HB 595 2021

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to fees; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to impose initial application and biennial renewal fees for the licensing of medical marijuana retail facilities; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section 381.986, Florida Statutes, as amended by HB 593, 2021 Regular Session, is amended to read:

381.986 Medical use of marijuana.-

- (9) MEDICAL MARIJUANA RETAIL FACILITIES.—The department shall license medical marijuana retail facilities to ensure reasonable statewide accessibility and availability as necessary for qualified patients who are registered in the medical marijuana use registry and who are issued a physician certification under this section. The department shall begin issuing medical marijuana retail facility licenses by August 1, 2021.
- (a) An applicant for licensure as a medical marijuana retail facility must apply to the department on a form prescribed by the department and adopted in rule. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54

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establishing a procedure for the issuance and biennial renewal of licenses. The department shall impose initial application and biennial renewal fees sufficient to cover the costs of implementing and administering this subsection. The department shall identify applicants with strong diversity plans reflecting this state's commitment to diversity, and the department shall implement training programs and other educational programs to enable minority persons and minority business enterprises, as defined in s. 288.703, and veteran business enterprises, as defined in s. 295.187, to qualify for medical marijuana retail facility licensure and contracts. The department must issue a license to an applicant if the applicant meets the requirements of this subsection and rules adopted under this subsection. The department shall renew the licensure of a medical marijuana retail facility biennially if the licensee meets the requirements of this subsection and the rules adopted under this subsection. An individual may not be an applicant, an owner, an officer, a board member, or a manager on more than one application for licensure as a medical marijuana retail facility. An individual or entity may not be awarded more than one license as a medical marijuana retail facility. Each medical marijuana retail facility license is valid for one physical location. A medical marijuana treatment center may not be awarded a license to operate a medical marijuana retail facility.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect on the same date that HB 593 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

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