



**MISSISSIPPI  
MEDICAL MARIJUANA  
ASSOCIATION**

# **Legislative Session 2026 Recap**

# INTRODUCTION



The 2026 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature, like with all sessions - brought it's share of wins and losses for every industry and special interest group seeking change at the Capitol. The Medical Cannabis industry is no different, although the support and momentum we achieved through the session will hopefully pay dividends in future years and in future attempts at change.

The start of the Legislative session saw a significant amount of excitement and potential, with over 20+ cannabis-related bills being introduced in January (over 3x more than past sessions). While not all of these bills were friendly to the program, the vast majority were introduced by supporters and champions of medical cannabis patients and businesses.

3MA's legislative priorities all saw an opportunity for passage this session, and many of our goals were alive in multiple vehicles. However, despite the overwhelming support from patients, business owners and producers, and in the face of unprecedented levels of support in both chambers of the Legislature, the hopes for change in the cannabis program died on the desk of the Governor on the final deadline day.

Although the results of this session were disappointing, 3MA remains committed to fighting on behalf of the needs of the medical cannabis industry, and the support and cooperation we've achieved will continue to benefit us in coming sessions.

# 2026 GOALS

In August of 2025, 3MA laid out or 2026 Legislative Priorities in front of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Advisory Board at the state capitol. Using real feedback from cannabis operators across the state through our 2025 State of the Industry Survey, these priorities were tailored to address some of the biggest challenges our program faced.

## 01

### **Removal of THC Potency Caps**

Arbitrary THC limits imposed on cannabis & cannabis products sold in the MMCP drive up costs for patients and force producers to dilute products with adulterants often times sourced from outside of the cannabis plant.

## 02

### **Extension of resident & nonresident patient validity**

Residents across Mississippi face barriers in access and affordability to our state's medical program. With out of pocket costs and limited options for licensed certifiers, extending patient validity improves overall patient satisfaction and outcomes.

## 03

### **"Right to Try"**

Mississippians with chronic and debilitating conditions that are not listed under our original Act continue to suffer due to lack of access to the MMCP. "Right to Try" provides a new pathway for physicians and certifiers to secure access for their patients by appealing directly to the MSDH.

# Legislative Champions



## **HB 894**

- *Removal of THC Potency Caps on Concentrate & Infused Products*

## **HB 895**

- *Extension of Resident Patient card validity to 24 months, removal of mandatory 6-month follow-up*
- *Extension of nonresident patient card validity to 90 days, expansion of purchase/possession limits for nonresidents*
- *Extension of caregiver card validity to 5 years.*

## **HB 1152**

- *“Right to Try” Cannabis Act*



## **SB 2455**

- *Removal of THC Potency Caps on Cannabis Flower & Cannabis Concentrate Products*

## **SB 2546**

- *Extension of Resident patient card to 24 months*
- *Removal of mandatory 6-month follow-up visit*

## **SB 2438**

- *“Right to Try” Cannabis Act*

# Legislative Results & Attempts to Override

House Bills 895 and 1152 garnered more support than any previous medical cannabis reform legislation introduced in prior sessions, passing both chambers of the Legislature with unprecedented support. Despite this strong momentum, both measures were vetoed by Governor Tate Reeves on the final day allowed under law. A subsequent override attempt on Sunday, March 29, 2026, ultimately fell short in the Senate.

## House Bill 895

(Extension of patient and caregiver card validity periods, elimination of the mandatory 6-month follow-up visit, and removal of THC potency caps on tinctures, oils, and concentrates)

- Passed the House Business & Commerce Committee: **12-2**
- Passed the House floor: **98-11**
- Passed the Senate: **33-19** (nearly a two-thirds majority)
- Passed House concurrence: **106-3**

## House Bill 1152

("Right to Try" Cannabis Act, which originally focused on Mississippians with terminal or severely debilitating conditions not covered under the existing qualifying conditions list; an amendment was added in the Senate to extend eligibility to non-residents)

- Passed the House: **104-7**
- Passed the Senate: **34-17**

On March 29, 2026, the chairs of the originating committees in both chambers recommitted the bills in an effort to override the Governor's vetoes. While the House once again demonstrated overwhelming support, the Senate was unable to reach the necessary threshold, and the override effort was unsuccessful.

The veto messages issued by Governor Reeves cited concerns that the bills, particularly the amended version of HB 1152, could shift the program toward recreational use.

# Moving Forward

Although the vetoes of HB 895 and 1152 represent a temporary setback, I encourage you to view the 2026 session as a foundation-building layer. The fact that multiple priority bills advanced through both chambers of the Legislature with little vocalized opposition demonstrates a growing bipartisan recognition of the need for reform and positions us strongly for 2027.

We must not allow the momentum we've secured for this industry during the first part of the year to go to waste. The support we've achieved, both in the public and with those in positions of direct influence on our program. The year will provide more opportunities to make significant improvement to our program:

- **2026 Rulemaking** - 2026 rulemaking will provide 3MA the platform to advocate for tangible changes to the regulations, including addressing key issues our members face (uncertainty around events, limits on cultivators, etc.)
- **Grassroots Patient Mobilization** - The support we saw from patient advocacy groups and communities online was massive compared to previous sessions. This exemplifies that our priorities for 2026 were aligned with the wider audience of Cannabis users in MS, which should be noted for future sessions. By engaging with these groups through the summer/fall, we can begin to develop real grassroots movement towards longer-term goals of the industry.
- **Broader Legislative Support** - **It's important to remember that although not ultimately law, these bills did pass both chambers of the Mississippi Legislature, exposing broader support for this program that can be tapped into in future sessions.**
- **2027 State-wide Elections** - The results of the 2027 Gubernatorial election, among other key races (Leutenant Governor, Secretary of State) could present additional opportunities to grow and expand our influence as an industry.

# Conclusion

The 2026 Regular Session highlighted both the challenges and the clear path forward for Mississippi's medical cannabis program. Although House Bill 895 and House Bill 1152 were vetoed after passing the Legislature, the strong bipartisan support they received proves that meaningful reform is within reach.

These advocacy efforts have elevated the conversation around patient-centered improvements, reduced burdens on caregivers, and expanded access. While the specific changes were not enacted this year, the foundation we built positions the program for continued growth and improvement in the years ahead.

At 3MA, we remain the voice of the Mississippi cannabis industry. We are grateful to our members, patients, caregivers, and legislative partners for their support. Together, we will keep advocating for the priorities that will make Mississippi's medical cannabis program the strongest and most compassionate in the nation.

Thank you for standing with 3MA. The best days for this program are still ahead.

Respectfully,

Henry Crisler  
Executive Director  
Mississippi Medical Marijuana Association (3MA)

