

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1616

By: Worthen

6
7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to medical marijuana; amending 63
9 O.S. 2021, Section 427.14, as amended by Section 4,
10 Chapter 332, O.S.L. 2022 (63 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section
11 427.14), which relates to the Oklahoma Medical
12 Marijuana and Patient Protection Act; requiring
13 disclosure of conflicts of interest from certain
14 elected officials; defining term; and providing an
15 effective date.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 427.14, as
18 amended by Section 4, Chapter 332, O.S.L. 2022 (63 O.S. Supp. 2022,
19 Section 427.14), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 427.14 A. There is hereby created the medical
21 marijuana business license, which shall include the following
22 categories:

- 23 1. Medical marijuana commercial grower;
- 24 2. Medical marijuana processor;

- 1 3. Medical marijuana dispensary;
- 2 4. Medical marijuana transporter; and
- 3 5. Medical marijuana testing laboratory.

4 B. The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority, with the aid of
5 the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, shall develop a
6 website for medical marijuana business applications.

7 C. The Authority shall make available on its website in an
8 easy-to-find location, applications for a medical marijuana
9 business.

10 D. 1. The annual, nonrefundable fee for a medical marijuana
11 transporter license shall be Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
12 (\$2,500.00).

13 2. The initial fee for a medical marijuana commercial grower
14 license shall be calculated based upon the total amount of square
15 feet of canopy or acres the grower estimates will be harvested for
16 the year. The annual, nonrefundable license fee shall be based upon
17 the total amount of square feet of canopy harvested by the grower
18 during the previous twelve (12) months. The amount of the fees
19 shall be determined as follows:

20 a. For an indoor, greenhouse, or light deprivation
21 medical marijuana grow facility:

- 22 (1) Tier 1: Up to ten thousand (10,000) square feet
23 of canopy, the fee shall be Two Thousand Five
24 Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00),

- 1 (2) Tier 2: Ten thousand one (10,001) square feet of
2 canopy to twenty thousand (20,000) square feet of
3 canopy, the fee shall be Five Thousand Dollars
4 (\$5,000.00),
- 5 (3) Tier 3: Twenty thousand one (20,001) square feet
6 of canopy to forty thousand (40,000) square feet
7 of canopy, the fee shall be Ten Thousand Dollars
8 (\$10,000.00),
- 9 (4) Tier 4: Forty thousand one (40,001) square feet
10 of canopy to sixty thousand (60,000) square feet
11 of canopy, the fee shall be Twenty Thousand
12 Dollars (\$20,000.00),
- 13 (5) Tier 5: Sixty thousand one (60,001) square feet
14 of canopy to eighty thousand (80,000) square feet
15 of canopy, the fee shall be Thirty Thousand
16 Dollars (\$30,000.00),
- 17 (6) Tier 6: Eighty thousand one (80,001) square feet
18 of canopy to ninety-nine thousand nine hundred
19 ninety-nine (99,999) square feet of canopy, the
20 fee shall be Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00),
21 and
- 22 (7) Tier 7: One hundred thousand (100,000) square
23 feet of canopy and beyond, the fee shall be Fifty
24 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus an additional

1 twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per square foot of
2 canopy over one hundred thousand (100,000) square
3 feet.

4 b. For an outdoor medical marijuana grow facility:

- 5 (1) Tier 1: Up to two and one-half (2 1/2) acres,
6 the fee shall be Two Thousand Five Hundred
7 Dollars (\$2,500.00),
- 8 (2) Tier 2: Two and one-half (2 1/2) acres up to
9 five (5) acres, the fee shall be Five Thousand
10 Dollars (\$5,000.00),
- 11 (3) Tier 3: Five (5) acres up to ten (10) acres, the
12 fee shall be Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00),
- 13 (4) Tier 4: Ten (10) acres up to twenty (20) acres,
14 the fee shall be Twenty Thousand Dollars
15 (\$20,000.00),
- 16 (5) Tier 5: Twenty (20) acres up to thirty (30)
17 acres, the fee shall be Thirty Thousand Dollars
18 (\$30,000.00),
- 19 (6) Tier 6: Thirty (30) acres up to forty (40)
20 acres, the fee shall be Forty Thousand Dollars
21 (\$40,000.00),
- 22 (7) Tier 7: Forty (40) acres up to fifty (50) acres,
23 the fee shall be Fifty Thousand Dollars
24 (\$50,000.00), and

1 (8) Tier 8: If the amount of acreage exceeds fifty
2 (50) acres, the fee shall be Fifty Thousand
3 Dollars (\$50,000.00) plus an additional Two
4 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) per acre.

5 c. For a medical marijuana commercial grower that has a
6 combination of both indoor and outdoor growing
7 facilities at one location, the medical marijuana
8 commercial grower shall be required to obtain a
9 separate license from the Authority for each type of
10 grow operation and shall be subject to the licensing
11 fees provided for in subparagraphs a and b of this
12 paragraph.

13 d. As used in this paragraph:

14 (1) "canopy" means the total surface area within a
15 cultivation area that is dedicated to the
16 cultivation of flowering marijuana plants. The
17 surface area of the plant canopy must be
18 calculated in square feet and measured and must
19 include all of the area within the boundaries
20 where the cultivation of the flowering marijuana
21 plants occurs. If the surface of the plant
22 canopy consists of noncontiguous areas, each
23 component area must be separated by identifiable
24 boundaries. If a tiered or shelving system is

1 used in the cultivation area, the surface area of
2 each tier or shelf must be included in
3 calculating the area of the plant canopy.
4 Calculation of the area of the plant canopy may
5 not include the areas within the cultivation area
6 that are used to cultivate immature marijuana
7 plants and seedlings, prior to flowering, and
8 that are not used at any time to cultivate mature
9 marijuana plants. If the flowering plants are
10 vertically grown in cylinders, the square footage
11 of the canopy shall be measured by the
12 circumference of the cylinder multiplied by the
13 total length of the cylinder,

14 (2) "greenhouse" means a structure located outdoors
15 that is completely covered by a material that
16 allows a controlled level of light transmission,
17 and

18 (3) "light deprivation" means a structure that has
19 concrete floors and the ability to manipulate
20 natural light.

21 3. The annual, nonrefundable license fee for a medical
22 marijuana processor license shall be determined as follows:

23 a. Tier 1: Zero (0) to ten thousand (10,000) pounds of
24 biomass or production or use of up to one hundred

1 (100) liters of cannabis concentrate, the annual fee
2 shall be Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars
3 (\$2,500.00),

4 b. Tier 2: Ten thousand one (10,001) pounds to fifty
5 thousand (50,000) pounds of biomass or production or
6 use from one hundred one (101) to three hundred fifty
7 (350) liters of cannabis concentrate, the annual fee
8 shall be Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00),

9 c. Tier 3: Fifty thousand one (50,001) pounds to one
10 hundred fifty thousand (150,000) pounds of biomass or
11 production or use from three hundred fifty-one (351)
12 to six hundred fifty (650) liters of cannabis
13 concentrate, the annual fee shall be Ten Thousand
14 Dollars (\$10,000.00),

15 d. Tier 4: One hundred fifty thousand one (150,001)
16 pounds to three hundred thousand (300,000) pounds of
17 biomass or production or use from six hundred fifty-
18 one (651) to one thousand (1,000) liters of cannabis
19 concentrate, the annual fee shall be Fifteen Thousand
20 Dollars (\$15,000.00), and

21 e. Tier 5: More than three hundred thousand one
22 (300,001) pounds of biomass or production or use in
23 excess of one thousand one (1,001) liters of cannabis
24

1 concentrate, the annual fee shall be Twenty Thousand
2 Dollars (\$20,000.00).

3 For purposes of this paragraph only, if the cannabis concentrate
4 is in nonliquid form, every one thousand (1,000) grams of
5 concentrated marijuana shall be calculated as one (1) liter of
6 cannabis concentrate.

7 4. The initial fee for a medical marijuana dispensary license
8 shall be Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00). The annual,
9 nonrefundable license fee for a medical marijuana dispensary license
10 shall be calculated at ten percent (10%) of the sum of twelve (12)
11 calendar months of the combined annual state sales tax and state
12 excise tax of the dispensary. The minimum fee shall be not less
13 than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) and the maximum
14 fee shall not exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

15 5. The annual, nonrefundable license fee for a medical
16 marijuana testing laboratory shall be Twenty Thousand Dollars
17 (\$20,000.00).

18 E. All applicants seeking licensure or licensure renewal as a
19 medical marijuana business shall comply with the following general
20 requirements:

21 1. All applications for licenses and registrations authorized
22 pursuant to this section shall be made upon forms prescribed by the
23 Authority;

1 2. Each application shall identify the city or county in which
2 the applicant seeks to obtain licensure as a medical marijuana
3 business;

4 3. Applicants shall submit a complete application to the
5 Authority before the application may be accepted or considered;

6 4. All applications shall be complete and accurate in every
7 detail;

8 5. All applications shall include all attachments or
9 supplemental information required by the forms supplied by the
10 Authority;

11 6. All applications shall be accompanied by a full remittance
12 for the whole amount of the application fees. Application fees are
13 nonrefundable;

14 7. All applicants shall be approved for licensing review that,
15 at a minimum, meets the following criteria:

16 a. twenty-five (25) years of age or older,

17 b. if applying as an individual, proof that the applicant
18 is an Oklahoma resident pursuant to paragraph 11 of
19 this subsection,

20 c. if applying as an entity, proof that seventy-five
21 percent (75%) of all members, managers, executive
22 officers, partners, board members or any other form of
23 business ownership are Oklahoma residents pursuant to
24 paragraph 11 of this subsection,

- 1 d. if applying as an individual or entity, proof that the
2 individual or entity is registered to conduct business
3 in the State of Oklahoma,
4 e. disclosure of all ownership interests pursuant to the
5 Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act,
6 and
7 f. proof that the medical marijuana business, medical
8 marijuana research facility, medical marijuana
9 education facility and medical marijuana waste
10 disposal facility applicant or licensee has not been
11 convicted of a nonviolent felony in the last two (2)
12 years, or any other felony conviction within the last
13 five (5) years, is not a current inmate in the custody
14 of the Department of Corrections, or currently
15 incarcerated in a jail or corrections facility;

16 8. There shall be no limit to the number of medical marijuana
17 business licenses or categories that an individual or entity can
18 apply for or receive, although each application and each category
19 shall require a separate application and application fee. A
20 commercial grower, processor and dispensary, or any combination
21 thereof, are authorized to share the same address or physical
22 location, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Oklahoma
23 Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act;

1 9. All applicants for a medical marijuana business license,
2 research facility license or education facility license authorized
3 by the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act, or for
4 a renewal of such license, shall undergo an Oklahoma criminal
5 history background check conducted by the Oklahoma State Bureau of
6 Investigation (OSBI) within thirty (30) days prior to the
7 application for the license, including:

- 8 a. individual applicants applying on their own behalf,
- 9 b. individuals applying on behalf of an entity,
- 10 c. all principal officers of an entity, and
- 11 d. all owners of an entity as defined by the Oklahoma
12 Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act;

13 10. All applicable fees charged by the OSBI are the
14 responsibility of the applicant and shall not be higher than fees
15 charged to any other person or industry for such background checks;

16 11. In order to be considered an Oklahoma resident for purposes
17 of a medical marijuana business application, all applicants shall
18 provide proof of Oklahoma residency for at least two (2) years
19 immediately preceding the date of application or five (5) years of
20 continuous Oklahoma residency during the preceding twenty-five (25)
21 years immediately preceding the date of application. Sufficient
22 documentation of proof of residency shall include a combination of
23 the following:

- 24 a. an unexpired Oklahoma-issued driver license,

- b. an Oklahoma identification card,
- c. a utility bill preceding the date of application, excluding cellular telephone and Internet bills,
- d. a residential property deed to property in the State of Oklahoma, and
- e. a rental agreement preceding the date of application for residential property located in the State of Oklahoma.

Applicants that were issued a medical marijuana business license prior to August 30, 2019, are hereby exempt from the two-year or five-year Oklahoma residence requirement mentioned above;

12. All license applicants shall be required to submit a registration with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control as provided in Sections 2-302 through 2-304 of this title;

13. All applicants shall establish their identity through submission of a color copy or digital image of one of the following unexpired documents:

- a. front of an Oklahoma driver license,
- b. front of an Oklahoma identification card,
- c. a United States passport or other photo identification issued by the United States government, or

1 d. a tribal identification card approved for
2 identification purposes by the Oklahoma Department of
3 Public Safety; and

4 14. All applicants shall submit an applicant photograph.

5 F. The Authority shall review the medical marijuana business
6 application; approve, reject or deny the application; and mail the
7 approval, rejection, denial or status-update letter to the applicant
8 within ninety (90) business days of receipt of the application.

9 G. 1. The Authority shall review the medical marijuana
10 business applications and conduct all investigations, inspections
11 and interviews before approving the application.

12 2. Approved applicants shall be issued a medical marijuana
13 business license for the specific category applied under, which
14 shall act as proof of their approved status. Rejection and denial
15 letters shall provide a reason for the rejection or denial.
16 Applications may only be rejected or denied based on the applicant
17 not meeting the standards set forth in the provisions of the
18 Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act and Sections
19 420 through 426.1 of this title, improper completion of the
20 application, or for a reason provided for in the Oklahoma Medical
21 Marijuana and Patient Protection Act and Sections 420 through 426.1
22 of this title. If an application is rejected for failure to provide
23 required information, the applicant shall have thirty (30) days to
24 submit the required information for reconsideration. No additional

1 application fee shall be charged for such reconsideration. Unless
2 the Authority determines otherwise, an application that has been
3 resubmitted but is still incomplete or contains errors that are not
4 clerical or typographical in nature shall be denied.

5 3. Status-update letters shall provide a reason for delay in
6 either approval, rejection or denial should a situation arise in
7 which an application was submitted properly but a delay in
8 processing the application occurred.

9 4. Approval, rejection, denial or status-update letters shall
10 be sent to the applicant in the same method the application was
11 submitted to the Authority.

12 H. A license for a medical marijuana business, medical
13 marijuana research facility, medical marijuana education facility or
14 medical marijuana waste disposal facility shall not be issued to or
15 held by:

16 1. A person until all required fees have been paid;

17 2. A person who has been convicted of a nonviolent felony
18 within two (2) years of the date of application, or within five (5)
19 years for any other felony;

20 3. A corporation, if the criminal history of any of its
21 officers, directors or stockholders indicates that the officer,
22 director or stockholder has been convicted of a nonviolent felony
23 within two (2) years of the date of application, or within five (5)
24 years for any other felony;

1 4. A person under twenty-five (25) years of age;

2 5. A person licensed pursuant to this section who, during a
3 period of licensure, or who, at the time of application, has failed
4 to:

5 a. file taxes, interest or penalties due related to a
6 medical marijuana business, or

7 b. pay taxes, interest or penalties due related to a
8 medical marijuana business;

9 6. A sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer or prosecuting
10 officer, or an officer or employee of the Authority or municipality;

11 7. A person whose authority to be a caregiver, as defined in
12 Section 427.2 of this title, has been revoked by the Authority; or

13 8. A person who was involved in the management or operations of
14 any medical marijuana business, medical marijuana research facility,
15 medical marijuana education facility or medical marijuana waste
16 disposal facility that, after the initiation of a disciplinary
17 action, has had a medical marijuana license revoked, not renewed, or
18 surrendered during the five (5) years preceding submission of the
19 application and for the following violations:

20 a. unlawful sales or purchases,

21 b. any fraudulent acts, falsification of records or
22 misrepresentation to the Authority, medical marijuana
23 patient licensees, caregiver licensees or medical
24 marijuana business licensees,

- 1 c. any grossly inaccurate or fraudulent reporting,
- 2 d. threatening or harming any medical marijuana patient,
- 3 caregiver, medical practitioner or employee of the
- 4 Authority,
- 5 e. knowingly or intentionally refusing to permit the
- 6 Authority access to premises or records,
- 7 f. using a prohibited, hazardous substance for processing
- 8 in a residential area,
- 9 g. criminal acts relating to the operation of a medical
- 10 marijuana business, or
- 11 h. any violations that endanger public health and safety
- 12 or product safety.

13 I. In investigating the qualifications of an applicant or a
14 licensee, the Authority and municipalities may have access to
15 criminal history record information furnished by a criminal justice
16 agency subject to any restrictions imposed by such an agency.

17 J. The failure of an applicant or licensee to provide the
18 requested information by the Authority deadline may be grounds for
19 denial of the application.

20 K. All applicants and licensees shall submit information to the
21 Authority in a full, faithful, truthful and fair manner. The
22 Authority may recommend denial of an application where the applicant
23 or licensee made misstatements, omissions, misrepresentations or
24 untruths in the application or in connection with the background

1 investigation of the applicant. This type of conduct may be grounds
2 for administrative action against the applicant or licensee. Typos
3 and scrivener errors shall not be grounds for denial.

4 L. A licensed medical marijuana business premises shall be
5 subject to and responsible for compliance with applicable provisions
6 consistent with the zoning where such business is located as
7 described in the most recent versions of the Oklahoma Uniform
8 Building Code, the International Building Code and the International
9 Fire Code, unless granted an exemption by a municipality or
10 appropriate code enforcement entity.

11 M. All medical marijuana business, medical marijuana research
12 facility, medical marijuana education facility and medical marijuana
13 waste disposal facility licensees shall pay the relevant licensure
14 fees prior to receiving licensure to operate.

15 N. A medical marijuana business, medical marijuana research
16 facility, medical marijuana education facility or medical marijuana
17 waste disposal facility that attempts to renew its license after the
18 expiration date of the license shall pay a late renewal fee in an
19 amount to be determined by the Authority to reinstate the license.
20 Late renewal fees are nonrefundable. A license that has been
21 expired for more than ninety (90) days shall not be renewed.

22 O. No medical marijuana business, medical marijuana research
23 facility, medical marijuana education facility or medical marijuana
24 waste disposal facility shall possess, sell or transfer medical

1 marijuana or medical marijuana products without a valid, unexpired
2 license issued by the Authority.

3 P. Any elected or appointed state, county, or municipal
4 official shall disclose any conflict of interest or ownership
5 interest in the medical marijuana business to the Authority. For
6 purposes of this subsection, "interest" means an ownership in any
7 entity that holds a medical marijuana license issued by the
8 Authority or an interest in any entity that receives a set
9 percentage of profit distribution from any entity that holds a
10 license issued by the Authority.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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