



General Assembly

**Raised Bill No. 7135**

January Session, 2019

LCO No. 3736



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:  
(VA)

**AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF WRITTEN CERTIFICATIONS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND IDENTIFYING VETERANS WHO HAVE PRESCRIPTIONS THEREFOR.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 21a-408c of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2019*):

4 (b) Any initial written certification for the palliative use of  
5 marijuana issued on or after October 1, 2019, by a physician or an  
6 advanced practice registered nurse under subsection (a) of this section  
7 shall be valid for a period not to exceed [one year] thirteen months  
8 from the date such initial written certification is signed and dated by  
9 the physician or advanced practice registered nurse, and any  
10 subsequent written certification shall be valid for a period not to  
11 exceed one year from the date such subsequent written certification is  
12 signed and dated. Not later than ten calendar days after the expiration  
13 of such period, or at any time before the expiration of such period  
14 should the qualifying patient no longer wish to possess marijuana for  
15 palliative use, the qualifying patient or the primary caregiver shall

16 destroy all usable marijuana possessed by the qualifying patient and  
17 the primary caregiver for palliative use.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 21a-408d of the general statutes is  
19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
20 *October 1, 2019*):

21 (a) Each qualifying patient who is issued a written certification for  
22 the palliative use of marijuana under subdivision (1) of subsection (a)  
23 of section 21a-408a, and the primary caregiver of such qualifying  
24 patient, shall register with the Department of Consumer Protection.  
25 Such registration shall be effective from the date the Department of  
26 Consumer Protection issues a certificate of registration until the  
27 expiration of the written certification issued by the physician or  
28 advanced practice registered nurse. The qualifying patient and the  
29 primary caregiver shall provide sufficient identifying information, as  
30 determined by the department, to establish the personal identity of the  
31 qualifying patient and the primary caregiver. The department shall  
32 afford the qualifying patient an opportunity to provide information  
33 identifying such qualifying patient as a veteran, as defined in  
34 subsection (a) of section 27-103. If the qualifying patient is under  
35 eighteen years of age and not an emancipated minor, the custodial  
36 parent, guardian or other person having legal custody of the qualifying  
37 patient shall also provide a letter from both the qualifying patient's  
38 primary care provider and a physician who is board certified in an  
39 area of medicine involved in the treatment of the debilitating condition  
40 for which the qualifying patient was certified that confirms that the  
41 palliative use of marijuana is in the best interest of the qualifying  
42 patient. A physician may issue a written certification for the palliative  
43 use of marijuana by a qualifying patient who is under eighteen years  
44 of age, provided such written certification shall not be for marijuana in  
45 a dosage form that requires that the marijuana be smoked, inhaled or  
46 vaporized. The qualifying patient or the primary caregiver shall report  
47 any change in the identifying information to the department not later  
48 than five business days after such change. The department shall issue a

49 registration certificate to the qualifying patient and to the primary  
50 caregiver and may charge a reasonable fee, not to exceed twenty-five  
51 dollars, for each registration certificate issued under this subsection.  
52 Any registration fees collected by the department under this  
53 subsection shall be paid to the State Treasurer and credited to the  
54 General Fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	21a-408c(b)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	21a-408d(a)

**VA**      *Joint Favorable*