

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 351

BY REPRESENTATIVES LANDRY AND TRAVIS JOHNSON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA: Provides relative to a recommendation of medical marijuana in employment

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 23:1601.1, relative to medical marijuana recommendations in employment;
3 to prohibit disqualification from certain employee benefits; to allow an exception to
4 the disqualification of unemployment benefits for a recommendation for medical
5 marijuana; to provide definitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 23:1601.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1601.1. Disqualification of benefits; exceptions

9 A. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms have the meanings
10 ascribed to them:

11 (1) "Qualifying medical marijuana patient" means an individual who has
12 been clinically diagnosed as suffering from a debilitating medical condition and an
13 authorized clinician has recommended marijuana for therapeutic use by the
14 individual in accordance with R.S. 40:1046.

15 (2) "Recommendation" means a recommendation for medical marijuana, as
16 defined by R.S. 40:1046, and which shall be considered a legitimate medical purpose
17 and equivalent to a medical prescription.

18 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a qualifying
19 medical marijuana patient who receives a recommendation shall not be disqualified
20 for unemployment benefits.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 351 Engrossed

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Landry

Abstract: Provides relative to a recommendation of medical marijuana in employment.

Proposed law defines "qualifying medical marijuana patient" and "recommendation".

Proposed law provides that a qualifying medical marijuana patient who receives a recommendation from an authorized clinician to use marijuana for a therapeutic use shall not be disqualified for unemployment compensation benefits.

(Adds R.S. 23:1601.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations to the original bill:

1. Make title and technical changes.
2. Remove the workers' compensation provisions from proposed law.