HB 65 - 2017 Medical Cannabis Bill

Highlights of HB 65

Adds 6 conditions to current law: Tourette Syndrome, Autism, Intractable pain, PTSD, Alzheimer's, and AIDS.

Removes end-stage qualification from 5 current conditions already included in current law: Cancer, ALS, MS, Parkinson's, Sickle Cell Disease.

Removes the 1-year residency requirement.

Removes the quarterly reporting requirement for physicians at their request.

Defines intractable pain as severe, debilitating pain that has not responded to previously prescribed medication or surgical measures for more than three months.

Research has shown that cannabis can:

- 1. Lessen the severity of tics and spasms of Tourette Syndrome.
- Calm the brains of patients on the autism spectrum, allowing them to better interact and focus.
- 3. Reduce pain, WITHOUT getting high from more dangerous opioids and pharmaceutical drugs.
- 4. Reduce the impacts of PTSD, allowing veterans to live more normal lives.
- Delay the onset of Alzheimer's.
- 6. Lessen the severity of symptoms of people living with AIDS.
- Current program has had no issues with abuse.
- Determination of medical cannabis qualification should be made by a doctor, not a legislator.

HR 36 - 2017 Medical Cannabis Resolution

Highlights of HR 36

Will allow a public vote on whether Georgia will allow the production and distribution of medical cannabis.

Will be on the 2018 state-wide ballot, which is the next election allowing for changes to the Georgia Constitution.

Will allow all revenue collected from taxes to be dedicated to a fund to support drug treatment programs.

- Our current law does not allow any method to actually access the medical cannabis products we are allowed to possess.
- Parents are forced to either establish residency in legal medical cannabis states, buy limited quantities of recreational products at high prices in legal recreational states, or buy street product in Georgia and make their own oil all of which are illegal if you go across state lines, or buy local illegal product.
- Doctors need a local, safe, lab-tested, consistent product to know what they are recommending and be able to work with their patient.
- Governor Deal, Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, and a handful of other influential politicians have expressed an unwillingness to allow production of safe, lab-tested medical cannabis in Georgia to help patients.
- An AJC poll has shown the last two years that over 70% of Georgia citizens support the in-state production and distribution of medical cannabis.

Original Additional conditions conditions covered under proposed in HB 65 **Georgia law** Autism Cancer Mitochondrial Tourette Syndrome Disease Parkinson's Intractable Pain Disease Sickle Cell Disease Alzheimer's **PTSD** Seizures **Multiple Sclerosis** AIDS Crohn's Disease ALS