

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 521

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 3, 2022

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 521.

This bill revises the number of designated caregivers that are expressly allowed for medical cannabis patients younger than 18 years of age. Designated caregivers are individuals who are authorized to assist medical cannabis patients with acquiring and administering medical cannabis. Current law expressly allows all medical cannabis patients to concurrently have up to two designated caregivers, although patients may petition for approval to have additional designated caregivers, which petitions are to be granted if additional caregivers are consistent with the patient's treatment needs and the requirements of the State's medical cannabis laws.

This bill expressly authorizes medical cannabis patients who are younger than 18 years of age to concurrently have four designated caregivers. Patients who are older than 18 years of age will still be expressly authorized to have up to two designated caregivers, and all patients will still have the ability to petition for approval to have additional designated caregivers.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.