  *MCST 601: Introduction to Medical Cannabis History, Culture, and Policy*

Assignment 5.1

Evaluate two aspects of your state’s laws/policies related to medical cannabis (e.g., patient requirements, physician requirements, product availability, product analysis, etc) and compare these to two other states.

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| Law/policy | California | New York | Texas |
| 1.  **Specifying conditions:**  **This is particularly important as early medical marijuana laws usually began with very specific ailments expanding over time to any and all conditions that can be helped with the use of cannabis. A great barometer for how open states are to MM.** | [Proposition 215](http://vote96.sos.ca.gov/BP/215text.htm) (1996)  [SB 420](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/03-04/bill/sen/sb_0401-0450/sb_420_bill_20031012_chaptered.html) (2003) [1]   * No: currently does not require a specific condition. Any debilitating illness where the medical use of marijuana has been “deemed appropriate and has been recommended by a physician” But California did begin to mobilize early support form MM around these conditions : Anorexia Arthritis Cachexia Cancer Chronic Pain HIV or AIDS Glaucoma Migraine Persistent Muscle Spasms Severe Nausea Seizures [2] | [A6357](http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?default_fld=&bn=A06357&term=2013&Summary=Y&Actions=Y) (2014) Signed by governor 7/5/14 [1]   * No: currently does not require a specific condition. Very similar to California with expanding ideas of the multiple medical benefits MM. Early support in New York began with the following conditions: Acute pain management Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Cancer Chronic pain * Epilepsy HIV/AIDS * Huntington’s Disease * Parkinson’s Disease * Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Multiple Sclerosis * Neuropathies Opioïde substitution [2] | [SB 339](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/84R/billtext/pdf/SB00339F.pdf#navpanes=0) (2015) Texas Compassionate Use Act  [HB 3703](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/pdf/HB03703F.pdf#navpanes=0) (2019) [1]  Yes, for the following: intractable epilepsy, incurable neurodegenerative disease, terminal cancer, multiple sclerosis, spasticity, ALS, autism. [2]  Texas has the greatest criteria for Medical use. Patients must have one of these illnesses to qualify and still requires the product to be Low-THC (no more than 0.5 percent)/high CBD (not less than 10 percent) oil preparations. [2] |
| 2.  **Allowing for dispensaries and or Collectives as a way for patients to access state approved MM.** | Yes, California was the 1st state in the U.S to allow for cooperatives and collectives as a means for patients to access MM as well as Recreational Marijuana. California 1st began issuing temporary state licensing for dispensaries January 1, 2018. And began issuing permanent licenses in July of 2018. The state also allowed nonprofit dispensaries to continue to operate until January 9, 2019, under state law SB 420. | Like California, Ney York allows for Medicinal as well as Recreational dispensaries for patients to obtain Marijuana.  However, it does not allow for smokable or “combustible’ products. Only cannabis infused products are sold. | Yes, Texas allows for dispensaries, but only allows for dispensaries that are licensed by the Department of Public Safety.  So far, the state only has 3 total dispensaries in the entire state of Texas. [2] |

References :

* **1.** Website:[State Medical Marijuana Laws](http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-medical-marijuana-laws.aspx). National Conference of State Legislatures. 3 March 2020. Retrieved from: http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-medical-marijuana-laws.aspx

# 2. Website: [NORML State Marijuana Laws](https://norml.org/laws/medical-laws). California Medical Marijuana Law

* Updates 2020. Retrieved from: <https://norml.org/laws/medical-laws>