary caregiver for a registered patient and either show the  
 22 official (1) the person's registry identification card, or (2) [PROVIDE] a copy of  
 23 an application that has been pending without registration or denial for over 35  
 24 days since received by [THE WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED TO] the  
 25 department and proof of the date of [MAILING OR OTHER TRANSMISSION OF  
 26 THE WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION FOR] delivery to the department, which shall  
 27 be accorded the same legal effect as a registry identification card [,] until the patient  
 28 receives actual notice that the application has been denied.

29 (i) A [NO] person may not [SHALL] apply for a registry identification card  
 30 more than once every six months.

31 (j) [(f)] The denial or revocation of a registry identification card or the

1 removal of a patient from the registry or the listing of a caregiver shall be  
 2 considered a final agency action subject to judicial review. Only the patient, or the  
 3 parent or guardian of a patient who is a minor, has [WHOSE APPLICATION HAS  
 4 BEEN DENIED SHALL HAVE] standing to contest the final agency action.

5 (k) [(g)] When there has been a change in the name, address, or physician [,  
 6 OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER] of a patient who has qualified for a registry  
 7 identification card, or a change in the name or address of the patient's primary  
 8 caregiver or alternate caregiver, that patient must notify the department [STATE  
 9 HEALTH AGENCY] of the [ANY SUCH] change within 10 days. To maintain an  
 10 effective registry identification card, a patient must annually resubmit updated written  
 11 documentation, including a statement signed by the patient's physician containing  
 12 the information required to be submitted under (c)(1) of this section, to the  
 13 department [STATE HEALTH AGENCY], as well as the name and address of the  
 14 patient's primary caregiver or alternate caregiver [CARE-GIVER], if any.

15 (l) [(h)] A patient who no longer has a debilitating medical condition and the  
 16 patient's primary caregiver, if any, shall return all [HIS OR HER] registry  
 17 identification cards [CARD] to the department within 24 hours of receiving the  
 18 [SUCH] diagnosis by the patient's [HIS OR HER] physician.

19 (m) A copy of a registry identification card is not valid. A registry  
 20 identification card is not valid if the card has been altered, mutilated in a way  
 21 that impairs its legibility, or laminated.

22 (n) The department may revoke a patient's registration if the department  
 23 determines that the patient has violated a provision of this chapter or AS 11.71.

24 (o) The department may remove a primary caregiver or alternate  
 25 caregiver from the registry if the department determines that the primary  
 26 caregiver or alternate caregiver is not qualified to be listed or has violated a  
 27 provision of this chapter or AS 11.71.

28 (p) [(i)] The department may determine and levy reasonable fees to pay for  
 29 any administrative costs associated with its [THEIR] role in administering this  
 30 chapter [THIS PROGRAM].

31 (q) A primary caregiver may only act as the primary caregiver for the

1 patient when the primary caregiver is in physical possession of the caregiver  
 2 registry identification card. An alternate caregiver may only act as the primary  
 3 caregiver for the patient when the alternate caregiver is in physical possession of  
 4 the caregiver registry identification card.

5 \* Sec. 4. AS 17.37.030 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 17.37.030. Privileged medical use of marijuana.** (a) A patient,  
 7 primary caregiver, or alternate caregiver registered with the department under  
 8 this chapter has an affirmative defense to a criminal prosecution related to  
 9 marijuana to the extent provided in AS 11.71.090 [EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE  
 10 PROVIDED IN AS 17.37.040, NO PATIENT OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER MAY  
 11 BE FOUND GUILTY OF, OR PENALIZED IN ANY MANNER FOR, A  
 12 VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF LAW RELATED TO THE MEDICAL USE  
 13 OF MARIJUANA, WHERE IT IS PROVED BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE  
 14 EVIDENCE THAT

15 (1) THE PATIENT WAS DIAGNOSED BY A PHYSICIAN  
 16 AS HAVING A DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION;

17 (2) THE PATIENT WAS ADVISED BY HIS OR HER PHYSICIAN,  
 18 IN THE CONTEXT OF A BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP,  
 19 THAT THE PATIENT MIGHT BENEFIT FROM THE MEDICAL USE OF  
 20 MARIJUANA IN CONNECTION WITH A DEBILITATING MEDICAL  
 21 CONDITION; AND

22 (3) THE PATIENT AND HIS OR HER PRIMARY CARE-GIVER  
 23 WERE COLLECTIVELY IN POSSESSION OF AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA ONLY  
 24 AS PERMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION].

25 (b) Except as otherwise provided **by law, a person is not** [IN AS 17.37.040,  
 26 NO PATIENT OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER IN LAWFUL POSSESSION OF A  
 27 REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD SHALL BE] subject to arrest, prosecution, or  
 28 penalty in any manner for [MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA OR FOR] applying to  
 29 have **the person's** [HIS OR HER] name placed on the confidential **registry**  
 30 [REGISTER] maintained by the department **under AS 17.37.010.**

31 (c) **A** [NO] physician **is not** [SHALL BE] subject to any penalty, including

1 arrest, prosecution, **or** disciplinary proceeding, or **denial of** [BE DENIED] any right  
2 or privilege, for

3 (1) advising a patient whom the physician has diagnosed as having a  
4 debilitating medical condition [,] about the risks and benefits of medical use of  
5 marijuana or that **the patient** [HE OR SHE] might benefit from the medical use of  
6 marijuana [,] provided that **the** [SUCH] advice is based upon the physician's  
7 contemporaneous assessment **in the context of a bona fide physician-patient**  
8 **relationship** of

9 (A) the patient's medical history and current medical condition;

10 **and**

11 (B) **other approved medications and treatments that might**  
12 **provide relief and that are reasonably available to the patient and that can**  
13 **be tolerated by the patient** [AND A BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT  
14 RELATIONSHIP]; or

15 (2) providing a patient with **a written statement in an application for**  
16 **registration under AS 17.37.010** [WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION, BASED UPON  
17 THE PHYSICIAN'S CONTEMPORANEOUS ASSESSMENT OF THE PATIENT'S  
18 MEDICAL HISTORY AND CURRENT MEDICAL CONDITION AND A BONA  
19 FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP, STATING THAT THE PATIENT  
20 HAS A DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION AND MIGHT BENEFIT FROM  
21 THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA].

22 (d) Notwithstanding the [FOREGOING] provisions **of this section, a** [, NO]  
23 person, including a patient, [OR] primary **caregiver, or alternate caregiver, is not**  
24 [CARE-GIVER, SHALL BE] entitled to the protection of this **chapter** [SECTION] for  
25 **the person's** [HIS OR HER] acquisition, possession, cultivation, use, sale, distribution,  
26 **or** [AND/OR] transportation of marijuana for **nonmedical** [NON-MEDICAL] use.

27 [(e) ANY PROPERTY INTEREST THAT IS POSSESSED, OWNED, OR  
28 USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA, OR ACTS  
29 INCIDENTAL TO SUCH USE, SHALL NOT BE HARMED, NEGLECTED,  
30 INJURED, OR DESTROYED WHILE IN THE POSSESSION OF STATE OR  
31 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WHERE SUCH PROPERTY HAS

1 BEEN SEIZED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CLAIMED MEDICAL USE OF  
 2 MARIJUANA. ANY SUCH PROPERTY INTEREST SHALL NOT BE FORFEITED  
 3 UNDER ANY PROVISION OF STATE OR LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR THE  
 4 FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY OTHER THAN AS A SENTENCE IMPOSED  
 5 AFTER CONVICTION OF A CRIMINAL OFFENSE OR ENTRY OF A PLEA OF  
 6 GUILTY TO SUCH OFFENSE. MARIJUANA AND PARAPHERNALIA SEIZED  
 7 BY STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS FROM A PATIENT  
 8 OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER IN CONNECTION WITH THE CLAIMED MEDICAL  
 9 USE OF MARIJUANA SHALL BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY UPON THE  
 10 DETERMINATION THAT THE PATIENT OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER IS  
 11 ENTITLED TO THE PROTECTION CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION AS MAY BE  
 12 EVIDENCED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY A DECISION NOT TO PROSECUTE, THE  
 13 DISMISSAL OF CHARGES, OR ACQUITTAL.]

14 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 17.37.040 is amended to read:

15 **Sec. 17.37.040. Restrictions on medical use of marijuana.** (a) A [NO]  
 16 patient, primary caregiver, or alternate caregiver may not [IN LAWFUL  
 17 POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD SHALL]

18 (1) engage in the medical use of marijuana in a way that endangers the  
 19 health or well-being of any person;

20 (2) engage in the medical use of marijuana in plain view of, or in a  
 21 place open to, the general public; this paragraph does not prohibit a patient or  
 22 primary caregiver from possessing marijuana in a place open to the general  
 23 public if

24 (A) the person possesses, in a closed container carried on the  
 25 person, one ounce or less of marijuana in usable form;

26 (B) the marijuana is not visible to anyone other than the  
 27 patient or primary caregiver; and

28 (C) the possession is limited to that necessary to transport  
 29 the marijuana directly to the patient or primary caregiver or directly to  
 30 a place where the patient or primary caregiver may lawfully possess or use  
 31 the marijuana; [OR]

1 (3) sell or distribute marijuana to any person, **except that a patient**  
 2 **may deliver marijuana to the patient's primary caregiver and a primary caregiver**  
 3 **may deliver marijuana to the patient for whom the caregiver is listed; or**

4 **(4) possess in the aggregate more than**

5 **(A) one ounce of marijuana in usable form; and**

6 **(B) six marijuana plants, with no more than three mature**  
 7 **and flowering plants producing usable marijuana at any one time** [WHO  
 8 IS KNOWN TO THE PATIENT NOT TO BE EITHER IN LAWFUL  
 9 POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD OR ELIGIBLE  
 10 FOR SUCH CARD].

11 (b) Any patient found by a preponderance of the evidence to have **knowingly**  
 12 [WILLFULLY] violated the provisions of this chapter shall be precluded from  
 13 obtaining or using a registry identification card for the medical use of marijuana for  
 14 a period of one year. **In this subsection, "knowingly" has the meaning given in**  
 15 **AS 11.81.900.**

16 (c) A [NO] governmental, private, or [ANY] other health insurance provider  
 17 **is not** [SHALL BE REQUIRED TO BE] liable for any claim for reimbursement for  
 18 **expenses associated with** [THE] medical use of marijuana.

19 (d) Nothing in this **chapter requires** [SECTION SHALL REQUIRE] any  
 20 accommodation of any medical use of marijuana

21 (1) in any place of employment;

22 (2) in any correctional facility, **medical facility, or facility monitored**  
 23 **by the department or the Department of Administration;**

24 (3) on or within 500 feet of school grounds;

25 (4) at or within 500 feet of a recreation or youth center; or

26 (5) on a school bus.

27 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 17.37.060 is amended to read:

28 **Sec. 17.37.060. Addition of debilitating medical conditions.** Not later than  
 29 **90 days after the effective date of this Act** [JUNE 1, 1999], the department shall  
 30 **adopt** [PROMULGATE] regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act)  
 31 governing the manner in which it may consider adding debilitating medical conditions

1 to the list provided in AS 17.37.070 [THIS SECTION]. After **the adoption of the**  
 2 **regulations** [JUNE 1, 1999], the department shall also accept for consideration  
 3 physician or patient initiated petitions to add debilitating medical conditions to the list  
 4 provided in AS 17.37.070 [THIS SECTION] and, after hearing, shall approve or deny  
 5 **the** [SUCH] petitions within 180 days of submission. The denial of [SUCH] a petition  
 6 shall be considered a final agency action subject to judicial review.

7 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 17.37.070 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 17.37.070. Definitions.** In this chapter, unless the context clearly requires  
 9 otherwise,

10 (1) **"alternate caregiver" means a person who is listed as an**  
 11 **alternate caregiver under AS 17.37.010;**

12 (2) **"bona fide physician-patient relationship" means that the**  
 13 **physician obtained a patient history, performed an in-person physical examination**  
 14 **of the patient, and documented written findings, diagnoses, recommendations, and**  
 15 **prescriptions in written patient medical records maintained by the physician;**

16 (3) **"correctional facility" has the meaning given in AS 33.30.901**  
 17 [MEANS A STATE PRISON INSTITUTION OPERATED AND MANAGED BY  
 18 EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS OR PROVIDED TO  
 19 THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS BY AGREEMENT UNDER AS 33.30.031  
 20 FOR THE CARE, CONFINEMENT OR DISCIPLINE OF PRISONERS];

21 (4) [(2)] **"debilitating medical condition" means**

22 (A) cancer, glaucoma, positive status for human  
 23 immunodeficiency virus, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or treatment  
 24 for any of these conditions;

25 (B) any chronic or debilitating disease or treatment for such  
 26 diseases, which produces, for a specific patient, one or more of the following,  
 27 and for which, in the professional opinion of the patient's physician, such  
 28 condition or conditions reasonably may be alleviated by the medical use of  
 29 marijuana: cachexia; severe pain; severe nausea; seizures, including those that  
 30 are characteristic of epilepsy; or persistent muscle spasms, including those that  
 31 are characteristic of multiple sclerosis; or

1 (C) any other medical condition, or treatment for such  
 2 condition, approved by the department, **under** [PURSUANT TO ITS  
 3 AUTHORITY TO PROMULGATE] regulations **adopted under AS 17.37.060**  
 4 or [ITS] approval of **a** [ANY] petition submitted [BY A PATIENT OR  
 5 PHYSICIAN] under AS 17.37.060;

6 (5) [(3)] "department" means the Department of Health and Social  
 7 Services;

8 (6) **"facility monitored by the department or the Department of**  
 9 **Administration" means an institution, building, office, or home operated by the**  
 10 **department or the Department of Administration, funded by the department or**  
 11 **the Department of Administration, under contract with the department or the**  
 12 **Department of Administration, inspected by the department or the Department**  
 13 **of Administration, designated by the department or the Department of**  
 14 **Administration, or licensed by the department or the Department of**  
 15 **Administration, for the care of**

16 (A) **juveniles; for the purposes of this subparagraph,**  
 17 **"institution" includes a foster home and a group home, and a juvenile**  
 18 **detention facility; a juvenile detention home, a juvenile work camp, and a**  
 19 **treatment facility, as those terms are defined in AS 47.14.990;**

20 (B) **the elderly; for the purposes of this subparagraph,**  
 21 **"institution" includes an assisted living home as defined in AS 47.33.990**  
 22 **and a Pioneers' Home operated under AS 47.55;**

23 (C) **the mentally ill; for the purposes of this subparagraph,**  
 24 **"institution" includes a designated treatment facility and an evaluation**  
 25 **facility, as those terms are defined in AS 47.30.915;**

26 (7) **"medical facility" means an institution, building, office, or home**  
 27 **providing medical services, and includes a hospital, clinic, physician's office, or**  
 28 **health facility as defined in AS 47.07.900, and a facility providing hospice care or**  
 29 **rehabilitative services, as those terms are defined in AS 47.07.900;**

30 (8) [(4)] "medical use" means the acquisition, possession, cultivation,  
 31 use **or** [AND/OR] transportation of marijuana **or** [AND/OR] paraphernalia related to

1 the administration of [SUCH] marijuana to **alleviate** [ADDRESS THE SYMPTOMS  
2 OR EFFECTS OF] a debilitating medical condition **under the provisions of this**  
3 **chapter and AS 11.71.090** [ONLY AFTER A PHYSICIAN HAS AUTHORIZED  
4 SUCH MEDICAL USE BY A DIAGNOSIS OF THE PATIENT'S DEBILITATING  
5 MEDICAL CONDITION];

6 (9) [(5)] "patient" means a person who has a debilitating medical  
7 condition;

8 (10) [(6)] "physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine in  
9 this state or an officer in the regular medical service of the armed forces of the United  
10 States or the United States Public Health Service while in the discharge of their official  
11 duties, or while volunteering services without pay or other remuneration to a hospital,  
12 clinic, medical office, or other medical facility in this state;

13 (11) [(7)] "primary **caregiver** [CARE-GIVER]" means a person **listed**  
14 **as a primary caregiver under AS 17.37.010 and in physical possession of a**  
15 **caregiver registry identification card; "primary caregiver" also includes an**  
16 **alternate caregiver when the alternate caregiver is in physical possession of the**  
17 **caregiver registry identification card** [, OTHER THAN THE PATIENT'S  
18 PHYSICIAN, WHO IS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND HAS SIGNIFICANT  
19 RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGING THE WELL-BEING OF A PATIENT WHO  
20 HAS A DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION];

21 (12) [(8)] "PRISONER" MEANS A PERSON DETAINED OR  
22 CONFINED IN A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, WHETHER BY ARREST,  
23 CONVICTION, OR COURT ORDER, OR A PERSON HELD AS A WITNESS OR  
24 OTHERWISE, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL PRISONERS HELD UNDER CONTRACT  
25 AND JUVENILES HELD UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF AS 47.10;

26 (9) "REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD" MEANS A DOCUMENT  
27 ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT WHICH IDENTIFIES A PATIENT  
28 AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA AND THE  
29 PATIENT'S PRIMARY CARE-GIVER, IF ANY;

30 (10)] "Usable form" and "usable marijuana" means the seeds, leaves,  
31 buds, and flowers of the plant (genus) cannabis, but does not include the stalks or roots

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2                               (11) "WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION" MEANS A STATEMENT  
3           SIGNED BY A PATIENT'S PHYSICIAN OR COPIES OF THE PATIENT'S  
4           PERTINENT MEDICAL RECORDS].

5   \* **Sec. 8.** AS 17.37.020 and 17.37.050 are repealed.

6   \* **Sec. 9.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).