

Department of Planning and Budget

2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1988

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Adams, D.M.

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Board of Pharmacy; pharmaceutical processors; processing and dispensing cannabis oil.

5. Summary: Effects numerous changes to the processing and dispensing of cannabis oil by pharmaceutical processors in the Commonwealth. The bill defines the term "designated caregiver facility" and allows any staff member or employee of a designated caregiver facility to assist with the possession, acquisition, delivery, transfer, transportation, and administration of cannabis oil for any patients residing in the designated caregiver facility. The bill allows written certifications for use of cannabis oil to include an electronic practitioner signature. The bill removes the requirement that a cannabis dispensing facility undergo quarterly inspections and instead requires that inspections occur no more than once annually and allows pharmaceutical processors to remediate cannabis oil that fails any quality testing standard. The bill requires pharmaceutical processors to maintain evidence of criminal background checks for all employees and delivery agents of the pharmaceutical processor. The bill directs the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations implementing the provisions of the bill and regulations creating reasonable restrictions on advertising and promotion by pharmaceutical processors by July 1, 2021.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see item #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Any costs to promulgate regulations can be handled within existing resources. The bill allows written certifications for the use of cannabis oil to include an electronic practitioner signature and allows practitioners to do evaluations through telemedicine. Depending on the increase in written certifications due to telemedicine, the Board may need to contract for the development and installation of an automated system for electronic maintenance of documentation. However it cannot be determined if a system is necessary at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Department of Health Professions.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.