



SENATE BILL 1505

by Senator Charles Perry

BACKGROUND

The Texas Compassionate Use Program (TCUP) was established in 2015. The Legislature expanded the program in 2019 and again in 2021, providing access to low-THC (1%) cannabis for those with certain medical conditions.

BILL OVERVIEW

Senate Bill 1505 makes changes to TCUP. The bill limits patient access to THC, but legalizes the use of new ways to use cannabis, like inhalation, patches, and suppositories.

SB 1505 allows DPS to issue licenses for up to six new dispensing organizations, which must be located strategically to ensure adequate patient access. The bill also allows dispensaries to open approved satellite locations.

CONCERNS

- While the list of qualifying conditions has grown over time, we are concerned about how few patients have legal access to TCUP.
- There is currently no cap on the number business licenses DPS can issue. SB 1505 institutes a cap of 6 total businesses statewide.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Allow doctors to decide if a patient can benefit from cannabis. At minimum, add chronic pain to the list. This would give patients an alternative to dangerous and addictive opioids.
- Support Free Enterprise: Remove the licensing cap.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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