

CONFIDENTIAL
LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW FORM: 2016

Bill Number: H.750 Name of Bill: An act relating to defining an ounce of marijuana for the purpose of therapeutic use

Agency/Dept: DPS/VCIC Author of Bill Jeffrey Wallin
Review: _____

Date of Bill Review: 1/29/2016 Related Bills and Key Players: _____

Status of Bill: (check one)

X Upon Introduction _____ As passed by 1st body _____ As passed by both bodies _____

Recommended Position:

_____ Support _____ Oppose X Remain Neutral _____ Support with modifications identified in # 8 below

Analysis of Bill

1. **Summary of bill and issue it addresses.** *Describe what the bill is intended to accomplish and why.*
The definition of an ounce (in relationship to weight in grams) is not currently defined in statute governing the Therapeutic Marijuana Program. Within the general scientific literature there are various definitions of an ounce (28 grams, 28.3 grams, and 31.1 grams).
2. **Is there a need for this bill?** *Please explain why or why not.*
Currently the rules governing the Therapeutic Marijuana Program define an ounce as 28 grams, thus any change would require either an adjustment to the statute or rules.
3. **What are likely to be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for this Department?**
The programmatic implications are expected to be moderate as audit documentation and procedures will need to be updated to reflect the revised definition.
4. **What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for other departments in state government, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?**
Given other departments limited interaction with the Therapeutic Marijuana Program the expected impact would be minimal.
5. **What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for others, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?** *(for example, public, municipalities, organizations, business, regulated entities, etc)*
There would be programmatic implications for the registered marijuana dispensaries within Vermont relating to inventory tracking and sales management. However, it is understood that the dispensaries generally support this clarification.
6. **Other Stakeholders:**
 - 6.1 **Who else is likely to support the proposal and why?**
Patients registered with the Therapeutic Marijuana Program, Program Advocates
 - 6.2 **Who else is likely to oppose the proposal and why?**
None expected
7. **Rationale for recommendation:** *Justify recommendation stated above.*

As there is minimal impact and various definitions used within standard literature, having a defined amount (28.3 grams) within statute is not expected to significantly affect the overall program long-term. The current definition as utilized within the rules governing the program (28 grams) is also an accepted metric and thus clarification is not specifically necessary.

8. Specific modifications that would be needed to recommend support of this bill: *Not meant to rewrite bill, but rather, an opportunity to identify simple modifications that would change recommended position.*

9. Will this bill create a new board or commission AND/OR add or remove appointees to an existing one? If so, which one and how many?

No

Secretary/Commissioner has reviewed this document

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "K. J. P.", is written over a faint rectangular stamp.

Date: 2/1/16