

AGENDA

MEDICAL CANNABIS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 | 4:00 p.m. | Room 120 Senate Building

Members of the public may participate remotely in the meeting by visiting the committee's webpage to access the live streaming options:

<https://le.utah.gov/committee/committee.jsp?year=2025&com=SPEMCG>

1. Committee Business

- Call to order
- Approval of the minutes of the May 20, 2025, meeting

2. Workers' Compensation and Medical Cannabis

The Working Group will consider issues related to on-the-job injuries when illicit use of cannabis or use of medical cannabis is involved.

- Tige Rhoades
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and potential action

3. Medical Cannabis Use in Hospitals

In accordance with [UCA 26B-4-214](#), Utah currently permits assisted living facilities, nursing care facilities, and general acute hospitals to be a designated caregiver for a medical cannabis patient. Upon this designation a facility can receive a medical cannabis shipment and assist the patient with medical cannabis treatment. However, marijuana's federal classification as a Schedule I controlled substance could continue to make health care facilities – who are federally certified and regulated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – hesitant to broadly permit medical cannabis use within facilities. California passed legislation in 2021 ([SB 311](#) known as "Ryan's Law") that required certain health care facilities to permit the use of medical cannabis by terminally ill medical cannabis patients subject to certain restrictions. Other states ([Rhode Island, 2025](#); [Oregon, 2025](#)) have considered similar legislation. The Working Group will hear from healthcare facility representatives and medical cannabis patient advocates on the possible benefits and drawbacks of medical cannabis use by terminally ill patients in healthcare facilities.

- Dave Gessel, Utah Hospital Association
- Desiree Hennessy, Utah Patients Coalition
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and potential action

4. THC Potency in Medical Cannabis Products

Utah Statute ([UCA 26B-4-201\(22\)](#) and [UCA 26B-4-245](#)) places a 28-day window purchasing limit on medical cannabis products, but is silent on allowable THC potency of specific products. Some states have placed specific limits on milligrams of THC per package and/or per serving of medical cannabis or through percentage caps. The Working Group will consider the possible benefits and drawbacks of limiting THC potency for medical cannabis products in Utah.

- Public comment
- Committee discussion and potential action



5. Program Accessibility for Medical Cannabis Patients

The Working Group will receive a presentation from researchers involved with the recently published study, [“Understanding motives for illicit medicinal cannabis use: an exploratory analysis in a medical cannabis program.”](#) The Working Group will consider areas for improving Utah’s medical cannabis patient experience, what is working well, and opportunities for further research.

- Jerry Cochran, University of Utah, PhD
- Lirit Franks, University of Utah, PhD
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and potential action

6. Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board Update

In accordance with [UCA 26B-1-435\(8\)](#), the policy advisory board may recommend to the appropriate legislative committee whether the advisory board supports a change to medical cannabis statutes. The Working Group will receive an update from the co-chairs of the policy advisory board and will have an opportunity to ask questions.

- Desiree Hennessy and Matt Page, co-chairs, Medical Cannabis Policy Advisory Board
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and potential action

7. Agency Update

The working group will receive updates from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food and Utah Department of Health and Human Services on suggestions for legislative changes to improve Utah’s Medical Cannabis Program.

- Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
- Utah Department of Health and Human Services
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and potential action

8. Adjourn