

Senate Bill 495

By: Senators Watson of the 11th, Brass of the 28th, Esteves of the 6th, Watson of the 1st and Walker III of the 20th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 31-2A-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Low THC Oil Patient Registry, so as to provide for the term of validity of a registration card;
3 to provide for delivery of registration cards; to provide for related matters; to repeal
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 31-2A-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Low THC
8 Oil Patient Registry, is amended by revising subsection (d) as follows:

9 "(d) The department shall issue a registration card to ~~individuals who have~~ any individual
10 who has been certified to the department by his or her physician as being diagnosed with
11 a condition or is an inpatient or outpatient in a hospice program and ~~have~~ has been
12 authorized by such physician to use low THC oil as treatment. The department shall issue
13 a registration card to a caregiver when the circumstances warrant the issuance of such card.
14 The board shall establish procedures and promulgate rules and regulations to assist
15 physicians in providing required uniform information relating to certification and any other
16 matter relating to the issuance of certifications. In promulgating such rules and regulations,

17 the board shall require that physicians have a doctor-patient relationship when certifying
18 an individual as needing low THC oil and physicians shall be required to be treating such
19 individual for the specific condition requiring such treatment or be treating such individual
20 in a hospice program. A physician shall seek and review information about a patient from
21 the prescription drug monitoring program data base established pursuant to Code Section
22 16-13-57 prior to certifying such patient to the department as being diagnosed with a
23 specific condition that requires the use of low THC oil as treatment. A registration card
24 issued pursuant to this Code section shall be valid for five years from the date of issuance
25 so long as the individual or caregiver remains eligible for receipt of such card based on the
26 continued diagnosis of such individual with a condition. The department shall deliver
27 registration cards via certified mail or by secure electronic means, including email, if
28 requested by the individual or caregiver."

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SECTION 2.

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.