

HOUSE BILL 1655

J1

7lr2829

By: **Delegate Jalisi**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 7, 2017

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Medical Cannabis – Certifying Providers – Written Certifications**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “written certification”, for purposes of certain
4 provisions of law governing medical cannabis, to require that a written certification
5 issued by a certifying provider to a certain qualifying patient include a certain
6 recommendation on the amount of medical cannabis that would be necessary to meet
7 the medical needs of the qualifying patient; and generally relating to certifying
8 providers, written certifications, and medical cannabis.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Health – General
11 Section 13–3301(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Health – General
16 Section 13–3301(n)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)
19 (As enacted by Chapter 474 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
21 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article – Health – General**

23 13–3301.

24 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (n) “Written certification” means a certification that:

2 (1) Is issued by a certifying provider to a qualifying patient with whom the
3 provider has a bona fide provider–patient relationship; and

4 (2) Includes a written statement certifying that, in the provider’s
5 professional opinion, after having completed an assessment of the patient’s medical history
6 and current medical condition, the patient has a condition:

7 (i) That meets the inclusion criteria and does not meet the exclusion
8 criteria of the certifying provider’s application; and

9 (ii) For which the potential benefits of the medical use of cannabis
10 would likely outweigh the health risks for the patient; and

11 (3) [May include] **INCLUDES** a written [statement certifying that]
12 **RECOMMENDATION**, [in] **BASED ON** the provider’s professional opinion, [a 30–day supply
13 of] **ON THE AMOUNT OF** medical cannabis **THAT** would be [inadequate] **NECESSARY** to
14 meet the medical needs of the qualifying patient.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2017.