

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**

**HB 190**

**2022 Regular Session**

**Travis Johnson**

MEDICAL MARIJUANA: Authorizes certain nurse practitioners to recommend medical marijuana to patients

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Authorizes medical psychologists to recommend medical marijuana to patients.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present law authorizes licensed physicians to recommend marijuana for therapeutic use, known commonly as "medical marijuana", by patients clinically diagnosed as suffering from any debilitating medical condition defined in present law. Proposed law revises present law to authorize medical psychologists and licensed nurse practitioners who have prescriptive authority, in addition to licensed physicians, to recommend medical marijuana to patients.

Proposed law replaces "physician" with the term "authorized clinician" in present law relative to medical marijuana. Provides that all of the following licensed health professionals are authorized to recommend medical marijuana to patients and shall be deemed "authorized clinicians":

- (1) Any physician licensed by and in good standing with the La. State Board of Medical Examiners to practice medicine in this state.
- (2) Any nurse practitioner licensed by and in good standing with the La. State Board of Nursing to practice advanced practice registered nursing in this state and who has prescriptive authority conferred by the La. State Board of Nursing.
- (3) Any medical psychologist licensed by and in good standing with the La. State Board of Medical Examiners to practice medical psychology in this state.

Proposed law, to conform relevant provisions of present law with proposed law, revises references to health professionals who may recommend medical marijuana in the following areas of present law:

- (1) Law providing immunity from prosecution for possession of marijuana (R.S. 40:966(F)).
- (2) Law providing for a data system for the collection and analysis of clinical information associated with use of medical marijuana by patients (R.S. 40:1168.1 et seq.).

(Amends R.S. 40:966(F)(1), (7), and (8)(a), 1046(A)(1), (2)(a)(xviii), (xxii), and (b), (3), (4), (5)(b), (6), and (C)(1), 1168.2(2)-(5), and 1168.3(A)(1)(b)(iii), (iv), and (2)(b); Adds R.S. 40:1046(B))