

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN

H.P. 330 - L.D. 480

An Act To Establish Fees under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2424, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2011, c. 407, Pt. B, §22, is further amended to read:

3. Registry identification cards. The department shall adopt rules governing the manner in which it considers applications for and renewals of registry identification cards for registered patients, registered primary caregivers, principal officers, board members and employees of dispensaries and staff of hospice providers and nursing facilities designated as primary caregivers. The department's rules must require the submission of an application, must require replacement of a registry identification card that has been lost, destroyed or stolen or that contains information that is no longer accurate and must establish application and renewal fees that generate revenues sufficient to offset all expenses of implementing and administering this chapter and that are consistent with the provisions of section 2425, subsection 12. The department may establish a sliding scale of application and renewal fees based upon a registered patient's family income and status as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States. The department may accept donations from private sources in order to reduce the application and renewal fees.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2425, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by IB 2009, c. 1, §5, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2425, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Criminal history record check. An applicant for a registry identification card who is a primary caregiver or who is a principal officer, board member or employee of a registered dispensary must undergo a criminal history record check annually.

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §2425, sub-§3, as enacted by IB 2009, c. 1, §5, is amended to read:

3. Department approval or denial. The department shall verify the information contained in an application or renewal submitted pursuant to this section and shall

approve or deny an application or renewal within 30 days of receiving it. The department may deny an application or renewal only if the applicant did not provide the information required pursuant to this section or the department determines that the applicant does not qualify for a registry identification card or that the information provided was falsified. Rejection of an application or renewal is considered a final agency action, subject to judicial review. Jurisdiction and venue for judicial review are vested in the Superior Court.

Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §2425, sub-§6, as enacted by IB 2009, c. 1, §5, is amended to read:

6. Notification of changes in status or loss of card. This subsection governs notification of changes in status or the loss of a registry identification card.

A. A registered qualifying patient shall notify the department within 10 days of any change in the registered qualifying patient's name, address, primary caregiver or preference regarding who may cultivate marijuana for the registered qualifying patient, if the registry identification card is no longer accurate, if the change renders the registry identification card inaccurate or if the registered qualifying patient ceases to have a debilitating medical condition.

B. A registered qualifying patient who fails to notify the department as required under paragraph A commits a civil violation for which a fine of not more than \$150 may be adjudged. If the registered qualifying patient's certifying physician notifies the department in writing that the registered qualifying patient has ceased to suffer from a debilitating medical condition, the registered qualifying patient's registry identification card becomes void upon notification by the department to the qualifying patient.

C. A registered primary caregiver shall notify the department if the card of the registered primary caregiver is no longer accurate within 10 days of the event that caused the inaccuracy and of any change in the caregiver's name or address within 10 days of such change. A registered primary caregiver who fails to notify the department of any of these changes commits a civil violation for which a fine of not more than \$150 may be adjudged.

D. When a registered qualifying patient or registered primary caregiver notifies the department of any changes listed in this subsection, the department shall issue the registered qualifying patient and each registered primary caregiver a new registry identification card within 10 days of receiving the updated information and ~~a \$10~~ the fee required by subsection 12, paragraph E.

E. When a registered qualifying patient changes the patient's registered primary caregiver, the department shall notify the old primary caregiver within 10 days. The old primary caregiver's protections as provided in this chapter expire 10 days after notification by the department.

F. If a cardholder loses the cardholder's registry identification card, the cardholder shall notify the department and submit ~~a \$10~~ the fee required by subsection 12, paragraph E within 10 days of losing the card. Within 5 days after such notification,

the department shall issue a new registry identification card with a new random identification number.

Sec. 6. 22 MRSA §2425, sub-§12 is enacted to read:

12. Registration and related fees. The department by rule shall establish fees in accordance with this subsection. The fees must be credited to the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund pursuant to section 2430. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

A. There is no annual fee to register a qualifying patient.

B. Primary caregiver fees are as follows.

(1) There is no annual fee to register a primary caregiver who does not cultivate marijuana for a qualifying patient.

(2) There is an annual fee to register a primary caregiver who has been designated to cultivate marijuana under subsection 2423-A, subsection 1, paragraph F. The fee must be not less than \$50 and not more than \$300 for each qualifying patient who has designated the primary caregiver.

(3) There is no fee for a registered primary caregiver to register for the remainder of the registration period a new qualifying patient in place of a former qualifying patient who has revoked the designation of the primary caregiver.

C. There is an annual fee to register a dispensary of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$15,000. There is a fee to change the location of a registered dispensary or the location at which a registered dispensary cultivates marijuana of not less than \$3,000 and not more than \$5,000.

D. There is an annual fee to register a principal officer, board member or employee of a registered dispensary of not less than \$25 and not more than \$50. The fee must be paid by the registered dispensary.

E. There is a fee to replace a registry card that has been lost, stolen or destroyed or a card that contains information that is no longer accurate of not less than \$10 and not more than \$20.

F. There is an annual fee for a criminal history record check for a primary caregiver or a principal officer, board member or employee of a registered dispensary of not less than \$31 and not more than \$60. The fee must be paid by the primary caregiver or by the registered dispensary for a principal officer, board member or employee of the registered dispensary.

G. There is a fee for laboratory testing of marijuana that is cultivated, harvested, processed, prepared or provided by a registered primary caregiver or registered dispensary of not less than \$50 and not more than \$300 per test sample.

Beginning January 2014 and every 2 years thereafter, the department shall review the balance in the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund established under section 2430. If the balance in the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund exceeds \$400,000, the department shall reduce the fees established under paragraphs B and C for a 2-year period beginning with the calendar year following the review.

Sec. 7. 22 MRSA §2428, sub-§2, ¶A, as amended by PL 2009, c. 631, §42 and affected by §51, is further amended to read:

A. The department shall register a dispensary and issue a registration certificate or renew a registration certificate within 30 days to any person or entity that provides:

(1) An annual fee paid to the department as set by rule, ~~in an amount not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$15,000~~ pursuant to section 2425, subsection 12, paragraph C;

(2) The legal name of the dispensary, evidence of incorporation under Title 13-B and evidence that the corporation is in good standing with the Secretary of State;

(3) The physical address of the dispensary and the physical address of a maximum of one additional location, if any, where marijuana will be cultivated for patients who have designated the dispensary to cultivate for them. If a registered dispensary changes the physical location of the dispensary or the location at which it cultivates marijuana, the dispensary shall notify the department on a location change form provided by the department, pay a change fee as established in section 2425, subsection 12, paragraph C and obtain a new registration certificate from the department;

(4) The name, address and date of birth of each principal officer and board member of the dispensary; and

(5) The name, address and date of birth of any person who is employed by the dispensary.

Sec. 8. 22 MRSA §2428, sub-§2, ¶D, as amended by PL 2009, c. 631, §42 and affected by §51, is further amended to read:

D. The department may not issue a registry identification card to any principal officer, board member or employee of a dispensary who has been convicted of a disqualifying drug offense. The department ~~may~~ shall conduct a ~~background~~ criminal history record check of each principal officer, board member or employee on an annual basis in order to carry out this provision. ~~The~~ If the department determines not to issue a registry identification card for a principal officer, board member or employee, the department shall notify the dispensary in writing of the reason for denying the registry identification card.