

CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
KENTUCKY MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM
TEAM KENTUCKY MEDICAL CANNABIS WORKGROUP
SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2023 MEETING

1. The special meeting of the Team Kentucky Medical Cannabis Workgroup was called to order by Sam Flynn, Executive Director of the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program, on December 5, 2023 at approximately 2:30 PM EST. The members met both in-person and virtually via Zoom.

Workgroup Members Present in-person:

Eric Friedlander
Phillip Burnett Jr.
Julie Cantwell
Danielle Milbern, proxy for Jeff Noel

Workgroup Members Present via Zoom:

Jamie Link
Marni Gibson
Ashton McKenzie
Michael Mueller
Gary Morris, proxy for Thomas Miller
Dorsey Ridley
Ashley Smith
Jonathan Hatton

2. WELCOME

Mr. Flynn welcomed and thanked the Workgroup members for being at the special meeting.

3. DISCUSSION OF HEALTHCARE SUBCOMMITTEE AND DR. JONATHAN HATTON'S MOTION

The special meeting of the Team Kentucky Medical Cannabis Workgroup was called by the Chair, Mr. Friedlander, due to action by the Healthcare Subcommittee. After a presentation regarding qualifying conditions, Dr. Hatton made the following motion:

“I make a motion to recommend the General Assembly adopt legislation to expand the qualifying conditions listed in KRS 218B.010 to include all qualifying conditions listed in Executive Order 2022-798, including ALS, Parkinson’s Disease, Crohn’s disease, sickle cell anemia, cachexia or wasting syndrome, neuropathies, severe arthritis, hepatitis C, fibromyalgia, muscular dystrophy, Huntington’s Disease, HIV and AIDS, glaucoma, and terminal illness.”

The motion was seconded by Mr. Friedlander and the resolution was adopted by the Subcommittee.

4. REVIEW OF PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING QUALIFYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS IN SENATE BILL 47

The Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program received a multitude questions and comments through the Program’s website regarding qualifying medical conditions.

The Program also received multiple letters from advocacy groups and individuals regarding expanding the qualifying medical conditions beyond the current allowable conditions in Senate Bill (“SB”) 47.

5. PRESENTATION ON QUALIFYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS, SHELBY LEWIS, EXECUTIVE POLICY ADVISOR

The presentation provided a summary of cannabis in the United States and focused on the list of qualifying medical conditions listed in SB 47 and what qualifying medical conditions are listed in EO 2022-798 and not included in SB 47.

As of October 26, 2023, there are 1,724,996 Kentuckians, information taken from the Kentucky Health and Information Exchange, that have the medical conditions listed in SB 47. An additional 437,273 Kentuckians have qualifying medical conditions that are listed in EO 2022-798 but are not listed in SB 47. These qualifying medical conditions include ALS, Parkinson’s, Crohn’s disease, sickle cell anemia, cachexia or wasting syndrome, neuropathies, severe arthritis, hepatitis C, fibromyalgia, muscular dystrophy, Huntington’s disease, HIV, AIDS, glaucoma, and terminal illness.

The Workgroup discussed the presentation and had questions and comments regarding the medical evidence behind medical cannabis assisting individuals with these conditions, specific questions regarding conditions and their inclusion, including terminal illness, and how adding additional conditions would assist law enforcement and others when looking at medical cannabis cards.

6. MOTION BY DR. JONATHAN HATTON

Dr. Hatton made the same motion from the Healthcare Subcommittee regarding the presentation, stating:

“I make a motion to recommend the General Assembly adopt legislation to expand the qualifying conditions listed in KRS 218B.010 to include all qualifying conditions listed in Executive Order 2022-798, including ALS, Parkinson’s Disease, Crohn’s disease, sickle cell anemia, cachexia or wasting syndrome, neuropathies, severe arthritis, hepatitis C, fibromyalgia, muscular dystrophy, Huntington’s Disease, HIV and AIDS, glaucoma, and terminal illness.”

The motion was seconded by Mr. Link and the resolution was unanimously adopted by the Workgroup.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Friedlander motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Cantwell seconded. The motion carried 12-0 (approximately 3:15 PM).



Sam Flynn
Executive Director
Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program