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Testimony of Rep. David Boyer introducing

L.D. 1038, An Act to Increase the Maximum Term of a Medical Cannabis Written Certification to 2 Years

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

March 24, 2025

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and esteemed colleagues of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is David Boyer, and I am proud to present L.D. 1038, An Act to Increase the Maximum Term of a Medical Cannabis Written Certification to 2 Years.

For many patients, medical cannabis is a vital tool for managing conditions such as chronic pain, epilepsy, cancer-related symptoms, and PTSD. The current requirement to renew registration annually creates an undue hardship, both financially and logistically.

Patients must schedule appointments with healthcare providers, pay associated fees, and navigate the renewal process every year—tasks that can be especially challenging for those with limited mobility, financial resources, or access to transportation. Extending the registration period to two years would ease these burdens, allowing patients to focus on their health rather than paperwork.

Medical cannabis remains excluded from insurance coverage, leaving patients to bear the full cost, compounded by a 5.5% sales tax—or 8% for edibles—on every purchase. This financial burden adds an extra layer of strain for those already managing chronic conditions. A two-year cycle respects the chronic nature of these conditions while maintaining accountability within the program. Patients deserve a system that works for them, not one that imposes unnecessary obstacles to their care.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.