

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAFE Glen Cove Coalition: Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act

President Biden recently signed a bill that establishes a new, separate registration process to facilitate research on marijuana. Specifically, the bill directs the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to follow specified procedures to register (1) practitioners to conduct marijuana research, and (2) manufacturers to supply marijuana for the research.

The bill allows certain registered entities (including institutions of higher education, practitioners, and manufacturers) to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess marijuana or cannabidiol (CBD) for the purposes of medical research. Additionally, the bill directs the DEA to register manufacturers and distributors of CBD or marijuana for the purpose of commercial production of an approved drug that contains marijuana or its derivative.

The bill also includes provisions that

- Require the DEA to assess whether there is an adequate and uninterrupted supply of marijuana for research purposes;
- Prohibit the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from reinstating the interdisciplinary review process for marijuana research;
- Allow physicians to discuss the potential harms and benefits of marijuana and its derivatives (including CBD) with patients; and
- Require HHS, in coordination with the National Institutes of Health and relevant federal agencies, to report on the therapeutic potential of marijuana for various conditions such as epilepsy, as well as the impact on adolescent brains and on the ability to operate a motor vehicle.

The bill is the first marijuana reform bill to ever pass Congress. The legislation streamlines the application process for marijuana research, encourages the FDA to develop marijuana-derived medicines, and requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report on the potential benefits and harms of marijuana use to Congress all without altering marijuana's Schedule I status or legalizing the drug.

For more information please visit <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8454>.

The SAFE Glen Cove Coalition is concerned about marijuana use and its consequences on the health and development of youth. To learn more about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition please follow us on www.facebook.com/safeglencovecoalition or visit SAFE's website to learn more about marijuana use at www.safeglencove.org.