

**HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 94(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/16/99

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): SENATOR LEMAN

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the medical use of marijuana; and providing for an effective  
2 date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 11.71 is amended by adding a new section to article 1 to read:

5 **Sec. 11.71.090. Affirmative defense to a prosecution under AS 11.71.030 -**

6 **11.71.060; medical use of marijuana.** (a) In a prosecution under AS 11.71.030 -

7 11.71.060 charging the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to

8 manufacture or deliver, use, or display of a schedule VIA controlled substance, it is

9 an affirmative defense that the defendant is a patient, or the primary caregiver or

10 alternate caregiver for a patient, and

11 (1) at the time of the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession

12 with intent to manufacture or deliver, use, or display, the patient was registered under

13 AS 17.37;

14 (2) the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to

1 manufacture, deliver, use, or display complied with the requirements of AS 17.37; and

2 (3) if the defendant is the

3 (A) primary caregiver of the patient, the defendant was in  
4 physical possession of the caregiver registry identification card at the time of  
5 the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to manufacture or  
6 deliver, use, or display; or

7 (B) alternate caregiver of the patient, the defendant was in  
8 physical possession of the caregiver registry identification card at the time of  
9 the manufacture, delivery, possession, possession with intent to manufacture or  
10 deliver, use, or display.

11 (b) In this section,

12 (1) "alternate caregiver" has the meaning given in AS 17.37.070;

13 (2) "patient" has the meaning given in AS 17.37.070;

14 (3) "primary caregiver" has the meaning given in AS 17.37.070.

15 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 11.71.190(b) is amended to read:

16 (b) Marijuana is a schedule VIA controlled substance [EXCEPT FOR  
17 MARIJUANA POSSESSED FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES UNDER AS 17.37].

18 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 17.37.010 is amended to read:

19 **Sec. 17.37.010. Registry of patients and listing of caregivers [PATIENTS].**

20 (a) The department shall create and maintain a confidential registry of patients who  
21 have applied for and are entitled to receive a registry identification card according to  
22 the criteria set out [FORTH] in this chapter. The registry must also contain the  
23 name of the primary caregiver and the name of the alternate caregiver of a  
24 patient, if either is designated by the patient. Only one primary caregiver and  
25 one alternate caregiver may be listed in the registry for a patient. The registry  
26 and the information contained within it are not a public record under  
27 AS 09.25.100 - 09.25.220. Peace officers and authorized employees of state or  
28 municipal [LOCAL] law enforcement agencies shall be granted access to the  
29 information contained within the department's confidential registry only

30 (1) for the purpose of verifying that an individual who [THAT] has  
31 presented a registry identification card to a state or municipal [LOCAL] law

1 enforcement official is lawfully in possession of such card; or

2 (2) for the purpose of determining that an individual who claims  
 3 to be lawfully engaged in the medical use of marijuana is registered or listed with  
 4 the department or is considered to be registered or listed under (g) of this section.

5 (b) Except as provided in (a) of this section, a [NO] person, other than  
 6 authorized employees of the department in the course of their official duties, may  
 7 not [SHALL] be permitted to gain access to names of patients, physicians, primary or  
 8 alternate caregivers, [CARE-GIVERS] or any information related to such persons  
 9 maintained in connection with the department's confidential registry [, EXCEPT FOR  
 10 AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF  
 11 THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES AND AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF STATE OR  
 12 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WHO HAVE STOPPED OR  
 13 ARRESTED A PERSON WHO CLAIMS TO BE ENGAGED IN THE MEDICAL  
 14 USE OF MARIJUANA AND IN THE POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY  
 15 IDENTIFICATION CARD OR ITS FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENT PURSUANT TO  
 16 (e) OF THIS SECTION].

17 (c) In order to be placed on the state's confidential registry for the medical use  
 18 [USES] of marijuana, an adult [A] patient or a parent or guardian of a minor  
 19 patient shall provide to the department

20 (1) a statement signed by the patient's physician

21 (A) stating that the physician personally examined the  
 22 patient and that the examination took place in the context of a bona fide  
 23 physician-patient relationship and setting out the date the examination  
 24 occurred;

25 (B) [THE ORIGINAL OR A COPY OF WRITTEN  
 26 DOCUMENTATION] stating that the patient has been diagnosed with a  
 27 debilitating medical condition; and

28 (C) stating that the physician has considered other approved  
 29 medications and treatments that might provide relief, [AND THE  
 30 PHYSICIAN'S CONCLUSION] that are reasonably available to the patient,  
 31 and that can be tolerated by the patient, and that the physician has

1 concluded that the patient might benefit from the medical use of marijuana;

2 (2) a sworn application on a form provided by the department  
3 containing the following information:

4 (A) the name, address, date of birth, and Alaska driver's  
5 license or identification card [SOCIAL SECURITY] number of the patient;

6 (B) [(3)] the name, address, and telephone number of the  
7 patient's physician; and

8 (C) [(4)] the name, [AND] address, date of birth, and Alaska  
9 driver's license or identification card number of the patient's primary  
10 caregiver and alternate caregiver [CARE-GIVER,] if either [ONE] is  
11 designated at the time of application, along with the statements required  
12 under (d) of this section; and

13 (3) if the patient is a minor, a statement by the minor's parent or  
14 guardian that the patient's physician has explained the possible risks and benefits  
15 of medical use of marijuana and that the parent or guardian consents to serve as  
16 the primary caregiver for the patient and to control the acquisition, possession,  
17 dosage, and frequency of use of marijuana by the patient.

18 (d) A person may be listed under this section as the primary caregiver or  
19 alternate caregiver for a patient if the person submits a sworn statement on a  
20 form provided by the department that the person

21 (1) is at least 21 years of age;

22 (2) has never been convicted of a felony offense under AS 11.71 or  
23 AS 11.73 or a law or ordinance of another jurisdiction with elements similar to  
24 an offense under AS 11.71 or AS 11.73; and

25 (3) is not currently on probation or parole from this or another  
26 jurisdiction.

27 (e) A person may be a primary caregiver or alternate caregiver for only  
28 one patient at a time unless the primary caregiver or alternate caregiver is  
29 simultaneously caring for two or more patients who are related to the caregiver  
30 by at least the fourth degree of kinship by blood or marriage.

31 (f) The department shall review the application and [VERIFY] all

1 information submitted under (c) **and (d)** of this section within 30 days of receiving it.  
 2 The department shall notify the **patient** [APPLICANT] that **the patient's** [HIS OR  
 3 HER] application for a registry identification card has been denied if **the department's**  
 4 [ITS] review of the information **that** [WHICH] the patient has provided discloses that  
 5 the information required **under** [PURSUANT TO] (c) of this section has not been  
 6 provided or has been falsified **or that the patient is not otherwise qualified to be**  
 7 **registered. If the department determines that the primary caregiver or alternate**  
 8 **caregiver is not qualified under this section to be a primary caregiver or alternate**  
 9 **caregiver, or if the information required under this section has not been provided**  
 10 **or has been falsified, the department shall notify the patient of that determination**  
 11 **and shall proceed to review the patient's application as if a primary caregiver or**  
 12 **alternate caregiver was not designated. The patient may amend the application**  
 13 **and designate a new primary caregiver or alternate caregiver at any time. The**  
 14 **department may not list a newly designated primary caregiver or alternate**  
 15 **caregiver until it determines that the newly designated primary caregiver or**  
 16 **alternate caregiver is qualified under this section and that the information**  
 17 **required under this section has been provided.** Otherwise, not more than five days  
 18 after verifying **the** [SUCH] information, the department shall issue a [SERIALLY  
 19 NUMBERED] registry identification card to the patient, **and, if a primary caregiver**  
 20 **for a patient has been listed in the registry, the department shall issue to the**  
 21 **patient a duplicate of the patient's card clearly identified as the caregiver registry**  
 22 **identification card,** stating

23 (1) the patient's name, address, date of birth, and **Alaska driver's**  
 24 **license or identification card** [SOCIAL SECURITY] number;

25 (2) that the **patient is registered with the department** [PATIENT'S  
 26 NAME HAS BEEN CERTIFIED TO THE STATE HEALTH AGENCY] as a person  
 27 who has a debilitating medical condition **that** [WHICH] the patient may address with  
 28 the medical use of marijuana;

29 (3) the dates of issuance and expiration of the registry identification  
 30 card; and

31 (4) the name, [AND] address, **date of birth, and Alaska driver's**

1 license or identification card number of the patient's primary caregiver and  
 2 alternate caregiver [CARE-GIVER], if either [ANY] is designated [AT THE TIME  
 3 OF APPLICATION].

4 (g) [(e)] If the department fails to deny the application and issue a registry  
 5 identification card within 35 days of receipt of an application, the patient's application  
 6 for the [SUCH] card is considered [WILL BE DEEMED] to have been approved.  
 7 Receipt of an application shall be considered [DEEMED] to have occurred upon  
 8 delivery to the department [OR DEPOSIT IN THE UNITED STATES MAIL].  
 9 Notwithstanding this subsection, an [THE FOREGOING, NO] application may not  
 10 [SHALL] be considered to have been [DEEMED] received before [PRIOR TO]  
 11 June 1, 1999. If the department subsequently registers a patient or lists a primary  
 12 caregiver or alternate caregiver, if either is designated, or denies the application  
 13 or listing, that registration or listing or denial revokes the approval that is  
 14 considered to have occurred under this subsection.

15 (h) A patient or a primary caregiver who is questioned by a [ANY] state or  
 16 municipal [LOCAL] law enforcement official about the patient's or primary  
 17 caregiver's [HIS OR HER] medical use of marijuana shall immediately show proper  
 18 identification to the official and inform the official that the person is a registered  
 19 patient or listed primary caregiver for a registered patient and either show the  
 20 official (1) the person's registry identification card, or (2) [PROVIDE] a copy of  
 21 an application that has been pending without registration or denial for over 35  
 22 days since received by [THE WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED TO] the  
 23 department and proof of the date of [MAILING OR OTHER TRANSMISSION OF  
 24 THE WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION FOR] delivery to the department, which shall  
 25 be accorded the same legal effect as a registry identification card [,] until the patient  
 26 receives actual notice that the application has been denied.

27 (i) A [NO] person may not [SHALL] apply for a registry identification card  
 28 more than once every six months.

29 (j) [(f)] The denial or revocation of a registry identification card or the  
 30 removal of a patient from the registry or the listing of a caregiver shall be  
 31 considered a final agency action subject to judicial review. Only the patient, or the

1 **parent or guardian of a patient who is a minor, has** [WHOSE APPLICATION HAS  
2 BEEN DENIED SHALL HAVE] standing to contest the final agency action.

3 (k) [(g)] When there has been a change in the name, address, **or** physician [,  
4 OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER] of a patient who has qualified for a registry  
5 identification card, **or a change in the name or address of the patient's primary**  
6 **caregiver or alternate caregiver**, that patient must notify the **department** [STATE  
7 HEALTH AGENCY] of **the** [ANY SUCH] change within 10 days. To maintain an  
8 effective registry identification card, a patient must annually resubmit updated written  
9 documentation, **including a statement signed by the patient's physician containing**  
10 **the information required to be submitted under (c)(1) of this section**, to the  
11 **department** [STATE HEALTH AGENCY], as well as the name and address of the  
12 patient's primary **caregiver or alternate caregiver** [CARE-GIVER], if any.

13 (l) [(h)] A patient who no longer has a debilitating medical condition **and the**  
14 **patient's primary caregiver, if any**, shall return **all** [HIS OR HER] registry  
15 identification **cards** [CARD] to the department within 24 hours of receiving **the**  
16 [SUCH] diagnosis by **the patient's** [HIS OR HER] physician.

17 (m) **A copy of a registry identification card is not valid. A registry**  
18 **identification card is not valid if the card has been altered, mutilated in a way**  
19 **that impairs its legibility, or laminated.**

20 (n) **The department may revoke a patient's registration if the department**  
21 **determines that the patient has violated a provision of this chapter or AS 11.71.**

22 (o) **The department may remove a primary caregiver or alternate**  
23 **caregiver from the registry if the department determines that the primary**  
24 **caregiver or alternate caregiver is not qualified to be listed or has violated a**  
25 **provision of this chapter or AS 11.71.**

26 (p) [(i)] The department may determine and levy reasonable fees to pay for  
27 any administrative costs associated with **its** [THEIR] role in **administering this**  
28 **chapter** [THIS PROGRAM].

29 (q) **A primary caregiver may only act as the primary caregiver for the**  
30 **patient when the primary caregiver is in physical possession of the caregiver**  
31 **registry identification card. An alternate caregiver may only act as the primary**

1 caregiver for the patient when the alternate caregiver is in physical possession of  
 2 the caregiver registry identification card.

3 (r) The department may not register a patient under this section unless  
 4 the statement of the patient's physician discloses that the patient was personally  
 5 examined by the physician within the 16-month period immediately preceding the  
 6 patient's application. The department shall cancel, suspend, revoke or not renew  
 7 the registration of a patient whose annual resubmission of updated written  
 8 documentation to the department under (k) of this section does not disclose that  
 9 the patient was personally examined by the patient's physician within the 16-  
 10 month period immediately preceding the date by which the patient is required to  
 11 annually resubmit written documentation.

12 \* Sec. 4. AS 17.37.030 is amended to read:

13 Sec. 17.37.030. Privileged medical use of marijuana. (a) A patient,  
 14 primary caregiver, or alternate caregiver registered with the department under  
 15 this chapter has an affirmative defense to a criminal prosecution related to  
 16 marijuana to the extent provided in AS 11.71.090 [EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE  
 17 PROVIDED IN AS 17.37.040, NO PATIENT OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER MAY  
 18 BE FOUND GUILTY OF, OR PENALIZED IN ANY MANNER FOR, A  
 19 VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF LAW RELATED TO THE MEDICAL USE  
 20 OF MARIJUANA, WHERE IT IS PROVED BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE  
 21 EVIDENCE THAT

22 (1) THE PATIENT WAS DIAGNOSED BY A PHYSICIAN  
 23 AS HAVING A DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION;

24 (2) THE PATIENT WAS ADVISED BY HIS OR HER PHYSICIAN,  
 25 IN THE CONTEXT OF A BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP,  
 26 THAT THE PATIENT MIGHT BENEFIT FROM THE MEDICAL USE OF  
 27 MARIJUANA IN CONNECTION WITH A DEBILITATING MEDICAL  
 28 CONDITION; AND

29 (3) THE PATIENT AND HIS OR HER PRIMARY CARE-GIVER  
 30 WERE COLLECTIVELY IN POSSESSION OF AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA ONLY  
 31 AS PERMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION].

1 (b) Except as otherwise provided **by law, a person is not** [IN AS 17.37.040,  
 2 NO PATIENT OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER IN LAWFUL POSSESSION OF A  
 3 REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD SHALL BE] subject to arrest, prosecution, or  
 4 penalty in any manner for [MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA OR FOR] applying to  
 5 have **the person's** [HIS OR HER] name placed on the confidential **registry**  
 6 [REGISTER] maintained by the department **under AS 17.37.010**.

7 (c) **A** [NO] physician **is not** [SHALL BE] subject to any penalty, including  
 8 arrest, prosecution, **or** disciplinary proceeding, or **denial of** [BE DENIED] any right  
 9 or privilege, for

10 (1) advising a patient whom the physician has diagnosed as having a  
 11 debilitating medical condition [,] about the risks and benefits of medical use of  
 12 marijuana or that **the patient** [HE OR SHE] might benefit from the medical use of  
 13 marijuana [,] provided that **the** [SUCH] advice is based upon the physician's  
 14 contemporaneous assessment **in the context of a bona fide physician-patient**  
 15 **relationship** of

16 (A) the patient's medical history and current medical condition;

17 **and**

18 (B) **other approved medications and treatments that might**  
 19 **provide relief and that are reasonably available to the patient and that can**  
 20 **be tolerated by the patient** [AND A BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT  
 21 RELATIONSHIP]; or

22 (2) providing a patient with **a written statement in an application for**  
 23 **registration under AS 17.37.010** [WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION, BASED UPON  
 24 THE PHYSICIAN'S CONTEMPORANEOUS ASSESSMENT OF THE PATIENT'S  
 25 MEDICAL HISTORY AND CURRENT MEDICAL CONDITION AND A BONA  
 26 FIDE PHYSICIAN-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP, STATING THAT THE PATIENT  
 27 HAS A DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION AND MIGHT BENEFIT FROM  
 28 THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA].

29 (d) Notwithstanding the [FOREGOING] provisions **of this section, a** [, NO]  
 30 person, including a patient, [OR] primary **caregiver, or alternate caregiver, is not**  
 31 [CARE-GIVER, SHALL BE] entitled to the protection of this **chapter** [SECTION] for

1 **the person's** [HIS OR HER] acquisition, possession, cultivation, use, sale, distribution,  
 2 **or** [AND/OR] transportation of marijuana for **nonmedical** [NON-MEDICAL] use.

3 [(e) ANY PROPERTY INTEREST THAT IS POSSESSED, OWNED, OR  
 4 USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA, OR ACTS  
 5 INCIDENTAL TO SUCH USE, SHALL NOT BE HARMED, NEGLECTED,  
 6 INJURED, OR DESTROYED WHILE IN THE POSSESSION OF STATE OR  
 7 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WHERE SUCH PROPERTY HAS  
 8 BEEN SEIZED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CLAIMED MEDICAL USE OF  
 9 MARIJUANA. ANY SUCH PROPERTY INTEREST SHALL NOT BE FORFEITED  
 10 UNDER ANY PROVISION OF STATE OR LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR THE  
 11 FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY OTHER THAN AS A SENTENCE IMPOSED  
 12 AFTER CONVICTION OF A CRIMINAL OFFENSE OR ENTRY OF A PLEA OF  
 13 GUILTY TO SUCH OFFENSE. MARIJUANA AND PARAPHERNALIA SEIZED  
 14 BY STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS FROM A PATIENT  
 15 OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER IN CONNECTION WITH THE CLAIMED MEDICAL  
 16 USE OF MARIJUANA SHALL BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY UPON THE  
 17 DETERMINATION THAT THE PATIENT OR PRIMARY CARE-GIVER IS  
 18 ENTITLED TO THE PROTECTION CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION AS MAY BE  
 19 EVIDENCED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY A DECISION NOT TO PROSECUTE, THE  
 20 DISMISSAL OF CHARGES, OR ACQUITTAL.]

21 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 17.37.040 is amended to read:

22 **Sec. 17.37.040. Restrictions on medical use of marijuana.** (a) A [NO]  
 23 patient, **primary caregiver, or alternate caregiver may not** [IN LAWFUL  
 24 POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD SHALL]

25 (1) engage in the medical use of marijuana in a way that endangers the  
 26 health or well-being of any person;

27 (2) engage in the medical use of marijuana in plain view of, or in a  
 28 place open to, the general public; **this paragraph does not prohibit a patient or**  
 29 **primary caregiver from possessing marijuana in a place open to the general**  
 30 **public if**

31 **(A) the person possesses, in a closed container carried on the**

1 person, one ounce or less of marijuana in usable form;

2 (B) the marijuana is not visible to anyone other than the  
3 patient or primary caregiver; and

4 (C) the possession is limited to that necessary to transport  
5 the marijuana directly to the patient or primary caregiver or directly to  
6 a place where the patient or primary caregiver may lawfully possess or use  
7 the marijuana; [OR]

8 (3) sell or distribute marijuana to any person, except that a patient  
9 may deliver marijuana to the patient's primary caregiver and a primary caregiver  
10 may deliver marijuana to the patient for whom the caregiver is listed; or

11 (4) possess in the aggregate more than

12 (A) one ounce of marijuana in usable form; and

13 (B) six marijuana plants, with no more than three mature  
14 and flowering plants producing usable marijuana at any one time [WHO  
15 IS KNOWN TO THE PATIENT NOT TO BE EITHER IN LAWFUL  
16 POSSESSION OF A REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD OR ELIGIBLE  
17 FOR SUCH CARD].

18 (b) Any patient found by a preponderance of the evidence to have knowingly  
19 [WILLFULLY] violated the provisions of this chapter shall be precluded from  
20 obtaining or using a registry identification card for the medical use of marijuana for  
21 a period of one year. In this subsection, "knowingly" has the meaning given in  
22 AS 11.81.900.

23 (c) A [NO] governmental, private, or [ANY] other health insurance provider  
24 is not [SHALL BE REQUIRED TO BE] liable for any claim for reimbursement for  
25 expenses associated with [THE] medical use of marijuana.

26 (d) Nothing in this chapter requires [SECTION SHALL REQUIRE] any  
27 accommodation of any medical use of marijuana

28 (1) in any place of employment;

29 (2) in any correctional facility, medical facility, or facility monitored  
30 by the department or the Department of Administration;

31 (3) on or within 500 feet of school grounds;

1 (4) at or within 500 feet of a recreation or youth center; or

2 (5) on a school bus.

3 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 17.37.060 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 17.37.060. Addition of debilitating medical conditions.** Not later than  
 5 **90 days after the effective date of this Act** [JUNE 1, 1999], the department shall  
 6 **adopt** [PROMULGATE] regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act)  
 7 governing the manner in which it may consider adding debilitating medical conditions  
 8 to the list provided in **AS 17.37.070** [THIS SECTION]. After **the adoption of the**  
 9 **regulations** [JUNE 1, 1999], the department shall also accept for consideration  
 10 physician or patient initiated petitions to add debilitating medical conditions to the list  
 11 provided in **AS 17.37.070** [THIS SECTION] and, after hearing, shall approve or deny  
 12 **the** [SUCH] petitions within 180 days of submission. The denial of [SUCH] a petition  
 13 shall be considered a final agency action subject to judicial review.

14 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 17.37.070 is amended to read:

15 **Sec. 17.37.070. Definitions.** In this chapter, unless the context clearly requires  
 16 otherwise,

17 (1) **"alternate caregiver" means a person who is listed as an**  
 18 **alternate caregiver under AS 17.37.010;**

19 (2) **"bona fide physician-patient relationship" means that the**  
 20 **physician obtained a patient history, performed an in-person physical examination**  
 21 **of the patient, and documented written findings, diagnoses, recommendations, and**  
 22 **prescriptions in written patient medical records maintained by the physician;**

23 (3) **"correctional facility" has the meaning given in AS 33.30.901**  
 24 [MEANS A STATE PRISON INSTITUTION OPERATED AND MANAGED BY  
 25 EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS OR PROVIDED TO  
 26 THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS BY AGREEMENT UNDER AS 33.30.031  
 27 FOR THE CARE, CONFINEMENT OR DISCIPLINE OF PRISONERS];

28 (4) [(2)] **"debilitating medical condition" means**

29 (A) cancer, glaucoma, positive status for human  
 30 immunodeficiency virus, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or treatment  
 31 for any of these conditions;

1 (B) any chronic or debilitating disease or treatment for such  
 2 diseases, which produces, for a specific patient, one or more of the following,  
 3 and for which, in the professional opinion of the patient's physician, such  
 4 condition or conditions reasonably may be alleviated by the medical use of  
 5 marijuana: cachexia; severe pain; severe nausea; seizures, including those that  
 6 are characteristic of epilepsy; or persistent muscle spasms, including those that  
 7 are characteristic of multiple sclerosis; or

8 (C) any other medical condition, or treatment for such  
 9 condition, approved by the department, **under** [PURSUANT TO ITS  
 10 AUTHORITY TO PROMULGATE] regulations **adopted under AS 17.37.060**  
 11 or [ITS] approval of **a** [ANY] petition submitted [BY A PATIENT OR  
 12 PHYSICIAN] under AS 17.37.060;

13 **(5)** [(3)] "department" means the Department of Health and Social  
 14 Services;

15 **(6)** "**facility monitored by the department or the Department of**  
 16 **Administration**" means an institution, building, office, or home operated by the  
 17 **department or the Department of Administration, funded by the department or**  
 18 **the Department of Administration, under contract with the department or the**  
 19 **Department of Administration, inspected by the department or the Department**  
 20 **of Administration, designated by the department or the Department of**  
 21 **Administration, or licensed by the department or the Department of**  
 22 **Administration, for the care of**

23 **(A) juveniles; for the purposes of this subparagraph,**  
 24 **"institution" includes a foster home and a group home, and a juvenile**  
 25 **detention facility; a juvenile detention home, a juvenile work camp, and a**  
 26 **treatment facility, as those terms are defined in AS 47.14.990;**

27 **(B) the elderly; for the purposes of this subparagraph,**  
 28 **"institution" includes an assisted living home as defined in AS 47.33.990**  
 29 **and a Pioneers' Home operated under AS 47.55;**

30 **(C) the mentally ill; for the purposes of this subparagraph,**  
 31 **"institution" includes a designated treatment facility and an evaluation**

1 **facility, as those terms are defined in AS 47.30.915;**

2 **(7) "medical facility" means an institution, building, office, or home**  
 3 **providing medical services, and includes a hospital, clinic, physician's office, or**  
 4 **health facility as defined in AS 47.07.900, and a facility providing hospice care or**  
 5 **rehabilitative services, as those terms are defined in AS 47.07.900;**

6 **(8) [(4)] "medical use" means the acquisition, possession, cultivation,**  
 7 **use or [AND/OR] transportation of marijuana or [AND/OR] paraphernalia related to**  
 8 **the administration of [SUCH] marijuana to alleviate [ADDRESS THE SYMPTOMS**  
 9 **OR EFFECTS OF] a debilitating medical condition under the provisions of this**  
 10 **chapter and AS 11.71.090 [ONLY AFTER A PHYSICIAN HAS AUTHORIZED**  
 11 **SUCH MEDICAL USE BY A DIAGNOSIS OF THE PATIENT'S DEBILITATING**  
 12 **MEDICAL CONDITION];**

13 **(9) [(5)] "patient" means a person who has a debilitating medical**  
 14 **condition;**

15 **(10) [(6)] "physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine in**  
 16 **this state or an officer in the regular medical service of the armed forces of the United**  
 17 **States or the United States Public Health Service while in the discharge of their official**  
 18 **duties, or while volunteering services without pay or other remuneration to a hospital,**  
 19 **clinic, medical office, or other medical facility in this state;**

20 **(11) [(7)] "primary caregiver [CARE-GIVER]" means a person listed**  
 21 **as a primary caregiver under AS 17.37.010 and in physical possession of a**  
 22 **caregiver registry identification card; "primary caregiver" also includes an**  
 23 **alternate caregiver when the alternate caregiver is in physical possession of the**  
 24 **caregiver registry identification card [, OTHER THAN THE PATIENT'S**  
 25 **PHYSICIAN, WHO IS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND HAS SIGNIFICANT**  
 26 **RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGING THE WELL-BEING OF A PATIENT WHO**  
 27 **HAS A DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION];**

28 **(12) [(8)] "PRISONER" MEANS A PERSON DETAINED OR**  
 29 **CONFINED IN A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, WHETHER BY ARREST,**  
 30 **CONVICTION, OR COURT ORDER, OR A PERSON HELD AS A WITNESS OR**  
 31 **OTHERWISE, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL PRISONERS HELD UNDER CONTRACT**

1 AND JUVENILES HELD UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF AS 47.10;

2 (9) "REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD" MEANS A DOCUMENT  
3 ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT WHICH IDENTIFIES A PATIENT  
4 AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE IN THE MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA AND THE  
5 PATIENT'S PRIMARY CARE-GIVER, IF ANY;

6 (10) "Usable form" and "usable marijuana" means the seeds, leaves,  
7 buds, and flowers of the plant (genus) cannabis, but does not include the stalks or roots  
8 [;

9 (11) "WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION" MEANS A STATEMENT  
10 SIGNED BY A PATIENT'S PHYSICIAN OR COPIES OF THE PATIENT'S  
11 PERTINENT MEDICAL RECORDS].

12 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 17.37.020 and 17.37.050 are repealed.

13 \* **Sec. 9.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).