



## **Medical Marijuana Consultant Public Rules Hearing Stakeholder Comments**

The Department of Health held the public rules hearing on January 26, 2016, to receive comment from those interested in our rules regarding the Medical Marijuana Consultant required under SSB 5052. Below are a summary of the comments in the order they were received.

- As an RN for 22 years, she has lots of experience practicing as a nurse. Owns a dispensary currently and patients come to her store because of her medical background. She is a member of the Cannabis Nurse Association. Recommends that instructors be expanded to RNs because they are great at instructing patients.
- As an RN, my primary focus is education and background in oncology and have worked with patients using cannabis. Helped ensure authorizers fill out form correctly. As a nurse we educate patients, families, and the public. Feel most nurses are well qualified to do this – instructors. Also consider adding clinical pharmacists.
- Education is needed for a patient. Those authorizing should be educating them before they go to the stores. Elder patients feel uncomfortable being in the store without knowledge. The consultants should be in the provider's office as well. Don't know where to go or what to ask for. For continuing education have speakers come in especially as things change and new info comes in quickly. Or expand this into a degree program.
- Been working as a budtender. Seen many patients benefit from cannabis. People can't study marijuana for its positive effects. First do no harm – marijuana will not cause harm. It should be tried first before other treatments.
- Bringing medical in is good. Consultants coming into the store is good. Need to have knowledge and experience with marijuana – science of cannabis institute. Include more instructors in rules. Base it on personal knowledge – they have years of experience.
- As an ARNP, she has been doing authorizations for the last 5 years. Good to train folks to give appropriate information. Seen patients benefit in many ways. Edibles should be monitored. Need education about taking edibles. 20 hours seems appropriate. Need more hours on products they may benefit them. RNs have potential to be instructors.

- 10 hours for continuing education (CE) a year is too much. CE programs must be accessible but finding evidence based CE would be tough.
- Further define who within a business is required to have a consultant certificate. Anyone who has to assist a patient?
- Found many patients need more in-depth consultation on what they need. Would like consultants to be able to consult outside of the store. Would like consults after hours to be allowed.
- Consultants will be just above minimum wage, the continuing education requirements may be too much.
- Continuing education calls for science based evidence for marijuana. Would like more training on the general history and use of cannabis to be added from worldwide perspective.
- The benefit of the consultant is for the store itself. Stores should compensate the employees for becoming a consultant.