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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/04/2017	.	
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The Committee on Health Policy (Bradley) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 1011 and 1012

insert:

Section 5. Section 1004.4351, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.4351 Medical marijuana research and education.-

(1) SHORT TITLE.-This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Medical Marijuana Research and Education Act."

(2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.-The Legislature finds that:



248940

11 (a) The present state of knowledge concerning the use of  
12 marijuana to alleviate pain and treat illnesses is limited  
13 because permission to perform clinical studies on marijuana is  
14 difficult to obtain, with access to research-grade marijuana so  
15 restricted that little or no unbiased studies have been  
16 performed.

17 (b) Under the State Constitution, marijuana is available  
18 for the treatment of certain debilitating medical conditions.

19 (c) Additional clinical studies are needed to ensure that  
20 the residents of this state obtain the correct dosing,  
21 formulation, route, modality, frequency, quantity, and quality  
22 of marijuana for specific illnesses.

23 (d) An effective medical marijuana research and education  
24 program would mobilize the scientific, educational, and medical  
25 resources that presently exist in this state to determine the  
26 appropriate and best use of marijuana to treat illness.

27 (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, unless the  
28 context clearly indicates otherwise, the term:

29 (a) "Board" means the Medical Marijuana Research and  
30 Education Board.

31 (b) "Coalition" means the Coalition for Medical Marijuana  
32 Research and Education.

33 (c) "Marijuana" has the same meaning as provided in s. 29,  
34 Art. X of the State Constitution.

35 (4) COALITION FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA RESEARCH AND  
36 EDUCATION.—

37 (a) There is established within the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer  
38 Center and Research Institute, Inc., the Coalition for Medical  
39 Marijuana Research and Education. The purpose of the coalition



248940

40 is to conduct rigorous scientific research, provide education,  
41 disseminate research, and to guide policy for the adoption of a  
42 statewide policy on ordering and dosing practices for the  
43 medicinal use of marijuana. The coalition shall be physically  
44 located at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research  
45 Institute, Inc.

46 (b) The Medical Marijuana Research and Education Board is  
47 established to direct the operations of the coalition. The board  
48 shall be composed of seven members appointed by the chief  
49 executive officer of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and  
50 Research Institute, Inc. Board members must have experience in a  
51 variety of scientific and medical fields, including, but not  
52 limited to, oncology, neurology, psychology, pediatrics,  
53 nutrition, and addiction. Members shall be appointed to 4-year  
54 terms and may be reappointed to serve additional terms. The  
55 chair shall be elected by the board from among its members to  
56 serve a 2-year term. The board shall meet no less than  
57 semiannually, at the call of the chair or, in his or her absence  
58 or incapacity, the vice chair. Four members constitute a quorum.  
59 A majority vote of the members present is required for all  
60 actions of the board. The board may prescribe, amend, and repeal  
61 a charter governing the manner in which it conducts its  
62 business. A board member shall serve without compensation but is  
63 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses by the coalition  
64 or the organization he or she represents in accordance with s.  
65 112.061.

66 (c) The coalition shall be administered by a coalition  
67 director who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of  
68 the board. The coalition director shall, subject to the approval



248940

69 of the board:

70 1. Propose a budget for the coalition.

71 2. Foster the collaboration of scientists, researchers, and  
72 other appropriate personnel in accordance with the coalition's  
73 charter.

74 3. Identify and prioritize the research to be conducted by  
75 the coalition.

76 4. Prepare the Medical Marijuana Research and Education  
77 Plan for submission to the board.

78 5. Apply for grants to obtain funding for research  
79 conducted by the coalition.

80 6. Perform other duties as determined by the board.

81 (d) The board shall advise the Board of Governors, the  
82 State Surgeon General, the Governor, and the Legislature with  
83 respect to medical marijuana research and education in this  
84 state. The board shall explore methods of implementing and  
85 enforcing medical marijuana laws in relation to cancer control,  
86 research, treatment, and education.

87 (e) The board shall annually adopt a plan for medical  
88 marijuana research, known as the "Medical Marijuana Research and  
89 Education Plan," which must be in accordance with state law and  
90 coordinate with existing programs in this state. The plan must  
91 include recommendations for the coordination and integration of  
92 medical, nursing, paramedical, community, and other resources  
93 connected with the treatment of debilitating medical conditions,  
94 research related to the treatment of such medical conditions,  
95 and education.

96 (f) By February 15 of each year, the board shall issue a  
97 report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the



248940

98 Speaker of the House of Representatives on research projects,  
99 community outreach initiatives, and future plans for the  
100 coalition.

101 (5) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE H. LEE MOFFITT CANCER CENTER  
102 AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.—The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center  
103 and Research Institute, Inc., shall allocate staff, information,  
104 and assistance, as the coalition’s budget permits, to assist the  
105 board in fulfilling its responsibilities.

106  
107 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

108 And the title is amended as follows:

109 Between lines 56 and 57

110 insert:

111 creating s. 1004.4351, F.S.; providing a short title;  
112 providing legislative intent; defining terms;  
113 establishing the Coalition for Medical Marijuana  
114 Research and Education within the H. Lee Moffitt  
115 Cancer Center and Research Institute, Inc.; providing  
116 a purpose for the coalition; establishing the Medical  
117 Marijuana Research and Education Board to direct the  
118 operations of the coalition; providing for the  
119 appointment of board members; providing for terms of  
120 office, reimbursement for certain expenses, and the  
121 conduct of meetings of the board; authorizing the  
122 board to appoint a coalition director; prescribing the  
123 duties of the coalition director; requiring the board  
124 to advise specified entities and officials regarding  
125 medical marijuana research and education in this  
126 state; requiring the board to annually adopt a Medical



248940

127 Marijuana Research and Education Plan; providing  
128 requirements for the plan; requiring the board to  
129 issue an annual report to the Governor and the  
130 Legislature by a specified date; specifying  
131 responsibilities of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center  
132 and Research Institute, Inc.;