## **DIGEST**

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HB 768 Original

2022 Regular Session

Marino

**Abstract:** Increases the total number of therapeutic marijuana pharmacy licenses the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy can issue and provides criteria for the selection of applicants receiving any new licenses.

<u>Present law</u> limits the number of therapeutic marijuana pharmacy licenses issued by the La. Bd. of Pharmacy to 10.

<u>Proposed law</u> increases the number of licenses provided in <u>present law from 10 to 25</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the La. Bd. of Pharmacy to develop rules for issuing new licenses based on a minimum criterion of the following:

- (1) Applicants who have resided within the state for at least five years prior to the date of application or applicants who have owned property on which the pharmacy will be located and have at least 51% ownership in the property for at least five years prior to the date of application for a license.
- (2) Prohibits a licensee from selling or transferring their license to another person that has not been a Louisiana resident for at least five years prior to the sale or transfer or to an entity that does not have an ownership group made up of at least 51% of La. residents residing in the state at least five years prior to the sale or transfer.
- (3) Any licensee receiving a license issued after Aug. 1, 2022 is prohibited from dispensing any marijuana product for therapeutic use prior to Jan. 1, 2023.

<u>Proposed law</u> directs the La. Bd. of Pharmacy to begin accepting applications for new licenses after 60 days from when proposed law becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 40:1046(G))