

Bill Summary
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1543
Version:	CS
Request No.:	3694
Author:	Sen. Treat
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Bill Analysis

The CS for SB 1543 separates the Medical Marijuana Authority from the State Department of Health and deems it to be a separate and distinct agency. The measure also creates the Executive Director position at the Authority and provides for the Governor to appoint him or her. All regulatory powers relating to medical marijuana shall be transferred to the Authority. The measure provides that all licenses granted by the Department shall remain in effect. All contracts pertaining to medical marijuana shall be transferred to the Authority. The Authority is empowered to investigate possible criminal conduct relating to medical marijuana and arrest violators; provided, its investigators shall meet all training requirements and qualifications for peace officers.

The measure also provides that applications for a medical marijuana patient license may be signed by physicians in good standing with the Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners. The measure also updates statutory language relating to the regulation of medical marijuana to reflect the creation of the Medical Marijuana Authority and strikes outdated language. The CS provides clarifying language.

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