

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

2026 Regular Session

To:

By:

Bill

A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 41-137-3 AND SECTION 41-137-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ALLOW A PRACTITIONER TO CERTIFY A PATIENT FOR MEDICAL CANNABIS WHEN OTHER TREATMENT OPTIONS HAVE PROVEN INEFFECTIVE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. Section 41-137-3(hh), Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended to read as follows:

(hh) "Qualifying patient" means a person who has been diagnosed by a practitioner as having a debilitating medical condition or for whom a practitioner has determined, after other conventional treatment options have proven ineffective, that the patient may benefit from medical cannabis, and has been issued a written certification.

SECTION 2. Section 41-137-5(1)(a), Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended to read as follows:

(1) No person shall be authorized to use medical cannabis in this state unless the person:

(a) has been diagnosed by a practitioner, with whom the person has a bona fide practitioner-patient relationship within his or her scope of practice, as having a debilitating medical condition or as a patient for whom other conventional treatment options have proven ineffective, for which the practitioner believes, in his or her professional opinion, that the person would likely receive medical or palliative benefit from the medical use of medical cannabis to treat or alleviate the person's debilitating-medical condition or symptoms associated with the person's debilitating-medical condition;

(b) has received a written certification of that diagnosis from the practitioner; and

(c) has been issued a registry identification card from the MDOH under Section 41-137-23.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2026.