
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. In 2000, the legislature found that modern
2 medical research had discovered a beneficial use for marijuana
3 in treating or alleviating the pain or other symptoms associated
4 with certain debilitating illnesses, but also recognized the
5 need to regulate such use, for the health and welfare of our
6 citizens. As a result, regulation of the medical use of
7 marijuana was enacted into law in 2000 in Act 228, Session Laws
8 of Hawaii 2000, and codified in part IX, chapter 329, Hawaii
9 Revised Statutes (HRS).

10 In its mission statement, the Food and Drug Administration
11 (FDA) declares that its goal is to speed along innovations that
12 make foods and medicines more effective, safer, and more
13 affordable. However, the FDA does not seem to have offered much
14 information on the use of medical marijuana to improve our
15 health. As a result, states have taken the initiative to find
16 evidence to support the proposition that certain diseases and
17 conditions may respond favorably to medically-controlled use of
18 marijuana.



1 The legislature finds that further research on the medical
2 efficacy of marijuana is in the best interests of the state and
3 the state's medical marijuana patients.

4 Marijuana is currently classified as a schedule I
5 controlled substance pursuant to section 329-14, HRS, which is a
6 category designated for substances that have no medical value.
7 This neither reflects the results of scientific research, past
8 legislative action, nor the medical marijuana laws in at least
9 eleven other states, and the legislature finds that it may be
10 worth considering changing its classification to a schedule III
11 controlled substance.

12 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
13 University of Hawaii to study the medical efficacy of marijuana
14 in its various forms of delivery, including the reclassification
15 of medical marijuana as a schedule III controlled substance.

16 SECTION 2. The University of Hawaii shall perform a study
17 on the medical efficacy of marijuana in its various forms of
18 delivery, including the reclassification of medical marijuana as
19 a schedule III controlled substance.

20 The various forms of delivery of medical marijuana to be
21 studied shall include: vaporizing, sublingual tinctures,
22 topical ointments, edibles, and smoking.



1 The University of Hawaii shall submit a report of its
2 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
3 legislation, to the legislature no more than twenty days prior
4 to the convening of the regular session of 2009.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for a
8 study on the medical efficacy of marijuana pursuant to section 2
9 of this Act.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
11 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

13

INTRODUCED BY: *Calvin K. Au*

BY REQUEST

JAN 22 2008



Report Title:

Medical Efficacy of Marijuana; Study

Description:

Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii to study the medical efficacy of marijuana.

