



Judiciary Committee

April 21, 2014

10:45 AM

404 HOB

Action Packet

Will Weatherford
Speaker

Dennis Baxley
Chair

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Judiciary Committee

4/21/2014 10:45:00AM

Location: Sumner Hall (404 HOB)

Summary:

Judiciary Committee

Monday April 21, 2014 10:45 am

PCS for CS/HB 843 Favorable With Amendments
Amendment PCS for CSHB 843 a1 Adopted

Yeas: 15 Nays: 3

Yeas: 15 Nays: 3

Committee meeting was reported out: Monday, April 21, 2014 1:22:03PM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Judiciary Committee

4/21/2014 10:45:00AM

Location: Sumner Hall (404 HOB)

Attendance:

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Dennis Baxley (Chair)	X		
Daphne Campbell	X		
Dwight Dudley	X		
Eric Eisnaugle	X		
Heather Fitzenhagen	X		
Matt Gaetz	X		
Bill Hager	X		
Dave Kerner	X		
Charles McBurney	X		
Kionne McGhee			X
Larry Metz	X		
Jared Moskowitz	X		
Kathleen Passidomo	X		
Ray Pilon	X		
Daniel Raulerson	X		
Kenneth Roberson	X		
Elaine Schwartz	X		
Ross Spano	X		
Charlie Stone	X		
Totals:	18	0	1

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COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Judiciary Committee

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Location: Sumner Hall (404 HOB)

PCS for CS/HB 843 : Cannabis

Favorable With Amendments

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Daphne Campbell	X				
Dwight Dudley	X				
Eric Eisnaugle	X				
Heather Fitzenhagen	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Dave Kerner	X				
Charles McBurney	X				
Kionne McGhee			X		
Larry Metz		X			
Jared Moskowitz	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Ray Pilon	X				
Daniel Raulerson	X				
Kenneth Roberson	X				
Elaine Schwartz	X				
Ross Spano	X				
Charlie Stone		X			
Dennis Baxley (Chair)		X			
Total Yeas: 15		Total Nays: 3			

PCS for CS/HB 843 Amendments

Amendment PCS for CSHB 843 a1

Adopted

	Yea	Nay	No Vote	Absentee Yea	Absentee Nay
Daphne Campbell	X				
Dwight Dudley	X				
Eric Eisnaugle	X				
Heather Fitzenhagen	X				
Matt Gaetz	X				
Bill Hager	X				
Dave Kerner	X				
Charles McBurney	X				
Kionne McGhee			X		
Larry Metz	X				
Jared Moskowitz	X				
Kathleen Passidomo	X				
Ray Pilon		X			
Daniel Raulerson	X				
Kenneth Roberson	X				
Elaine Schwartz		X			

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PCS for CS/HB 843 : Cannabis (continued)

Amendment PCS for CSHB 843 a1

Adopted

Ross Spano	X	
Charlie Stone		X
Dennis Baxley (Chair)	X	
Total Yeas: 15		Total Nays: 3

Appearances:

PCS for CS/HB 843

James, Jodi (General Public) - Proponent
Executive Director, Florida Cannabis Action Network
1375 Cypress Ave
Melbourne FL 32935
Phone: 321-890-7302

PCS for CS/HB 843

Mercer, Amy (General Public) - Waive In Support
Executive Director, Florida Police Chiefs Association
924 N. Gadsden St.
Tallahassee FL 32301
Phone: (850)219-3631

PCS for CS/HB 843

Deckerhoff, Rosalyn (General Public) - Proponent
5704 Victor Brown Trail
Tallahassee FL 32303
Phone: 850-567-1503

PCS for CS/HB 843

Deckerhoff, Dennis (General Public) - Proponent
5704 Victor Brown Trail
Tallahassee FL 32303
Phone: 850-567-0405

PCS for CS/HB 843

Moseley, Holly (General Public) - Proponent
211 Norwich Dr
Gulf Breeze FL 32561
Phone: 850-232-0004

PCS for CS/HB 843

Watson, Ron (Lobbyist) - Information Only
3738 Mundon Way
Tallahassee FL 32309
Phone: 850-567-1202

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Location: Sumner Hall (404 HOB)

PCS for CS/HB 843 : Cannabis (continued)

Appearances: (continued)

PCS for CS/HB 843

Scott, Jeff (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Florida Medical Association

1430 E. Piedmont Dr.

Tallahassee FL 32308

Phone: (850) 224-6496

PCS for CS/HB 843

Pitts, Brian - Information Only

Justice-2-Jesus

1119 Newton Ave. S.

St. Petersburg FL 33705

Phone: 727-897-9291

PCS for CS/HB 843

Silver, Keri (Lobbyist) - Waive In Support

Florida Sheriffs Association

PO Box 12519

Tallahassee FL 32317

Phone: 850)524-2394

PCS for CS/HB 843

Pound, Greg (General Public) - Information Only

9166 Sunrise Dr

Largo FL 33773

PCS for CS/HB 843

Stein, Gary (General Public) - Information Only

7035 Belt Line Lane

Wesley Chapel FL

Phone: 813-973-3835

PCS for CS/HB 843

Bishop, Barney (Lobbyist) - Opponent

President and CEO, Florida Smart Justice Alliance

204 S Monroe St, Suite 201

Tallahassee FL 32301

Phone: 850-907-3436

PCS for CS/HB 843

Armstrong, John (Lobbyist) - Information Only

Department of Health

4052 Bald Cypress Way Bin A00

Tallahassee FL 32399

Phone: 850)295-4210

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Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	___	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	___	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	___	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	___	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	___	(Y/N)
OTHER	___	

*Favorable
4.21.14*

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing PCB: Judiciary Committee
2 Representative Eisnaugle offered the following:

3
4 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

5 Between lines 110 and 111, insert:

6 (3) PENALTIES.-

7 (a) A physician commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,
8 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if the
9 physician orders low-THC cannabis for a patient without a
10 reasonable belief that the patient is suffering from:

11 1. A serious medical condition that can be treated with
12 low-THC cannabis; or

13 2. Symptoms of a serious medical condition that can be
14 alleviated with low-THC cannabis.

15 (b) Any person who fraudulently represents a medical
16 condition to a physician for the purpose of being ordered low-
17 THC cannabis by such physician commits a misdemeanor of the



Amendment No. 1

18 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
19 775.083.

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23

24

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

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Remove line 5 and insert:

26

patients; providing conditions; providing penalties; requiring

27

physician

28

I just keep wondering what the FDA clinical trials are for. This bypasses the whole process, and creates a scenario for prescribing first and researching later. If the state does want to purposely do an end-around the Feds, I think it still misses a chance to be on the forefront of cutting edge respectable research. I would think a much more legitimate scenario would be making the "registry" a research registry and everyone being treated is in the study. Asking for the Rx would mean signing up for an experimental protocol. People would pay to be a part, a true public private partnership. It also gives an endpoint and the expectation that this isn't going to mean open ended access until or unless it's a proven treatment (let's say the low THC agent is a flop, or makes people high, or has a social decline element to it just like the regular stuff--if it's still a research study you end the study and there's no moral obligation to keep the drug going for the current users; not the case so much in the bill's scenario). Purest research would mean that a subset of folks receive placebo (that's more sticky, but until and unless it is proven to be a bonafide highly effective treatment a placebo "arm" is completely ethical). A lot of the spirit of what I'm saying is in there, but as written I think it is fast and loose. I can see tons of low THC clinics popping up all over, nothing better than the pill mills everyone agrees were/are such a blight (and frankly, embarrassing as things like this perpetuates a stereotype of Florida as a haphazard lazy bottom feeder population). I already know the types of docs who'll be first in line for the 8H course. Since its low THC the idea is low euphoria and abuse potential; that is not going to stop the public from pounding down the door, money in hand, wanting to try it (we are already getting calls from people wanting Charlotte's Web, or WHICHEVER cannabis version becomes legal). Unless every qualifying diagnosis is 100% objective there will be docs fudging so people can try it out. It just sounds really seedy, pun intended. I also don't see there really being enough funding to regulate the production and dispensing everywhere all the time.

Micah Baxley
352.299.6989

3/26/2014

Dear Legislators:

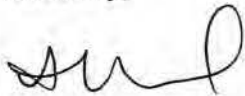
I am a child neurologist and care for children with seizures which are resistant to many medications. These children may have multiple daily seizures which affect their development and school performance. These seizures impact quality of life and affect the whole family. The medications have side effects which affect alertness, cognition, and mood, and they may cause the child to have no appetite at all or conversely to overeat.

Cannabinoids represent a therapy which may have promise in the treatment of these children. Ongoing scientific investigation is imperative. I care for children who are not candidates for epilepsy surgery and who have tried other modalities including vagal nerve stimulator and vitamins such as pyridoxine as well as multiple anticonvulsants and who continue to have daily seizures or seizures which affect their ability to breathe independently. These children may benefit from treatment with cannabinoids. I anticipate that there will be several clinical trials in the near future to investigate this question.

Legalization of the cannabinoids would allow the families to participate in clinical trials in other states without facing prosecution for dosing the child with the medication in their home. This strategy would help keep families together. Several families have considered moving to states where the cannabinoids have been legalized. This move would take them far from their support systems and homes, but many families of children with severe epilepsy are desperate for a new therapy which may offer their child a better quality of life.

Please consider measures to legalize the cannabinoids for medical purposes in Florida so that families of children in these trials and under neurological care would not face legal sanctions for using these substances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara McCrone Winchester MD', written in a cursive style.

Sara McCrone Winchester MD