

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

2026 Regular Session

To:

By:

Bill

A BILL TO AMEND SECTIONS 41-137-5, 41-137-25 and 41-137-39, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ELIMINATE THE MANDATORY SIX-MONTH FOLLOW-UP VISIT AND TO EXTEND THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF RESIDENT PATIENT REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND WRITTEN CERTIFICATIONS FROM TWELVE (12) TO TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS.

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

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

(2) A written certification shall:

(b) Remain current for ~~twelve (12) months~~ up to twenty-four (24) months, unless the practitioner specifies a shorter period of time;

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

(5) ~~After a qualifying patient receives a written certification from a practitioner, the patient shall be required to make a follow up visit with the practitioner not less than six (6) months after the date of issuance of the certification for the practitioner to evaluate and determine the effectiveness of the patient's medical use of medical cannabis to treat or alleviate the patient's debilitating medical condition or symptoms associated with the patient's debilitating medical condition.~~

(5) After a qualifying patient receives a written certification from a practitioner, a practitioner may, at their discretion, request or require a follow-up evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the patient's medical use of cannabis to treat or alleviate the patient's debilitating medical condition or

symptoms associated with the patient's debilitating medical condition.

SECTION 3. Section 41-137-25(2), Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

(2) The expiration date shall be visible on the registry identification card. Except as provided in subsection (3) or subsection (4) of this section, the expiration date for registry identification cards for residents shall be ~~one (1) year~~ twenty-four (24) months after the date of issuance. The expiration date for registry identification cards for nonresidents shall be ninety (90) days after the date of issuance, except as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2026.