

**Senate Study Bill 3222 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON BOLKCOM)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act creating the medical cannabidiol Act and providing  
2 penalties and including effective date provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 124.401, subsection 5, Code 2014, is  
2 amended by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph after  
3 unnumbered paragraph 2:

4 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. A person may knowingly or  
5 intentionally recommend, possess, use, dispense, deliver,  
6 transport, or administer cannabidiol if the recommendation,  
7 possession, use, dispensing, delivery, transporting, or  
8 administering is in accordance with the provisions of chapter  
9 124D. For purposes of this paragraph, "*cannabidiol*" means the  
10 same as defined in section 124D.2.

11 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 124D.1 **Short title.**

12 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "*Medical*  
13 *Cannabidiol Act*".

14 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 124D.2 **Definitions.**

15 As used in this chapter:

16 1. "*Cannabidiol*" means a nonpsychoactive cannabinoid found  
17 in the plant *Cannabis sativa* L. or *Cannabis indica* or any  
18 other preparation thereof that is essentially free from plant  
19 material, and has a tetrahydrocannabinol level of no more than  
20 three percent.

21 2. "*Department*" means the department of public health.

22 3. "*Intractable epilepsy*" means an epileptic seizure  
23 disorder for which standard medical treatment does not prevent  
24 or significantly ameliorate recurring, uncontrolled seizures or  
25 for which standard medical treatment results in harmful side  
26 effects.

27 4. "*Neurologist*" means an allopathic or osteopathic  
28 physician board-certified in neurology in good standing and  
29 licensed under chapter 148 or an allopathic or osteopathic  
30 physician board-certified in neurology in good standing and  
31 licensed in any other state.

32 5. a. "*Primary caregiver*" means a person, at least  
33 eighteen years of age, who has been designated by a patient's  
34 neurologist or a person having custody of a patient, as being  
35 necessary to take responsibility for managing the well-being

1 of the patient with respect to the medical use of cannabidiol  
2 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. A patient may have  
3 one or more designated primary caregivers.

4 *b. "Primary caregiver"* includes but is not limited to the  
5 following:

6 (1) An employee of a hospice program, if the employee meets  
7 the definition of a primary caregiver under paragraph "a".

8 (2) An individual providing home and community-based  
9 services, and including a home health agency, licensed,  
10 certified, or otherwise authorized or permitted by the law of  
11 this state or another state to administer health care in the  
12 ordinary course of business or in the practice of a profession,  
13 if the individual meets the definition of a primary caregiver  
14 under paragraph "a".

15 **Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 124D.3 Neurologist recommendation —**  
16 **medical use of cannabidiol.**

17 A neurologist who has examined and treated a patient  
18 suffering from intractable epilepsy may provide but has no  
19 duty to provide a written recommendation for the patient's  
20 medical use of cannabidiol to treat or alleviate symptoms of  
21 intractable epilepsy if no other satisfactory alternative  
22 treatment options exist for the patient and all of the  
23 following conditions apply:

24 1. The patient is a permanent resident of this state.

25 2. The neurologist or another neurologist has treated the  
26 patient for intractable epilepsy for at least six months.

27 3. The neurologist has tried alternative treatment options  
28 that have not alleviated the patient's symptoms.

29 4. The neurologist determines the risks of recommending  
30 the medical use of cannabidiol are reasonable in light of the  
31 potential benefit for the patient.

32 5. The neurologist maintains a patient treatment plan.

33 **Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 124D.4 Cannabidiol registration card.**

34 1. *Issuance to patient.* The department may approve the  
35 issuance of a cannabidiol registration card by the department

- 1 of transportation to a patient who:
- 2 a. Is at least eighteen years of age.
  - 3 b. Is a permanent resident of this state.
  - 4 c. Provides the department with a written recommendation  
5 signed by a neurologist that the patient may benefit from the  
6 medical use of cannabidiol pursuant to section 124D.3.
  - 7 d. Submits an application to the department, on a form  
8 created by the department, in consultation with the department  
9 of transportation, that contains all of the following:
    - 10 (1) The patient's full name, Iowa residence address, date  
11 of birth, and telephone number.
    - 12 (2) A copy of the patient's valid photo identification.
    - 13 (3) Full name, address, and telephone number of the  
14 patient's neurologist.
    - 15 (4) Full name, residence address, date of birth, and  
16 telephone number of each primary caregiver of the patient, if  
17 any.
    - 18 (5) Any other information required by rule.
  - 19 2. *Patient card contents.* A cannabidiol registration  
20 card issued to a patient by the department of transportation  
21 pursuant to subsection 1 shall contain, at a minimum, all of  
22 the following:
    - 23 a. The patient's full name, Iowa residence address, and date  
24 of birth.
    - 25 b. The patient's photo.
    - 26 c. The date of issuance and expiration date of the  
27 registration card.
    - 28 d. Any other information required by rule.
  - 29 3. *Issuance to primary caregiver.* For a patient in a  
30 primary caregiver's care, the department may approve the  
31 issuance of a cannabidiol registration card by the department  
32 of transportation to the primary caregiver who:
    - 33 a. Is at least eighteen years of age.
    - 34 b. Provides the department with a written recommendation  
35 signed by a neurologist that a patient in the primary

1 caregiver's care may benefit from the medical use of  
2 cannabidiol pursuant to section 124D.3.

3 *c.* Submits an application to the department, on a form  
4 created by the department, in consultation with the department  
5 of transportation, that contains all of the following:

6 (1) The primary caregiver's full name, residence address,  
7 date of birth, and telephone number.

8 (2) The patient's full name.

9 (3) A copy of the primary caregiver's valid photo  
10 identification.

11 (4) Full name, address, and telephone number of the  
12 patient's neurologist.

13 (5) Any other information required by rule.

14 4. *Primary caregiver card contents.* A cannabidiol  
15 registration card issued by the department of transportation to  
16 a primary caregiver pursuant to subsection 3 shall contain, at  
17 a minimum, all of the following:

18 *a.* The primary caregiver's full name, residence address, and  
19 date of birth.

20 *b.* The primary caregiver's photo.

21 *c.* The date of issuance and expiration date of the  
22 registration card.

23 *d.* The full name of each patient in the primary caregiver's  
24 care.

25 *e.* Any other information required by rule.

26 5. *Expiration date of card.* A cannabidiol registration card  
27 issued pursuant to this section shall expire one year after the  
28 date of issuance and may be renewed.

29 6. *Card issuance — department of transportation.*

30 The department may enter into a chapter 28E agreement with the  
31 department of transportation to facilitate the issuance of a  
32 cannabidiol registration card pursuant to subsections 1 and 3.

33 7. *Validity of card issued in another jurisdiction.* A  
34 cannabidiol registration card, or its equivalent, that is  
35 issued under the laws of another state, district, territory,

1 or possession of the United States that allows a patient to  
2 possess or use cannabidiol for only intractable epilepsy in  
3 the jurisdiction of issuance has the same force and effect  
4 when held by the patient while in this state as a cannabidiol  
5 registration card issued by the department of transportation  
6 in this state.

7 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 124D.5 Department duties — rules.

8 1. a. The department shall maintain a confidential file  
9 of the names of each patient to or for whom the department  
10 issues a cannabidiol registration card and the name of each  
11 primary caregiver to whom the department issues a cannabidiol  
12 registration card under section 124D.4.

13 b. Individual names contained in the file shall be  
14 confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure, except as  
15 provided in subparagraph (1).

16 (1) Information in the confidential file maintained  
17 pursuant to paragraph "a" may be released to the following  
18 persons under the following circumstances:

19 (a) To authorized employees or agents of the department and  
20 the department of transportation as necessary to perform the  
21 duties of the department and the department of transportation  
22 pursuant to this chapter.

23 (b) To authorized employees of state or local law  
24 enforcement agencies, but only for the purpose of verifying  
25 that a person is lawfully in possession of a cannabidiol  
26 registration card issued pursuant to this chapter.

27 (2) Release of information pursuant to subparagraph  
28 (1) shall be consistent with the federal Health Insurance  
29 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No.  
30 104-191.

31 2. a. The department, in consultation with the department  
32 of transportation, shall adopt administrative rules under  
33 section 17A.4, subsection 3, and section 17A.5, subsection 2,  
34 paragraph "b", to implement the provisions of this chapter,  
35 subject to the prior approval of the administrative rules

1 coordinator and the administrative rules review committee.  
2 Such rules shall become effective July 1, 2014, unless the  
3 effective date is delayed by the administrative rules review  
4 committee and shall expire one hundred eighty days after the  
5 effective date.

6 *b.* The rules adopted pursuant to this subsection shall  
7 include but not be limited to rules to establish the manner in  
8 which the department shall consider applications for new and  
9 renewal cannabidiol registration cards.

10 **Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 124D.6 Medical use of cannabidiol —**  
11 **affirmative defense.**

12 1. *a.* A recommendation for the possession or use of  
13 cannabidiol as authorized by this chapter shall be provided  
14 exclusively by a neurologist for a patient who has been  
15 diagnosed with intractable epilepsy.

16 *b.* Cannabidiol provided exclusively pursuant to the  
17 recommendation of a neurologist shall be obtained from an  
18 out-of-state source and shall only be recommended for oral or  
19 transdermal administration.

20 *c.* A neurologist shall be the sole authorized recommender  
21 as part of the treatment plan by the neurologist of a patient  
22 diagnosed with intractable epilepsy. A neurologist shall  
23 have the sole authority to recommend the use or amount of  
24 cannabidiol, if any, in the treatment plan of a patient  
25 diagnosed with intractable epilepsy.

26 2. A neurologist, including any authorized agent thereof,  
27 shall not be subject to prosecution for the unlawful  
28 recommendation, possession, or administration of marijuana  
29 under the laws of this state for activities arising directly  
30 out of or directly related to the recommendation or use of  
31 cannabidiol in the treatment of a patient diagnosed with  
32 intractable epilepsy.

33 3. *a.* In a prosecution for the unlawful possession of  
34 marijuana under the laws of this state, including but not  
35 limited to chapters 124 and 453B, it is an affirmative and

1 complete defense to the prosecution that the patient has  
2 been diagnosed with intractable epilepsy, used or possessed  
3 cannabidiol pursuant to a recommendation by a neurologist as  
4 authorized under this chapter, and, for a patient eighteen  
5 years of age or older, is in possession of a valid cannabidiol  
6 registration card.

7 *b.* In a prosecution for the unlawful possession of  
8 marijuana under the laws of this state, including but not  
9 limited to chapters 124 and 453B, it is an affirmative and  
10 complete defense to the prosecution that the person possessed  
11 cannabidiol because the person is a primary caregiver of a  
12 patient who has been diagnosed with intractable epilepsy and  
13 is in possession of a valid cannabidiol registration card, and  
14 where the primary caregiver's possession of the cannabidiol  
15 is on behalf of the patient and for the patient's use only as  
16 authorized under this chapter.

17 *c.* If a patient or primary caregiver is charged with the  
18 commission of a crime and is not in possession of the person's  
19 cannabidiol registration card, any charge or charges filed  
20 against the person shall be dismissed by the court if the  
21 person produces to the clerk of the district court, prior to  
22 the initial court date, a cannabidiol registration card issued  
23 to that person and valid at the time the person was charged.

24 4. An agency of this state or a political subdivision  
25 thereof, including any law enforcement agency, shall not  
26 remove or initiate proceedings to remove a patient under the  
27 age of eighteen from the home of a parent based solely upon  
28 the parent's or patient's possession or use of cannabidiol as  
29 authorized under this chapter.

30 **Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 124D.7 Penalties.**

31 A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses or uses  
32 cannabidiol in violation of the requirements of this chapter is  
33 subject to the penalties provided under chapters 124 and 453B.

34 **Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. 124D.8 Repeal.**

35 This chapter is repealed July 1, 2017.



1 options exist for the patient and if the patient is a permanent  
2 resident of this state, the neurologist or another neurologist  
3 has treated the patient for intractable epilepsy for at least  
4 six months, the neurologist has tried alternative treatment  
5 options that have not alleviated the patient's symptoms, the  
6 neurologist determines the risks of recommending the medical  
7 use of cannabidiol are reasonable in light of the potential  
8 benefit for the patient, and the neurologist maintains a  
9 patient treatment plan.

10 CANNABIDIOL REGISTRATION CARD. The bill provides that  
11 the department of public health may approve the issuance  
12 of a cannabidiol registration card by the department of  
13 transportation to a patient who is at least 18 years of  
14 age and is a permanent resident of this state, who provides  
15 the department with a written recommendation signed by a  
16 neurologist that the patient may benefit from the medical  
17 use of cannabidiol pursuant to the bill, and who submits an  
18 application to the department with certain information. The  
19 department may also approve the issuance of a cannabidiol  
20 registration card by the department of transportation to a  
21 primary caregiver who is at least 18 years of age, provides  
22 the department with a written recommendation signed by a  
23 neurologist that a patient in the primary caregiver's care may  
24 benefit from the medical use of cannabidiol pursuant to the  
25 bill, and submits an application to the department with certain  
26 information.

27 A cannabidiol registration card shall expire one year after  
28 the date of issuance and may be renewed.

29 RECIPROCITY. The bill provides that a cannabidiol  
30 registration card, or its equivalent, that is issued under  
31 the laws of another state, district, territory, or possession  
32 of the United States that allows a patient to possess or use  
33 cannabidiol for only intractable epilepsy in the jurisdiction  
34 of issuance has the same force and effect when held by the  
35 patient while in this state as a cannabidiol registration card

1 issued by the department of transportation.

2       CONFIDENTIALITY. The bill requires the department to  
3 maintain a confidential file of the names of each patient to  
4 or for whom the department issues a cannabidiol registration  
5 card and the name of each primary caregiver who is issued a  
6 cannabidiol registration card. Individual names contained  
7 in the file shall be confidential and shall not be subject  
8 to disclosure, except that information in the confidential  
9 file may be released to authorized employees or agents of the  
10 department and the department of transportation as necessary  
11 to perform the duties of the department or the department of  
12 transportation pursuant to the bill, to authorized employees  
13 of state or local law enforcement agencies for the purpose  
14 of verifying that a person is lawfully in possession of a  
15 cannabidiol registration card. Release of information must  
16 also be consistent with federal Health Insurance Portability  
17 and Accountability Act regulations.

18       DEPARTMENT RULES. The bill provides that the department,  
19 in consultation with the department of transportation, shall  
20 adopt emergency rules to implement the provisions of the bill,  
21 subject to the prior approval of the administrative rules  
22 coordinator and the administrative rules review committee, to  
23 be effective July 1, 2014, unless otherwise provided, and shall  
24 expire six months after the effective date. The rules adopted  
25 shall include but not be limited to rules to establish the  
26 manner in which the department shall consider applications for  
27 new and renewal cannabidiol registration cards. This provision  
28 takes effect upon enactment.

29       MEDICAL USE OF CANNABIDIOL — AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE. The  
30 bill provides that a recommendation for the possession or use  
31 of cannabidiol as authorized by the bill shall be provided  
32 exclusively by a neurologist for a patient who has been  
33 diagnosed with intractable epilepsy. Cannabidiol provided  
34 exclusively pursuant to a neurologist's recommendation  
35 shall be obtained from an out-of-state source and shall only

1 be recommended for oral or transdermal administration. A  
2 neurologist shall be the sole authorized recommender as  
3 part of the treatment plan by the neurologist of a patient  
4 diagnosed with intractable epilepsy. A neurologist has the  
5 sole authority to recommend the use or amount of cannabidiol,  
6 if any, in the patient's treatment plan.

7 The bill provides that a neurologist, including any  
8 authorized agent thereof, shall not be subject to prosecution  
9 for the unlawful recommendation, possession, or administration  
10 of marijuana under the laws of this state for activities  
11 arising directly out of or directly related to the  
12 recommendation or use of cannabidiol in the treatment of a  
13 patient diagnosed with intractable epilepsy.

14 In a prosecution for the unlawful possession of marijuana  
15 under the laws of this state, it is an affirmative and complete  
16 defense to the prosecution that the patient has been diagnosed  
17 with intractable epilepsy, used or possessed cannabidiol  
18 pursuant to a recommendation by a neurologist, and if the  
19 patient is 18 years of age or older, is in possession of a valid  
20 cannabidiol registration card.

21 In a prosecution for the unlawful possession of marijuana  
22 under the laws of this state, it is an affirmative and  
23 complete defense to the prosecution that the person possessed  
24 cannabidiol because the person is the primary caregiver of  
25 a patient who has been diagnosed with intractable epilepsy  
26 and who has a recommendation for the possession and use  
27 of cannabidiol as recommended by a neurologist and is in  
28 possession of a valid cannabidiol registration card and where  
29 the primary caregiver's possession of the cannabidiol is on  
30 behalf of the patient and for the patient's use only.

31 An agency of this state or a political subdivision thereof,  
32 including any law enforcement agency, shall not remove or  
33 initiate proceedings to remove a patient from the home of a  
34 parent based solely upon the parent's or patient's possession  
35 or use of cannabidiol.

1 The bill amends Code section 124.401, relating to prohibited  
2 acts involving controlled substances, to provide that it is  
3 lawful for a person to knowingly or intentionally recommend,  
4 possess, use, distribute, dispense, deliver, transport,  
5 or administer marijuana if the recommendation, possession,  
6 use, distribution, dispensing, delivery, transporting, or  
7 administering is in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

8 The bill provides that a person who knowingly or  
9 intentionally possesses or uses cannabidiol in violation of  
10 the bill is subject to the penalties of Code chapters 124  
11 (controlled substances Act) and 453B (excise tax on unlawful  
12 dealing in certain substances).

13 The new Code chapter created by the bill is repealed July 1,  
14 2017.