By Senator Powell

30-01864-20 20201810

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to medical cannabis patients; providing a short title; providing legislative intent; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; specifying that a qualified patient's medical use of cannabis does not constitute the use of an illicit substance for purposes of medical care; prohibiting a qualified patient's disqualification from any medical treatment or therapy solely on the basis of his or her medical use of cannabis; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act."

Section 2. The intent of the Legislature is to establish protections from adverse actions for registered patients using medical marijuana under Article X of the State Constitution.

These patients should not be denied medical treatment, such as organ transplantation or pain management, or prevented from receiving other medically approved therapies because they have engaged in a therapy authorized by the Constitution and laws of this state.

Section 3. Present subsection (17) of section 381.986, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (18), and a new subsection (17) is added to that section, to read:

381.986 Medical use of marijuana.-

(17) DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PATIENTS PROHIBITED.—For the purposes of medical care, a qualified patient's medical use of

30-01864-20 20201810 30 cannabis does not constitute the use of an illicit substance and 31 may not be used as the sole basis for disqualification from any medical treatment or therapy, including, but not limited to, 32 33 organ transplantation and pain management. 34 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.