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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the term "marijuana"  
2 originated as a slang term to describe the genus of plants that  
3 is scientifically known as cannabis. "Marijuana" has no  
4 scientific basis but carries prejudicial implications rooted in  
5 racial stereotypes from the early twentieth century era when  
6 cannabis use was first criminalized in the United States. The  
7 term "cannabis" carries no such negative connotations and is a  
8 more accurate and appropriate term to describe a plant that has  
9 been legalized for medicinal use in Hawaii, twenty-seven other  
10 states, the District of Columbia, and the United States  
11 territories of Guam and Puerto Rico.

12           The legislature further finds that all references to  
13 "medical marijuana" and "medical use of marijuana" contained in  
14 the Hawaii Revised Statutes and Hawaii Administrative Rules  
15 should be amended to instead refer to "medical cannabis."

16           SECTION 2. All references to "medical marijuana," "medical  
17 use of marijuana," "manufactured marijuana products" and like



1 terms, as the case may be, in chapter 329D, part IX of chapter  
2 329, and sections 46-4, 201-13.9, 209E-2, 235-2.4, 237-24.3,  
3 304A-1865, 321-30.1, 421J-16, 453-1.3, 514A-88.5, 514B-113, 521-  
4 39, and 846-2.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be amended to  
5 "medical cannabis," "medical use of cannabis," "manufactured  
6 cannabis products" or like terms, as the case may be, as the  
7 context requires.

8 SECTION 3. By operation of law, title 11 of the Hawaii  
9 Administrative Rules shall be construed as having been amended  
10 in conformance with section 2 of this Act.

11 SECTION 4. The department of health shall revise all  
12 documents, letterhead, websites, and other necessary items to  
13 conform with section 2 of this Act as the documents, letterhead,  
14 websites, and other necessary items otherwise require revision,  
15 replacement, or reprinting; provided that all conforming  
16 revisions shall be completed by December 31, 2019.

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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**Report Title:**

Medical Marijuana; Medical Cannabis; Change of Terminology

**Description:**

Amends Hawaii Revised Statutes and Hawaii Administrative Rules to substitute references to "medical marijuana" and like terms with "medical cannabis" and like terms. Requires the department of health to make all conforming revisions to documents, letterhead, websites, and other necessary items by December 31, 2019. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

