

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 17-0135.01 Michael Dohr x4347

**SENATE BILL 17-017**

---

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Aguilar,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Singer,**

---

**Senate Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

**House Committees**

---

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING ADDING STRESS DISORDERS TO THE LIST OF**  
102                    **DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE**  
103                    **USE OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA.**

---

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

**Committee on Cost-benefit Analysis of Legalized Marijuana in Colorado.** The bill adds acute stress disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder to the list of debilitating medical conditions for the purposes of the use of medical marijuana.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
February 3, 2017

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
February 2, 2017

---

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-106, **amend**  
3 (2)(a.5)(II), (2)(a.5)(III), (2)(d.5) introductory portion, (3)(a)(VI), (5)  
4 introductory portion, (5)(b), (5)(d)(III), (5)(d)(IV), (9)(a), (9)(b),  
5 (12)(b)(VII), (14), and (16)(a); and add (2)(a.7), (2)(d.3), and (2.5) as  
6 follows:

7 **25-1.5-106. Medical marijuana program - powers and duties**  
8 **of state health agency - rules - medical review board - medical**  
9 **marijuana program cash fund - subaccount - created - repeal.**

10 **(2) Definitions.** In addition to the definitions set forth in section 14 (1)  
11 of article XVIII of the state constitution, as used in this section, unless the  
12 context otherwise requires:

13 (a.5) "Bona fide physician-patient relationship", for purposes of  
14 the medical marijuana program, means:

15 (II) The physician has consulted with the patient with respect to  
16 the patient's debilitating medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL  
17 CONDITION before the patient applies for a registry identification card; and

18 (III) The physician is available to or offers to provide follow-up  
19 care and treatment to the patient, including patient examinations, to  
20 determine the efficacy of the use of medical marijuana as a treatment of  
21 the patient's debilitating medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL  
22 CONDITION.

23 (a.7) "DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION" MEANS ACUTE STRESS  
24 DISORDER OR POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER.

25 (d.3) "PATIENT" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS A DEBILITATING  
26 MEDICAL CONDITION OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION.

1           (d.5) "Primary caregiver" means a natural person, other than the  
2 patient or the patient's physician, who is eighteen years of age or older  
3 and has significant responsibility for managing the well-being of a patient  
4 who has a debilitating medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL  
5 CONDITION. A primary caregiver may have one or more of the following  
6 relationships:

7           (2.5) (a) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS  
8 (2.5)(h) AND (2.5)(i) OF THIS SECTION AND SECTION 18-18-406.3, A  
9 PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION OR HIS OR HER PRIMARY  
10 CAREGIVER CHARGED WITH A VIOLATION OF THE STATE'S CRIMINAL LAWS  
11 RELATED TO THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA WILL BE DEEMED  
12 TO HAVE ESTABLISHED AN AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO SUCH ALLEGATION  
13 WHERE:

14           (I) THE PATIENT WAS PREVIOUSLY DIAGNOSED BY A PHYSICIAN AS  
15 HAVING A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION;

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

20           (III) THE PATIENT AND HIS OR HER PRIMARY CAREGIVER WERE  
21 COLLECTIVELY IN POSSESSION OF AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA ONLY AS  
22 PERMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

23           (b) THE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE IN SUBSECTION (2.5)(a) OF THIS  
24 SECTION DOES NOT EXCLUDE THE ASSERTION OF ANY OTHER DEFENSE  
25 WHERE A PATIENT OR PRIMARY CAREGIVER IS CHARGED WITH A VIOLATION  
26 OF STATE LAW RELATED TO THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA.

27           (c) IT IS AN EXCEPTION FROM THE STATE'S CRIMINAL LAWS FOR

1 ANY PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION OR HIS OR HER  
2 PRIMARY CAREGIVER IN LAWFUL POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY  
3 IDENTIFICATION CARD TO ENGAGE OR ASSIST IN THE MEDICAL USE OF  
4 MARIJUANA, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2.5)(h) OF  
5 THIS SECTION OR SECTION 18-18-406.3.

6 (d) IT IS AN EXCEPTION FROM THE STATE'S CRIMINAL LAWS FOR  
7 ANY PHYSICIAN TO:

8 (I) ADVISE A PATIENT WHOM THE PHYSICIAN HAS DIAGNOSED AS  
9 HAVING A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION ABOUT THE RISKS AND  
10 BENEFITS OF THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA OR THAT HE OR SHE MIGHT  
11 BENEFIT FROM THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA, PROVIDED THAT SUCH  
12 ADVICE IS BASED UPON THE PHYSICIAN'S CONTEMPORANEOUS ASSESSMENT  
13 OF THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL HISTORY AND CURRENT MEDICAL CONDITION  
14 AND A BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP; OR

15 (II) PROVIDE A PATIENT WITH WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION, BASED  
16 UPON THE PHYSICIAN'S CONTEMPORANEOUS ASSESSMENT OF THE  
17 PATIENT'S MEDICAL HISTORY AND CURRENT MEDICAL CONDITION AND A  
18 BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP, STATING THAT THE PATIENT  
19 HAS A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION AND MIGHT BENEFIT FROM THE  
20 MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA. NO PHYSICIAN SHALL BE DENIED ANY RIGHTS  
21 OR PRIVILEGES FOR THE ACTS AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION.

22 (e) NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING PROVISIONS, NO PERSON,  
23 INCLUDING A PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION OR HIS OR  
24 HER PRIMARY CAREGIVER, IS ENTITLED TO THE PROTECTION OF THIS  
25 SECTION FOR HIS OR HER ACQUISITION, POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE,  
26 PRODUCTION, USE, SALE, DISTRIBUTION, DISPENSING, OR TRANSPORTATION  
27 OF MARIJUANA FOR ANY USE OTHER THAN MEDICAL USE.

1           (f) ANY PROPERTY INTEREST THAT IS POSSESSED, OWNED, OR USED  
2           BY A PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION OR HIS OR HER  
3           PRIMARY CAREGIVER IN CONNECTION WITH THE MEDICAL USE OF  
4           MARIJUANA OR ACTS INCIDENTAL TO SUCH USE SHALL NOT BE HARMED,  
5           NEGLECTED, INJURED, OR DESTROYED WHILE IN THE POSSESSION OF STATE  
6           OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WHERE SUCH PROPERTY HAS  
7           BEEN SEIZED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CLAIMED MEDICAL USE OF  
8           MARIJUANA. ANY SUCH PROPERTY INTEREST SHALL NOT BE FORFEITED  
9           UNDER ANY PROVISION OF STATE LAW PROVIDING FOR THE FORFEITURE OF  
10           PROPERTY OTHER THAN AS A SENTENCE IMPOSED AFTER CONVICTION OF A  
11           CRIMINAL OFFENSE OR ENTRY OF A PLEA OF GUILTY TO SUCH OFFENSE.  
12           MARIJUANA AND PARAPHERNALIA SEIZED BY STATE OR LOCAL LAW  
13           ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS FROM A PATIENT OR PRIMARY CAREGIVER IN  
14           CONNECTION WITH THE CLAIMED MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA MUST BE  
15           RETURNED IMMEDIATELY UPON THE DETERMINATION OF THE DISTRICT  
16           ATTORNEY OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE THAT THE PATIENT OR PRIMARY  
17           CAREGIVER IS ENTITLED TO THE PROTECTION CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION  
18           AS MAY BE EVIDENCED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY A DECISION NOT TO PROSECUTE,  
19           THE DISMISSAL OF CHARGES, OR ACQUITTAL.

20           (g) (I) A PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION MAY  
21           ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA, WITH NO MORE MARIJUANA  
22           THAN IS MEDICALLY NECESSARY TO ADDRESS A DISABLING MEDICAL  
23           CONDITION. THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA BY A PATIENT WITH A  
24           DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION IS LAWFUL WITHIN THE FOLLOWING  
25           LIMITS:

26           (A) NO MORE THAN TWO OUNCES OF A USABLE FORM OF  
27           MARIJUANA; AND

1           (B) NO MORE THAN SIX MARIJUANA PLANTS, WITH THREE OR  
2 FEWER BEING MATURE, FLOWERING PLANTS THAT ARE PRODUCING A  
3 USABLE FORM OF MARIJUANA.

4           (II) FOR QUANTITIES OF MARIJUANA IN EXCESS OF THESE  
5 AMOUNTS, A PATIENT OR HIS OR HER PRIMARY CAREGIVER MAY RAISE AS  
6 AN AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO CHARGES OF VIOLATION OF STATE LAW THAT  
7 SUCH GREATER AMOUNTS WERE MEDICALLY NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE  
8 PATIENT'S DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION.

9           (h) (I) NO PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION SHALL:

10           (A) ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA IN A WAY THAT  
11 ENDANGERS THE HEALTH OR WELL-BEING OF ANY PERSON; OR

12           (B) ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA IN PLAIN VIEW OF,  
13 OR IN A PLACE OPEN TO, THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

14           (II) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW, THE  
15 STATE HEALTH AGENCY SHALL REVOKE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR THE  
16 REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD OF ANY PATIENT FOUND TO HAVE  
17 WILLFULLY VIOLATED THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

18           (i) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION (2.5),  
19 NO PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION UNDER EIGHTEEN  
20 YEARS OF AGE SHALL ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA  
21 UNLESS:

22           (I) TWO PHYSICIANS HAVE DIAGNOSED THE PATIENT AS HAVING A  
23 DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION;

24           (II) ONE OF THE PHYSICIANS REFERRED TO IN SUBSECTION  
25 (2.5)(i)(I) OF THIS SECTION HAS EXPLAINED THE POSSIBLE RISKS AND  
26 BENEFITS OF THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA TO THE PATIENT AND EACH  
27 OF THE PATIENT'S PARENTS RESIDING IN COLORADO;

1           (III) THE PHYSICIAN REFERRED TO IN SUBSECTION (2.5)(i)(II) OF  
2           THIS SECTION HAS PROVIDED THE PATIENT WITH THE WRITTEN  
3           DOCUMENTATION SPECIFYING THAT THE PATIENT HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED  
4           WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION AND THE PHYSICIAN HAS  
5           CONCLUDED THAT THE PATIENT MIGHT BENEFIT FROM THE MEDICAL USE  
6           OF MARIJUANA;

7           (IV) EACH OF THE PATIENT'S PARENTS RESIDING IN COLORADO  
8           CONSENT IN WRITING TO THE STATE HEALTH AGENCY TO PERMIT THE  
9           PATIENT TO ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA;

10          (V) A PARENT RESIDING IN COLORADO CONSENTS IN WRITING TO  
11          SERVE AS THE PATIENT'S PRIMARY CAREGIVER;

12          (VI) A PARENT SERVING AS A PRIMARY CAREGIVER COMPLETES  
13          AND SUBMITS AN APPLICATION FOR A REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD AND  
14          THE WRITTEN CONSENTS REFERRED TO IN SUBSECTIONS (2.5)(i)(IV) AND  
15          (2.5)(i)(V) OF THIS SECTION TO THE STATE HEALTH AGENCY;

16          (VII) THE STATE HEALTH AGENCY APPROVES THE PATIENT'S  
17          APPLICATION AND TRANSMITS THE PATIENT'S REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION  
18          CARD TO THE PARENT DESIGNATED AS A PRIMARY CAREGIVER;

19          (VIII) THE PATIENT AND PRIMARY CAREGIVER COLLECTIVELY  
20          POSSESS AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA NO GREATER THAN THOSE SPECIFIED IN  
21          SUBSECTION (2.5)(g) OF THIS SECTION; AND

22          (IX) THE PRIMARY CARE-GIVER CONTROLS THE ACQUISITION OF  
23          SUCH MARIJUANA AND THE DOSAGE AND FREQUENCY OF ITS USE BY THE  
24          PATIENT WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION.

25          (3) Rule-making. (a) The state health agency shall, pursuant to  
26          section 14 of article XVIII of the state constitution, promulgate rules of  
27          administration concerning the implementation of the medical marijuana

1 program that specifically govern the following:

2 (VI) Communications with law enforcement officials about  
3 registry identification cards that have been suspended when a patient is  
4 no longer diagnosed as having a debilitating medical condition OR  
5 DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION;

6 (5) Physicians. A physician who certifies a debilitating medical  
7 condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION for an applicant to the  
8 medical marijuana program shall comply with all of the following  
9 requirements:

10 (b) After a physician, who has a bona fide physician-patient  
11 relationship with the patient applying for the medical marijuana program,  
12 determines, for the purposes of making a recommendation, that the  
13 patient has a debilitating medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL  
14 CONDITION and that the patient may benefit from the use of medical  
15 marijuana, the physician shall certify to the state health agency that the  
16 patient has a debilitating medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL  
17 CONDITION and that the patient may benefit from the use of medical  
18 marijuana. If the physician certifies that the patient would benefit from  
19 the use of medical marijuana based on a chronic or debilitating disease or  
20 medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION, the physician shall  
21 specify the chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition OR  
22 DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION and, if known, the cause or source of the  
23 chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition OR DISABLING  
24 MEDICAL CONDITION.

25 (d) A physician shall not:

26 (III) Examine a patient for purposes of diagnosing a debilitating  
27 medical condition OR A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION at a location



1 where medical marijuana is sold or distributed; or

2 (IV) Hold an economic interest in an enterprise that provides or  
3 distributes medical marijuana if the physician certifies the debilitating  
4 medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION of a patient for  
5 participation in the medical marijuana program.

6 **(9) Registry identification card required - denial - revocation**

7 **- renewal.** (a) A PERSON WITH A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION MAY  
8 APPLY TO THE STATE HEALTH AGENCY FOR A REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION  
9 CARD. To be considered in compliance with the provisions of section 14  
10 of article XVIII of the state constitution, this section, and the rules of the  
11 state health agency, a patient or primary caregiver shall have his or her  
12 registry identification card in his or her possession at all times that he or  
13 she is in possession of any form of medical marijuana and produce the  
14 same upon request of a law enforcement officer to demonstrate that the  
15 patient or primary caregiver is not in violation of the law; except that, if  
16 more than thirty-five days have passed since the date the patient or  
17 primary caregiver filed his or her medical marijuana program application  
18 and the state health agency has not yet issued or denied a registry  
19 identification card, a copy of the patient's or primary caregiver's  
20 application along with proof of the date of submission shall be in the  
21 patient's or primary caregiver's possession at all times that he or she is in  
22 possession of any form of medical marijuana until the state health agency  
23 issues or denies the registry identification card. A person who violates  
24 section 14 of article XVIII of the state constitution, this section, or the  
25 rules promulgated by the state health agency may be subject to criminal  
26 prosecution for violations of section 18-18-406. C.R.S.

27 (b) The state health agency may deny a patient's or primary

1 caregiver's application for a registry identification card or revoke the card  
2 if the state health agency, in accordance with article 4 of title 24, C.R.S.,  
3 determines that the physician who diagnosed the patient's debilitating  
4 medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION, the patient, or the  
5 primary caregiver violated section 14 of article XVIII of the state  
6 constitution, this section, or the rules promulgated by the state health  
7 agency pursuant to this section; except that, when a physician's violation  
8 is the basis for adverse action, the state health agency may only deny or  
9 revoke a patient's application or registry identification card when the  
10 physician's violation is related to the issuance of a medical marijuana  
11 recommendation.

12 (12) Use of medical marijuana. (b) A patient or primary  
13 caregiver shall not:

14 (VII) Use medical marijuana if the person does not have a  
15 debilitating medical condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION as  
16 diagnosed by the person's physician in the course of a bona fide  
17 physician-patient relationship and for which the physician has  
18 recommended the use of medical marijuana.

19 (14) Affirmative defense. If a patient or primary caregiver raises  
20 an affirmative defense as provided in section 14 (4)(b) of article XVIII of  
21 the state constitution OR SUBSECTION (2.5)(g)(II) OF THIS SECTION, the  
22 patient's physician shall certify the specific amounts in excess of two  
23 ounces that are necessary to address the patient's debilitating medical  
24 condition OR DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION and why such amounts are  
25 necessary. A patient who asserts this affirmative defense shall waive  
26 confidentiality privileges related to the condition or conditions that were  
27 the basis for the recommendation. If a patient, primary caregiver, or

1 physician raises an exception to the state criminal laws as provided in  
2 section 14 (2)(b) or (2)(c) of article XVIII of the state constitution OR  
3 SUBSECTION (2.5)(c) OR (2.5)(d) OF THIS SECTION, the patient, primary  
4 caregiver, or physician waives the confidentiality of his or her records  
5 related to the condition or conditions that were the basis for the  
6 recommendation maintained by the state health agency for the medical  
7 marijuana program. Upon request of a law enforcement agency for such  
8 records, the state health agency shall only provide records pertaining to  
9 the individual raising the exception, and shall redact all other patient,  
10 primary caregiver, or physician identifying information.

11 (16) Fees. (a) The state health agency may collect fees from  
12 patients who, pursuant to section 14 of article XVIII of the state  
13 constitution OR SUBSECTION (9) OF THIS SECTION, apply to the medical  
14 marijuana program for a registry identification card for the purpose of  
15 offsetting the state health agency's direct and indirect costs of  
16 administering the program. The amount of the fees shall be set by rule of  
17 the state health agency. The amount of the fees set pursuant to this section  
18 shall reflect the actual direct and indirect costs of the state licensing  
19 authority in the administration and enforcement of this article so that the  
20 fees avoid exceeding the statutory limit on uncommitted reserves in  
21 administrative agency cash funds as set forth in section 24-75-402 (3).  
22 C.R.S. The state health agency shall not assess a medical marijuana  
23 registry application fee to an applicant who demonstrates, pursuant to a  
24 copy of the applicant's state tax return certified by the department of  
25 revenue, that the applicant's income does not exceed one hundred  
26 eighty-five percent of the federal poverty line, adjusted for family size.  
27 All fees collected by the state health agency through the medical

1 marijuana program shall be transferred to the state treasurer who shall  
2 credit the same to the medical marijuana program cash fund, which fund  
3 is hereby created.

4 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
6 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.