

AN ACT

To amend sections 109.572, 519.21, 4123.54, 4729.75, 4729.80, 4729.84, 4729.85, 4729.86, 4731.22, 4731.281, 4776.02, 4776.04, and 5713.30 and to enact sections 3796.01, 3796.02, 3796.021, 3796.03, 3796.031, 3796.032, 3796.04, 3796.05, 3796.06, 3796.061, 3796.07, 3796.08, 3796.09, 3796.10, 3796.11, 3796.12, 3796.13, 3796.14, 3796.15, 3796.16, 3796.17, 3796.18, 3796.19, 3796.20, 3796.21, 3796.22, 3796.23, 3796.24, 3796.27, 3796.28, 3796.29, 3796.30, 4729.771, 4731.229, 4731.30, 4731.301, and 4731.302 of the Revised Code to authorize the use of marijuana for medical purposes and to establish the Medical Marijuana Control Program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That sections 109.572, 519.21, 4123.54, 4729.75, 4729.80, 4729.84, 4729.85, 4729.86, 4731.22, 4731.281, 4776.02, 4776.04, and 5713.30 be amended and sections 3796.01, 3796.02, 3796.021, 3796.03, 3796.031, 3796.032, 3796.04, 3796.05, 3796.06, 3796.061, 3796.07, 3796.08, 3796.09, 3796.10, 3796.11, 3796.12, 3796.13, 3796.14, 3796.15, 3796.16, 3796.17, 3796.18, 3796.19, 3796.20, 3796.21, 3796.22, 3796.23, 3796.24, 3796.27, 3796.28, 3796.29, 3796.30, 4729.771, 4731.229, 4731.30, 4731.301, and 4731.302 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 109.572. (A)(1) Upon receipt of a request pursuant to section 121.08, 3301.32, 3301.541, or 3319.39 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the

following:

(a) A violation of section 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2919.12, 2919.22, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.05, 2925.06, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code, felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code that would have been a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, had the violation been committed prior to that date, or a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that is not a minor drug possession offense;

(b) A violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in division (A)(1)(a) of this section;

(c) If the request is made pursuant to section 3319.39 of the Revised Code for an applicant who is a teacher, any offense specified in section 3319.31 of the Revised Code.

(2) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 3712.09 or 3721.121 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check with respect to any person who has applied for employment in a position for which a criminal records check is required by those sections. The superintendent shall conduct the criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following:

(a) A violation of section 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.11, 2905.12, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.12, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2911.13, 2913.02, 2913.03, 2913.04, 2913.11, 2913.21, 2913.31, 2913.40, 2913.43, 2913.47, 2913.51, 2919.25, 2921.36, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.11, 2925.13,

2925.22, 2925.23, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code;

(b) An existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in division (A)(2)(a) of this section.

(3) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 173.27, 173.38, 173.381, 3701.881, 5164.34, 5164.341, 5164.342, 5123.081, or 5123.169 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check of the person for whom the request is made. The superintendent shall conduct the criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of, has pleaded guilty to, or (except in the case of a request pursuant to section 5164.34, 5164.341, or 5164.342 of the Revised Code) has been found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction for any of the following, regardless of the date of the conviction, the date of entry of the guilty plea, or (except in the case of a request pursuant to section 5164.34, 5164.341, or 5164.342 of the Revised Code) the date the person was found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction:

(a) A violation of section 959.13, 959.131, 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.041, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.15, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.211, 2903.22, 2903.34, 2903.341, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2905.11, 2905.12, 2905.32, 2905.33, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.24, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2907.33, 2909.02, 2909.03, 2909.04, 2909.22, 2909.23, 2909.24, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2911.13, 2913.02, 2913.03, 2913.04, 2913.05, 2913.11, 2913.21, 2913.31, 2913.32, 2913.40, 2913.41, 2913.42, 2913.43, 2913.44, 2913.441, 2913.45, 2913.46, 2913.47, 2913.48, 2913.49, 2913.51, 2917.01, 2917.02, 2917.03, 2917.31, 2919.12, 2919.121, 2919.123, 2919.22, 2919.23, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2921.03, 2921.11, 2921.12, 2921.13, 2921.21, 2921.24, 2921.32, 2921.321, 2921.34, 2921.35, 2921.36, 2921.51, 2923.12, 2923.122, 2923.123, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2923.162, 2923.21, 2923.32, 2923.42, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.041, 2925.05, 2925.06, 2925.09, 2925.11, 2925.13, 2925.14, 2925.141, 2925.22, 2925.23, 2925.24, 2925.36, 2925.55, 2925.56, 2927.12, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code;

(b) Felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code;

(c) A violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996;

(d) A violation of section 2923.01, 2923.02, or 2923.03 of the Revised Code when the underlying offense that is the object of the conspiracy, attempt, or complicity is one of the offenses listed in divisions (A)(3)(a) to (c) of this section;

(e) A violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in divisions (A)(3)(a) to (d) of this section.

(4) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 2151.86 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following:

(a) A violation of section 959.13, 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.15, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.211, 2903.22, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2909.02, 2909.03, 2909.22, 2909.23, 2909.24, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2913.49, 2917.01, 2917.02, 2919.12, 2919.22, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.05, 2925.06, 2927.12, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code that would have been a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, had the violation been committed prior to that date, a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that is not a minor drug possession offense, two or more OVI or OVUAC violations committed within the three years immediately preceding the submission of the application or petition that is the basis of the request, or felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code;

(b) A violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in division (A)(4)(a) of this section.

(5) Upon receipt of a request pursuant to section 5104.013 of the

Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following:

(a) A violation of section 2151.421, 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.22, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2905.11, 2905.32, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.19, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.24, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2909.02, 2909.03, 2909.04, 2909.05, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2913.02, 2913.03, 2913.04, 2913.041, 2913.05, 2913.06, 2913.11, 2913.21, 2913.31, 2913.32, 2913.33, 2913.34, 2913.40, 2913.41, 2913.42, 2913.43, 2913.44, 2913.441, 2913.45, 2913.46, 2913.47, 2913.48, 2913.49, 2917.01, 2917.02, 2917.03, 2917.31, 2919.12, 2919.22, 2919.224, 2919.225, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2921.03, 2921.11, 2921.13, 2921.14, 2921.34, 2921.35, 2923.01, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.05, 2925.06, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code, felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code that would have been a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, had the violation been committed prior to that date, a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that is not a minor drug possession offense, a violation of section 2923.02 or 2923.03 of the Revised Code that relates to a crime specified in this division, or a second violation of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code within five years of the date of application for licensure or certification.

(b) A violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses or violations described in division (A)(5)(a) of this section.

(6) Upon receipt of a request pursuant to section 5153.111 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine

whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following:

(a) A violation of section 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2909.02, 2909.03, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2919.12, 2919.22, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.05, 2925.06, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code, felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code that would have been a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, had the violation been committed prior to that date, or a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that is not a minor drug possession offense;

(b) A violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in division (A)(6)(a) of this section.

(7) On receipt of a request for a criminal records check from an individual pursuant to section 4749.03 or 4749.06 of the Revised Code, accompanied by a completed copy of the form prescribed in division (C)(1) of this section and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in a manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists indicating that the person who is the subject of the request has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony in this state or in any other state. If the individual indicates that a firearm will be carried in the course of business, the superintendent shall require information from the federal bureau of investigation as described in division (B)(2) of this section. Subject to division (F) of this section, the superintendent shall report the findings of the criminal records check and any information the federal bureau of investigation provides to the director of public safety.

(8) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 1321.37, 1321.53, 1321.531, 1322.03, 1322.031, or 4763.05 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification

and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check with respect to any person who has applied for a license, permit, or certification from the department of commerce or a division in the department. The superintendent shall conduct the criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following: a violation of section 2913.02, 2913.11, 2913.31, 2913.51, or 2925.03 of the Revised Code; any other criminal offense involving theft, receiving stolen property, embezzlement, forgery, fraud, passing bad checks, money laundering, or drug trafficking, or any criminal offense involving money or securities, as set forth in Chapters 2909., 2911., 2913., 2915., 2921., 2923., and 2925. of the Revised Code; or any existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to those offenses.

(9) On receipt of a request for a criminal records check from the treasurer of state under section 113.041 of the Revised Code or from an individual under section 4701.08, 4715.101, 4717.061, 4725.121, 4725.501, 4729.071, 4730.101, 4730.14, 4730.28, 4731.081, 4731.15, 4731.171, 4731.222, 4731.281, 4731.296, 4731.531, 4732.091, 4734.202, 4740.061, 4741.10, 4755.70, 4757.101, 4759.061, 4760.032, 4760.06, 4761.051, 4762.031, 4762.06, 4776.021, 4779.091, or 4783.04 of the Revised Code, accompanied by a completed form prescribed under division (C)(1) of this section and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any criminal offense in this state or any other state. Subject to division (F) of this section, the superintendent shall send the results of a check requested under section 113.041 of the Revised Code to the treasurer of state and shall send the results of a check requested under any of the other listed sections to the licensing board specified by the individual in the request.

(10) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 1121.23, 1155.03, 1163.05, 1315.141, 1733.47, or 1761.26 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any

information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any criminal offense under any existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States.

(11) On receipt of a request for a criminal records check from an appointing or licensing authority under section 3772.07 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed under division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner prescribed in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty or no contest to any offense under any existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is a disqualifying offense as defined in section 3772.07 of the Revised Code or substantially equivalent to such an offense.

(12) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 2151.33 or 2151.412 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check with respect to any person for whom a criminal records check is required under that section. The superintendent shall conduct the criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following:

(a) A violation of section 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.11, 2905.12, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.12, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2911.13, 2913.02, 2913.03, 2913.04, 2913.11, 2913.21, 2913.31, 2913.40, 2913.43, 2913.47, 2913.51, 2919.25, 2921.36, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.11, 2925.13, 2925.22, 2925.23, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code;

(b) An existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in division (A)(12)(a) of this section.

(13) On receipt of a request pursuant to section 3796.12 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this

section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in a manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to the following:

(a) A disqualifying offense as specified in rules adopted under division (B)(2)(b) of section 3796.03 of the Revised Code if the person who is the subject of the request is an administrator or other person responsible for the daily operation of, or an owner or prospective owner, officer or prospective officer, or board member or prospective board member of, an entity seeking a license from the department of commerce under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code;

(b) A disqualifying offense as specified in rules adopted under division (B)(2)(b) of section 3796.04 of the Revised Code if the person who is the subject of the request is an administrator or other person responsible for the daily operation of, or an owner or prospective owner, officer or prospective officer, or board member or prospective board member of, an entity seeking a license from the state board of pharmacy under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code.

(14) On receipt of a request required by section 3796.13 of the Revised Code, a completed form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of this section, and a set of fingerprint impressions obtained in a manner described in division (C)(2) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check in the manner described in division (B) of this section to determine whether any information exists that indicates that the person who is the subject of the request previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to the following:

(a) A disqualifying offense as specified in rules adopted under division (B)(8)(a) of section 3796.03 of the Revised Code if the person who is the subject of the request is seeking employment with an entity licensed by the department of commerce under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code;

(b) A disqualifying offense as specified in rules adopted under division (B)(14)(a) of section 3796.04 of the Revised Code if the person who is the subject of the request is seeking employment with an entity licensed by the state board of pharmacy under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code.

(B) Subject to division (F) of this section, the superintendent shall conduct any criminal records check to be conducted under this section as

follows:

(1) The superintendent shall review or cause to be reviewed any relevant information gathered and compiled by the bureau under division (A) of section 109.57 of the Revised Code that relates to the person who is the subject of the criminal records check, including, if the criminal records check was requested under section 113.041, 121.08, 173.27, 173.38, 173.381, 1121.23, 1155.03, 1163.05, 1315.141, 1321.37, 1321.53, 1321.531, 1322.03, 1322.031, 1733.47, 1761.26, 2151.86, 3301.32, 3301.541, 3319.39, 3701.881, 3712.09, 3721.121, 3772.07, 3796.12, 4749.03, 4749.06, 4763.05, 5104.013, 5164.34, 5164.341, 5164.342, 5123.081, 5123.169, or 5153.111 of the Revised Code, any relevant information contained in records that have been sealed under section 2953.32 of the Revised Code;

(2) If the request received by the superintendent asks for information from the federal bureau of investigation, the superintendent shall request from the federal bureau of investigation any information it has with respect to the person who is the subject of the criminal records check, including fingerprint-based checks of national crime information databases as described in 42 U.S.C. 671 if the request is made pursuant to section 2151.86 or 5104.013 of the Revised Code or if any other Revised Code section requires fingerprint-based checks of that nature, and shall review or cause to be reviewed any information the superintendent receives from that bureau. If a request under section 3319.39 of the Revised Code asks only for information from the federal bureau of investigation, the superintendent shall not conduct the review prescribed by division (B)(1) of this section.

(3) The superintendent or the superintendent's designee may request criminal history records from other states or the federal government pursuant to the national crime prevention and privacy compact set forth in section 109.571 of the Revised Code.

(4) The superintendent shall include in the results of the criminal records check a list or description of the offenses listed or described in division (A)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), ~~(12)~~, ~~(13)~~, or ~~(14)~~ of this section, whichever division requires the superintendent to conduct the criminal records check. The superintendent shall exclude from the results any information the dissemination of which is prohibited by federal law.

(5) The superintendent shall send the results of the criminal records check to the person to whom it is to be sent not later than the following number of days after the date the superintendent receives the request for the criminal records check, the completed form prescribed under division (C)(1) of this section, and the set of fingerprint impressions obtained in the manner

described in division (C)(2) of this section:

(a) If the superintendent is required by division (A) of this section (other than division (A)(3) of this section) to conduct the criminal records check, thirty;

(b) If the superintendent is required by division (A)(3) of this section to conduct the criminal records check, sixty.

(C)(1) The superintendent shall prescribe a form to obtain the information necessary to conduct a criminal records check from any person for whom a criminal records check is to be conducted under this section. The form that the superintendent prescribes pursuant to this division may be in a tangible format, in an electronic format, or in both tangible and electronic formats.

(2) The superintendent shall prescribe standard impression sheets to obtain the fingerprint impressions of any person for whom a criminal records check is to be conducted under this section. Any person for whom a records check is to be conducted under this section shall obtain the fingerprint impressions at a county sheriff's office, municipal police department, or any other entity with the ability to make fingerprint impressions on the standard impression sheets prescribed by the superintendent. The office, department, or entity may charge the person a reasonable fee for making the impressions. The standard impression sheets the superintendent prescribes pursuant to this division may be in a tangible format, in an electronic format, or in both tangible and electronic formats.

(3) Subject to division (D) of this section, the superintendent shall prescribe and charge a reasonable fee for providing a criminal records check under this section. The person requesting the criminal records check shall pay the fee prescribed pursuant to this division. In the case of a request under section 1121.23, 1155.03, 1163.05, 1315.141, 1733.47, 1761.26, 2151.33, 2151.412, or 5164.34 of the Revised Code, the fee shall be paid in the manner specified in that section.

(4) The superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation may prescribe methods of forwarding fingerprint impressions and information necessary to conduct a criminal records check, which methods shall include, but not be limited to, an electronic method.

(D) The results of a criminal records check conducted under this section, other than a criminal records check specified in division (A)(7) of this section, are valid for the person who is the subject of the criminal records check for a period of one year from the date upon which the superintendent completes the criminal records check. If during that period the superintendent receives another request for a criminal records check to

be conducted under this section for that person, the superintendent shall provide the results from the previous criminal records check of the person at a lower fee than the fee prescribed for the initial criminal records check.

(E) When the superintendent receives a request for information from a registered private provider, the superintendent shall proceed as if the request was received from a school district board of education under section 3319.39 of the Revised Code. The superintendent shall apply division (A)(1)(c) of this section to any such request for an applicant who is a teacher.

(F)(1) All information regarding the results of a criminal records check conducted under this section that the superintendent reports or sends under division (A)(7) or (9) of this section to the director of public safety, the treasurer of state, or the person, board, or entity that made the request for the criminal records check shall relate to the conviction of the subject person, or the subject person's plea of guilty to, a criminal offense.

(2) Division (F)(1) of this section does not limit, restrict, or preclude the superintendent's release of information that relates to the arrest of a person who is eighteen years of age or older, to an adjudication of a child as a delinquent child, or to a criminal conviction of a person under eighteen years of age in circumstances in which a release of that nature is authorized under division (E)(2), (3), or (4) of section 109.57 of the Revised Code pursuant to a rule adopted under division (E)(1) of that section.

(G) As used in this section:

(1) "Criminal records check" means any criminal records check conducted by the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation in accordance with division (B) of this section.

(2) "Minor drug possession offense" has the same meaning as in section 2925.01 of the Revised Code.

(3) "OVI or OVUAC violation" means a violation of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code or a violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to section 4511.19 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Registered private provider" means a nonpublic school or entity registered with the superintendent of public instruction under section 3310.41 of the Revised Code to participate in the autism scholarship program or section 3310.58 of the Revised Code to participate in the Jon Peterson special needs scholarship program.

Sec. 519.21. (A) Except as otherwise provided in ~~division~~ divisions (B) and (D) of this section, sections 519.02 to 519.25 of the Revised Code confer no power on any township zoning commission, board of township

trustees, or board of zoning appeals to prohibit the use of any land for agricultural purposes or the construction or use of buildings or structures incident to the use for agricultural purposes of the land on which such buildings or structures are located, including buildings or structures that are used primarily for vinting and selling wine and that are located on land any part of which is used for viticulture, and no zoning certificate shall be required for any such building or structure.

(B) A township zoning resolution, or an amendment to such resolution, may in any platted subdivision approved under section 711.05, 711.09, or 711.10 of the Revised Code, or in any area consisting of fifteen or more lots approved under section 711.131 of the Revised Code that are contiguous to one another, or some of which are contiguous to one another and adjacent to one side of a dedicated public road, and the balance of which are contiguous to one another and adjacent to the opposite side of the same dedicated public road regulate:

(1) Agriculture on lots of one acre or less;

(2) Buildings or structures incident to the use of land for agricultural purposes on lots greater than one acre but not greater than five acres by: set back building lines; height; and size;

(3) Dairying and animal and poultry husbandry on lots greater than one acre but not greater than five acres when at least thirty-five per cent of the lots in the subdivision are developed with at least one building, structure, or improvement that is subject to real property taxation or that is subject to the tax on manufactured and mobile homes under section 4503.06 of the Revised Code. After thirty-five per cent of the lots are so developed, dairying and animal and poultry husbandry shall be considered nonconforming use of land and buildings or structures pursuant to section 519.19 of the Revised Code.

Division (B) of this section confers no power on any township zoning commission, board of township trustees, or board of zoning appeals to regulate agriculture, buildings or structures, and dairying and animal and poultry husbandry on lots greater than five acres.

(C) Such sections confer no power on any township zoning commission, board of township trustees, or board of zoning appeals to prohibit in a district zoned for agricultural, industrial, residential, or commercial uses, the use of any land for:

(1) A farm market where fifty per cent or more of the gross income received from the market is derived from produce raised on farms owned or operated by the market operator in a normal crop year. However, a board of township trustees, as provided in section 519.02 of the Revised Code, may

regulate such factors pertaining to farm markets as size of the structure, size of parking areas that may be required, set back building lines, and egress or ingress, where such regulation is necessary to protect the public health and safety.

(2) Biodiesel production, biomass energy production, or electric or heat energy production if the land on which the production facility is located qualifies as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use under sections 5713.30 to 5713.37 of the Revised Code for real property tax purposes. As used in division (C)(2) of this section, "biodiesel," "biomass energy," and "electric or heat energy" have the same meanings as in section 5713.30 of the Revised Code.

(3) Biologically derived methane gas production if the land on which the production facility is located qualifies as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use under sections 5713.30 to 5713.37 of the Revised Code for real property tax purposes and if the facility that produces the biologically derived methane gas does not produce more than seventeen million six thousand seven hundred ten British thermal units, five megawatts, or both.

As used in division (C)(3) of this section, "biologically derived methane gas" has the same meaning as in section 5713.30 of the Revised Code.

(D) Nothing in this section prohibits a township zoning commission, board of township trustees, or board of zoning appeals from regulating the location of medical marijuana cultivators, processors, or retail dispensaries or from prohibiting such cultivators, processors, or dispensaries from being located in the unincorporated territory of the township.

Sec. 3796.01. (A) As used in this chapter:

(1) "Marijuana" means marihuana as defined in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Medical marijuana" means marijuana that is cultivated, processed, dispensed, tested, possessed, or used for a medical purpose.

(3) "Academic medical center" has the same meaning as in section 4731.297 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Drug database" means the database established and maintained by the state board of pharmacy pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code.

(5) "Physician" means an individual authorized under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery.

(6) "Qualifying medical condition" means any of the following:

(a) Acquired immune deficiency syndrome;

(b) Alzheimer's disease;

- (c) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis;
- (d) Cancer;
- (e) Chronic traumatic encephalopathy;
- (f) Crohn's disease;
- (g) Epilepsy or another seizure disorder;
- (h) Fibromyalgia;
- (i) Glaucoma;
- (j) Hepatitis C;
- (k) Inflammatory bowel disease;
- (l) Multiple sclerosis;
- (m) Pain that is either of the following:
 - (i) Chronic and severe;
 - (ii) Intractable.
- (n) Parkinson's disease;
- (o) Positive status for HIV;
- (p) Post-traumatic stress disorder;
- (q) Sickle cell anemia;
- (r) Spinal cord disease or injury;
- (s) Tourette's syndrome;
- (t) Traumatic brain injury;
- (u) Ulcerative colitis;
- (v) Any other disease or condition added by the state medical board

under section 4731.302 of the Revised Code.

(7) "State university" has the same meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code.

(B) Notwithstanding section 3719.41 of the Revised Code, for purposes of this chapter, medical marijuana is a schedule II controlled substance.

Sec. 3796.02. There is hereby established a medical marijuana control program in the department of commerce and the state board of pharmacy. The department shall provide for the licensure of medical marijuana cultivators and processors and the licensure of laboratories that test medical marijuana. The board shall provide for the licensure of retail dispensaries and the registration of patients and their caregivers. The department and board shall administer the program.

Sec. 3796.021. (A) The medical marijuana advisory committee is hereby created in the state board of pharmacy. The committee shall consist of the following:

(1) Two members who are practicing pharmacists, at least one of whom supports the use of marijuana for medical purposes and at least one of whom is a member of the board of pharmacy;

(2) Two members who are practicing physicians, at least one of whom supports the use of marijuana for medical purposes and at least one of whom is a member of the state medical board;

(3) A member who represents local law enforcement;

(4) A member who represents employers;

(5) A member who represents labor;

(6) A member who represents persons involved in mental health treatment;

(7) A member who is a nurse;

(8) A member who represents caregivers;

(9) A member who represents patients;

(10) A member who represents agriculture;

(11) A member who represents persons involved in the treatment of alcohol and drug addiction;

(12) A member who engages in academic research.

(B) The governor shall appoint the members described in divisions (A)(1), (2), (4), (10), (11), and (12) of this section. The senate president shall appoint the members described in divisions (A)(3) and (8) of this section. The minority leader of the senate shall appoint the member described in division (A)(7) of this section. The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint the members described in divisions (A)(6) and (9) of this section. The minority leader of the house of representatives shall appoint the member described in division (A)(5) of this section. Not more than six members shall be of the same political party.

(C) Appointments to the committee shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section.

(D) Each member of the committee shall serve from the date of appointment until the committee ceases to exist, except that members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

(E) The governor shall select a member of the committee to serve as its chairperson.

(F) Each member of the committee shall receive a per diem compensation determined in accordance with division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised Code. In addition, each member shall receive actual and necessary travel expenses in connection with committee meetings and business.

(G) The committee shall hold its initial meeting not later than thirty days after the last member of the committee is appointed. The committee may develop and submit to the department of commerce, state board of

pharmacy, and the state medical board any recommendations related to the medical marijuana control program and the implementation and enforcement of Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code.

(H) The committee is not subject to sections 101.82 to 101.87 of the Revised Code.

(I) The committee shall cease to exist on the date that occurs five years and thirty days after the effective date of this act.

Sec. 3796.03. (A)(1) Except as provided in division (A)(2) of this section, not later than one year after the effective date of this section, the department of commerce shall adopt rules establishing standards and procedures for the medical marijuana control program.

(2) The department shall adopt rules establishing standards and procedures for the licensure of cultivators not later than two hundred forty days after the effective date of this section.

(3) All rules adopted under this section shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(B) The rules shall do all of the following:

(1) Establish application procedures and fees for licenses it issues under this chapter;

(2) Specify all of the following:

(a) The conditions that must be met to be eligible for licensure;

(b) Subject to division (B)(2)(c) of this section, the criminal offenses for which an applicant will be disqualified from licensure;

(c) Which of the criminal offenses specified pursuant to division (B)(2)(b) of this section will not disqualify an applicant from licensure if the applicant was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the application for licensure is filed.

(3) Establish, in accordance with section 3796.05 of the Revised Code, the number of cultivator licenses that will be permitted at any one time;

(4) Establish a license renewal schedule, renewal procedures, and renewal fees;

(5) Specify reasons for which a license may be suspended, including without prior hearing, revoked, or not be renewed or issued and the reasons for which a civil penalty may be imposed on a license holder;

(6) Establish standards under which a license suspension may be lifted;

(7) Specify if a cultivator, processor, or laboratory that is licensed under this chapter and that existed at a location before a school, church, public library, public playground, or public park became established within five hundred feet of the cultivator, processor, or laboratory, may remain in operation or shall relocate or have its license revoked by the board;

(8) Specify both of the following:

(a) Subject to division (B)(8)(b) of this section, the criminal offenses for which a person will be disqualified from employment with a license holder;

(b) Which of the criminal offenses specified pursuant to division (B)(8)(a) of this section will not disqualify a person from employment with a license holder if the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the employment begins.

(9) Establish, in accordance with section 3796.05 of the Revised Code, standards and procedures for the testing of medical marijuana by a laboratory licensed under this chapter.

(C) In addition to the rules described in division (B) of this section, the department may adopt any other rules it considers necessary for the program's administration and the implementation and enforcement of this chapter.

(D) When adopting rules under this section, the department shall consider standards and procedures that have been found to be best practices relative to the use and regulation of medical marijuana.

Sec. 3796.031. (A) The director of commerce may, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, adopt rules that establish a closed-loop payment processing system under which the state creates accounts to be used only by registered patients and caregivers at licensed dispensaries as well as by all license holders under this chapter. The system may include record-keeping and accounting functions that identify all parties involved in those transactions. The purpose of the system is to prevent all of the following:

(1) Revenue from the sale of marijuana from going to criminal enterprises, gangs, and cartels;

(2) The diversion of marijuana from a state where it is legal in some form under that state's law to another state;

(3) The distribution of marijuana to minors;

(4) The use of state-authorized marijuana activity as a cover or pretext for the trafficking of other illegal drugs or for other illegal activity.

(B) The information recorded by the system shall be fully accessible to the state board of pharmacy and all state and federal law enforcement agencies, including the United States department of the treasury's financial crimes enforcement network.

Sec. 3796.032. This chapter does not authorize the department of commerce or the state board of pharmacy to oversee or limit research conducted at a state university, academic medical center, or private research and development organization that is related to marijuana and is approved

by an agency, board, center, department, or institute of the United States government, including any of the following:

- (A) The agency for health care research and quality;
- (B) The national institutes of health;
- (C) The national academy of sciences;
- (D) The centers for medicare and medicaid services;
- (E) The United States department of defense;
- (F) The centers for disease control and prevention;
- (G) The United States department of veterans affairs;
- (H) The drug enforcement administration;
- (I) The food and drug administration;
- (J) Any board recognized by the national institutes of health for the purpose of evaluating the medical value of health care services.

Sec. 3796.04. (A)(1) Not later than one year after the effective date of this section, the board of pharmacy shall adopt rules establishing standards and procedures for the medical marijuana control program.

(2) All rules adopted under this section shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(B) The rules shall do all of the following:

(1) Establish application procedures and fees for licenses and registrations it issues under this chapter;

(2) Specify all of the following:

(a) The conditions that must be met to be eligible for licensure;

(b) Subject to division (B)(2)(c) of this section, the criminal offenses for which an applicant will be disqualified from licensure;

(c) Which of the criminal offenses specified pursuant to division (B)(2)(b) of this section will not disqualify an applicant from licensure if the applicant was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the application for licensure is filed.

(3) Establish, in accordance with section 3796.05 of the Revised Code, the number of retail dispensary licenses that will be permitted at any one time;

(4) Establish a license or registration renewal schedule, renewal procedures, and renewal fees;

(5) Specify reasons for which a license or registration may be suspended, including without prior hearing, revoked, or not be renewed or issued and the reasons for which a civil penalty may be imposed on a license holder;

(6) Establish standards under which a license or registration suspension may be lifted;

(7) Establish procedures for registration of patients and caregivers and requirements that must be met to be eligible for registration;

(8) Establish training requirements for employees of retail dispensaries;

(9) Specify if a retail dispensary that is licensed under this chapter and that existed at a location before a school, church, public library, public playground, or public park became established within five hundred feet of the retail dispensary may remain in operation or shall relocate or have its license revoked by the board;

(10) Specify, by form and tetrahydrocannabinol content, a maximum ninety-day supply of medical marijuana that may be possessed;

(11) Specify the paraphernalia or other accessories that may be used in the administration to a registered patient of medical marijuana;

(12) Establish procedures for the issuance of patient or caregiver identification cards;

(13) Specify the forms of or methods of using medical marijuana that are attractive to children;

(14) Specify both of the following:

(a) Subject to division (B)(14)(b) of this section, the criminal offenses for which a person will be disqualified from employment with a license holder;

(b) Which of the criminal offenses specified pursuant to division (B)(14)(a) of this section will not disqualify a person from employment with a license holder if the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the employment begins.

(15) Establish a program to assist patients who are veterans or indigent in obtaining medical marijuana in accordance with this chapter.

(C) In addition to the rules described in division (B) of this section, the board may adopt any other rules it considers necessary for the program's administration and the implementation and enforcement of this chapter.

(D) When adopting rules under this section, the board shall consider standards and procedures that have been found to be best practices relative to the use and regulation of medical marijuana.

Sec. 3796.05. (A) When establishing the number of cultivator licenses that will be permitted at any one time, the department of commerce shall consider both of the following:

(1) The population of this state;

(2) The number of patients seeking to use medical marijuana.

(B) When establishing the number of retail dispensary licenses that will be permitted at any one time, the state board of pharmacy shall consider all of the following:

- (1) The population of this state;
- (2) The number of patients seeking to use medical marijuana;
- (3) The geographic distribution of dispensary sites in an effort to ensure patient access to medical marijuana.

(C) When establishing standards and procedures for the testing of medical marijuana, the department shall do all of the following:

- (1) Specify when testing must be conducted;
- (2) Determine the minimum amount of medical marijuana that must be tested;
- (3) Specify the manner in which testing is to be conducted in an effort to ensure uniformity of medical marijuana products processed for and dispensed to patients;
- (4) Specify the manner in which test results are provided.

Sec. 3796.06. (A) Only the following forms of medical marijuana may be dispensed under this chapter:

- (1) Oils;
- (2) Tinctures;
- (3) Plant material;
- (4) Edibles;
- (5) Patches;
- (6) Any other form approved by the state board of pharmacy under section 3796.061 of the Revised Code.

(B) With respect to the methods of using medical marijuana, all of the following apply:

- (1) The smoking or combustion of medical marijuana is prohibited.
- (2) The vaporization of medical marijuana is permitted;
- (3) The state board of pharmacy may approve additional methods of using medical marijuana, other than smoking or combustion, under section 3796.061 of the Revised Code.

(C) Any form or method that is considered attractive to children, as specified in rules adopted by the board, is prohibited.

(D) With respect to tetrahydrocannabinol content, all of the following apply:

- (1) Plant material shall have a tetrahydrocannabinol content of not more than thirty-five per cent.
- (2) Extracts shall have a tetrahydrocannabinol content of not more than seventy per cent.

Sec. 3796.061. (A) Any person may submit a petition to the state board of pharmacy requesting that a form of or method of using medical marijuana be approved for the purposes of section 3796.06 of the Revised Code. A

petition shall be submitted to the board in a manner prescribed by the board. A petition shall not seek to approve a method of using medical marijuana that involves smoking or combustion.

(B) On receipt of a petition, the board shall review it to determine whether to approve the form of or method of using medical marijuana described in the petition. The board may consolidate the review of petitions for the same or similar forms or methods. In making its determination, the board shall consult with one or more experts and review any relevant scientific evidence.

(C) The board shall approve or deny the petition in accordance with any rules adopted by the board under this section. The board's decision is final.

(D) The board may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3796.07. The department of commerce shall establish and maintain an electronic database to monitor medical marijuana from its seed source through its cultivation, processing, testing, and dispensing. The department may contract with a separate entity to establish and maintain all or any part of the electronic database on behalf of the department.

The electronic database shall allow for information regarding medical marijuana to be updated instantaneously. Any cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory licensed under this chapter shall submit to the department any information the department determines is necessary for maintaining the electronic database.

The department and any entity under contract with the department shall not make public any information reported to or collected by the department under this division that identifies or would tend to identify any specific patient.

Sec. 3796.08. (A)(1) A patient seeking to use medical marijuana or a caregiver seeking to assist a patient in the use or administration of medical marijuana shall apply to the state board of pharmacy for registration. The physician who holds a certificate to recommend issued by the state medical board and is treating the patient or the physician's delegate shall submit the application on the patient's or caregiver's behalf in the manner established in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(2) The application shall include all of the following:

(a) A statement from the physician certifying all of the following:

(i) That a bona fide physician-patient relationship exists between the physician and patient;

(ii) That the patient has been diagnosed with a qualifying medical

condition:

(iii) That the physician or physician delegate has requested from the drug database a report of information related to the patient that covers at least the twelve months immediately preceding the date of the report;

(iv) That the physician has informed the patient of the risks and benefits of medical marijuana as it pertains to the patient's qualifying medical condition and medical history;

(v) That the physician has informed the patient that it is the physician's opinion that the benefits of medical marijuana outweigh its risks.

(b) In the case of an application submitted on behalf of a patient, the name or names of the one or more caregivers that will assist the patient in the use or administration of medical marijuana;

(c) In the case of an application submitted on behalf of a caregiver, the name of the patient or patients that the caregiver seeks to assist in the use or administration of medical marijuana.

(3) If the application is complete and meets the requirements established in rules, the board shall register the patient or caregiver and issue to the patient or caregiver an identification card.

(B) The board shall not make public any information reported to or collected by the board under this section that identifies or would tend to identify any specific patient.

Information collected by the board pursuant to this section is confidential and not a public record. The board may share identifying information with a licensed retail dispensary for the purpose of confirming that a person has a valid registration. Information that does not identify a person may be released in summary, statistical, or aggregate form.

(C) A registration expires according to the renewal schedule established in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code and may be renewed in accordance with procedures established in those rules.

Sec. 3796.09. (A) An entity that seeks to cultivate or process medical marijuana or to conduct laboratory testing of medical marijuana shall file an application for licensure with the department of commerce. The entity shall file an application for each location from which it seeks to operate. Each application shall be submitted in accordance with rules adopted under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code.

(B) The department shall issue a license to an applicant if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The report of the criminal records check conducted pursuant to section 3796.12 of the Revised Code with respect to the application demonstrates the following:

(a) Subject to division (B)(1)(b) of this section that the person subject to the criminal records check requirement has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the disqualifying offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(2)(b) of section 3796.03 of the Revised Code;

(b) That the disqualifying offense the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to is one of the offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(2)(c) of section 3796.03 of the Revised Code and the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the application for licensure is filed.

(2) The applicant demonstrates that it does not have an ownership or investment interest in or compensation arrangement with any of the following:

(a) A laboratory licensed under this chapter;

(b) An applicant for a license to conduct laboratory testing.

(3) The applicant demonstrates that it does not share any corporate officers or employees with any of the following:

(a) A laboratory licensed under this chapter;

(b) An applicant for a license to conduct laboratory testing.

(4) The applicant demonstrates that it will not be located within five hundred feet of a school, church, public library, public playground, or public park.

(5) The information provided to the department pursuant to section 3796.11 of the Revised Code demonstrates that the applicant is in compliance with the applicable tax laws of this state.

(6) The applicant meets all other licensure eligibility conditions established in rules adopted under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code.

(C) The department shall issue not less than fifteen per cent of cultivator, processor, or laboratory licenses to entities that are owned and controlled by United States citizens who are residents of this state and are members of one of the following economically disadvantaged groups: Blacks or African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics or Latinos, and Asians. If no applications or an insufficient number of applications are submitted by such entities that meet the conditions set forth in division (B) of this section, the licenses shall be issued according to usual procedures.

As used in this division, "owned and controlled" means that at least fifty-one per cent of the business, including corporate stock if a corporation, is owned by persons who belong to one or more of the groups set forth in this division, and that those owners have control over the management and day-to-day operations of the business and an interest in the capital, assets, and profits and losses of the business proportionate to their percentage of

ownership.

(D) A license expires according to the renewal schedule established in rules adopted under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code and may be renewed in accordance with the procedures established in those rules.

Sec. 3796.10. (A) An entity that seeks to dispense at retail medical marijuana shall file an application for licensure with the state board of pharmacy. The entity shall file an application for each location from which it seeks to operate. Each application shall be submitted in accordance with rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(B) The board shall issue a license to an applicant if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The report of the criminal records check conducted pursuant to section 3796.12 of the Revised Code with respect to the application demonstrates the following:

(a) Subject to division (B)(1)(b) of this section, that the person subject to the criminal records check requirement has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the disqualifying offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(2)(b) of section 3796.04 of the Revised Code;

(b) That the disqualifying offense the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to is one of the offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(2)(c) of section 3796.04 of the Revised Code and the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the application for licensure is filed.

(2) The applicant demonstrates that it does not have an ownership or investment interest in or compensation arrangement with any of the following:

(a) A laboratory licensed under this chapter;

(b) An applicant for a license to conduct laboratory testing.

(3) The applicant demonstrates that it does not share any corporate officers or employees with any of the following:

(a) A laboratory licensed under this chapter;

(b) An applicant for a license to conduct laboratory testing.

(4) The applicant demonstrates that it will not be located within five hundred feet of a school, church, public library, public playground, or public park.

(5) The information provided to the board pursuant to section 3796.11 of the Revised Code demonstrates that the applicant is in compliance with the applicable tax laws of this state.

(6) The applicant meets all other licensure eligibility conditions established in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(C) The board shall issue not less than fifteen per cent of retail dispensary licenses to entities that are owned and controlled by United States citizens who are residents of this state and are members of one of the following economically disadvantaged groups: Blacks or African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics or Latinos, and Asians. If no applications or an insufficient number of applications are submitted by such entities that meet the conditions set forth in division (B) of this section, the licenses shall be issued according to usual procedures.

As used in this division, "owned and controlled" means that at least fifty-one per cent of the business, including corporate stock if a corporation, is owned by persons who belong to one or more of the groups set forth in this division, and that those owners have control over the management and day-to-day operations of the business and an interest in the capital, assets, and profits and losses of the business proportionate to their percentage of ownership.

(D) A license expires according to the renewal schedule established in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code and may be renewed in accordance with the procedures established in those rules.

Sec. 3796.11. (A)(1) Notwithstanding section 149.43 of the Revised Code or any other public records law to the contrary or any law relating to the confidentiality of tax return information, upon the request of the department of commerce or state board of pharmacy, the department of taxation shall provide to the department of commerce or board all of the following information:

(a) Whether an applicant for licensure under this chapter is in compliance with the applicable tax laws of this state;

(b) Any past or pending violation by the applicant of those tax laws, and any penalty imposed on the applicant for such a violation.

(2) The department of commerce or board shall request the information only as it pertains to an application for licensure that the department of commerce or board, as applicable, is reviewing.

(3) The department of taxation may charge the department of commerce or board a reasonable fee to cover the administrative cost of providing the information.

(B) Information received under this section is confidential. Except as otherwise permitted by other state law or federal law, the department of commerce or board shall not make the information available to any person other than the applicant for licensure to whom the information applies.

Sec. 3796.12. (A) As used in this section, "criminal records check" has the same meaning as in section 109.572 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) As part of the application process for a license issued under this chapter, the department of commerce or state board of pharmacy, whichever is issuing the license, shall require each of the following to complete a criminal records check:

(a) An administrator or other person responsible for the daily operation of the entity seeking the license:

(b) An owner or prospective owner, officer or prospective officer, or board member or prospective board member of the entity seeking the license.

(2) If a person subject to the criminal records check requirement does not present proof of having been a resident of this state for the five-year period immediately prior to the date the criminal records check is requested or provide evidence that within that five-year period the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation has requested information about the person from the federal bureau of investigation in a criminal records check, the department or board shall request that the person obtain through the superintendent a criminal records request from the federal bureau of investigation as part of the criminal records check of the person. Even if a person presents proof of having been a resident of this state for the five-year period, the department or board may request that the person obtain information through the superintendent from the federal bureau of investigation in the criminal records check.

(C) The department or board shall provide the following to each person who is subject to the criminal records check requirement:

(1) Information about accessing, completing, and forwarding to the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation the form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code and the standard impression sheet to obtain fingerprint impressions prescribed pursuant to division (C)(2) of that section;

(2) Written notification that the person is to instruct the superintendent to submit the completed report of the criminal records check directly to the department or board.

(D) Each person who is subject to the criminal records check requirement shall pay to the bureau of criminal identification and investigation the fee prescribed pursuant to division (C)(3) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code for the criminal records check conducted of the person.

(E) The report of any criminal records check conducted by the bureau of criminal identification and investigation in accordance with section 109.572 of the Revised Code and pursuant to a request made under this section is not

a public record for the purposes of section 149.43 of the Revised Code and shall not be made available to any person other than the following:

(1) The person who is the subject of the criminal records check or the person's representative;

(2) The members and staff of the department or board;

(3) A court, hearing officer, or other necessary individual involved in a case dealing with either of the following:

(a) A license denial resulting from the criminal records check;

(b) A civil or criminal action regarding the medical marijuana control program or any violation of this chapter.

(F) The department or board shall deny a license if, after receiving the information and notification required by this section, a person subject to the criminal records check requirement fails to do either of the following:

(1) Access, complete, or forward to the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation the form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code or the standard impression sheet prescribed pursuant to division (C)(2) of that section;

(2) Instruct the superintendent to submit the completed report of the criminal records check directly to the department or board.

Sec. 3796.13. (A) Each person seeking employment with an entity licensed under this chapter shall comply with sections 4776.01 to 4776.04 of the Revised Code. Except as provided in division (B) of this section, such an entity shall not employ the person unless the person complies with those sections and the report of the resulting criminal records check demonstrates that the person has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to the following:

(1) Any of the disqualifying offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(8)(a) of section 3796.03 of the Revised Code if the person is seeking employment with an entity licensed by the department of commerce under this chapter;

(2) Any of the disqualifying offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(14)(a) of section 3796.04 of the Revised Code if the person is seeking employment with an entity licensed by the state board of pharmacy under this chapter.

(B) An entity is not prohibited by division (A) of this section from employing a person if the following applies:

(1) In the case of a person seeking employment with an entity licensed by the department of commerce under this chapter, the disqualifying offense the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to is one of the offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(8)(b) of section 3796.03 of the Revised Code and the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the

offense more than five years before the date the employment begins.

(2) In the case of a person seeking employment with an entity licensed by the state board of pharmacy under this chapter, the disqualifying offense the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to is one of the offenses specified in rules adopted under division (B)(14)(b) of section 3796.04 of the Revised Code and the person was convicted of or pleaded guilty to the offense more than five years before the date the employment begins.

Sec. 3796.14. (A)(1) The department of commerce may do any of the following for any reason specified in rules adopted under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code:

(a) Suspend, suspend without prior hearing, revoke, or refuse to renew a license it issued under this chapter;

(b) Refuse to issue a license;

(c) Impose on a license holder a civil penalty in an amount to be determined by the department.

The department's actions under this division shall be taken in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(2) The department may inspect the premises of an applicant for licensure or holder of a current, valid cultivator, processor, or laboratory license issued under this chapter without prior notice to the applicant or license holder.

(B)(1) The state board of pharmacy may do any of the following for any reason specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code:

(a) Suspend, suspend without prior hearing, revoke, or refuse to renew a license or registration it issued under this chapter;

(b) Refuse to issue a license;

(c) Impose on a license holder a civil penalty in an amount to be determined by the board.

The board's actions under this division shall be taken in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(2) The board may inspect all of the following without prior notice to the applicant or license holder:

(a) The premises of an applicant for licensure;

(b) The premises of and all records maintained pursuant to this chapter by a holder of a current, valid retail dispensary license.

(3) With respect to a suspension without prior hearing, the board may utilize a telephone conference call to review the allegations and take a vote. The board shall suspend without prior hearing only if it finds clear and convincing evidence that continued distribution of medical marijuana

presents a danger of immediate and serious harm to others. The board shall comply with section 119.07 of the Revised Code.

The suspension shall remain in effect, unless lifted by the board, until the board issues its final adjudication order. If the board does not issue the order within ninety days after the adjudication hearing, the suspension shall be lifted on the ninety-first day following the hearing.

Sec. 3796.15. (A) The state board of pharmacy shall enforce, or cause to be enforced, sections 3796.08, 3796.10, 3796.20, 3796.22, and 3796.23 of the Revised Code. If it has information that any provision of those sections or any rule adopted under this chapter has been violated, it shall investigate the matter and take any action as it considers appropriate.

(B) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require the state board of pharmacy to enforce minor violations if the board determines that the public interest is adequately served by a notice or warning to the alleged offender.

(C) If the board suspends, revokes, or refuses to renew any license or registration issued under this chapter and determines that there is clear and convincing evidence of a danger of immediate and serious harm to any person, the board may place under seal all medical marijuana owned by or in the possession, custody, or control of the affected license holder or registrant. Except as provided in this division, the board shall not dispose of the medical marijuana sealed under this division until the license holder or registrant exhausts all of the holder's or registrant's appeal rights under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The court involved in such an appeal may order the board, during the pendency of the appeal, to sell medical marijuana that is perishable. The board shall deposit the proceeds of the sale with the court.

Sec. 3796.16. (A)(1) The state board of pharmacy shall attempt in good faith to negotiate and enter into a reciprocity agreement with any other state under which a medical marijuana registry identification card or equivalent authorization that is issued by the other state is recognized in this state, if the board determines that both of the following apply:

(a) The eligibility requirements imposed by the other state for that authorization are substantially comparable to the eligibility requirements for a patient or caregiver registration and identification card issued under this chapter.

(b) The other state recognizes a patient or caregiver registration and identification card issued under this chapter.

(2) The board shall not negotiate any agreement with any other state under which an authorization issued by the other state is recognized in this

state other than as provided in division (A)(1) of this section.

(B) If a reciprocity agreement is entered into in accordance with division (A) of this section, the authorization issued by the other state shall be recognized in this state, shall be accepted and valid in this state, and grants the patient or caregiver the same right to use, possess, obtain, or administer medical marijuana in this state as a patient or caregiver who was registered and issued an identification card under this chapter.

(C) The board may adopt any rules as necessary to implement this section.

Sec. 3796.17. The state board of pharmacy shall establish a toll-free telephone line to respond to inquiries from patients, caregivers, and health professionals regarding adverse reactions to medical marijuana and to provide information about available services and assistance. The board may contract with a separate entity to establish and maintain the telephone line on behalf of the board.

Sec. 3796.18. (A) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code and except as provided in division (B) of this section, the holder of a current, valid cultivator license issued under this chapter may do either of the following:

(1) Cultivate medical marijuana;

(2) Deliver or sell medical marijuana to one or more licensed processors.

(B) A cultivator license holder shall not cultivate medical marijuana for personal, family, or household use or on any public land, including a state park as defined in section 154.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3796.19. (A) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, the holder of a current, valid processor license issued under this chapter may do any of the following:

(1) Obtain medical marijuana from one or more licensed cultivators;

(2) Subject to division (B) of this section, process medical marijuana obtained from one or more licensed cultivators into a form described in section 3796.06 of the Revised Code;

(3) Deliver or sell processed medical marijuana to one or more licensed retail dispensaries.

(B) When processing medical marijuana, a licensed processor shall do both of the following:

(1) Package the medical marijuana in accordance with child-resistant effectiveness standards described in 16 C.F.R. 1700.15(b) on the effective date of this section;

(2) Label the medical marijuana packaging with the product's

tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol content:

(3) Comply with any packaging or labeling requirements established in rules adopted by the department of commerce under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3796.20. (A) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, the holder of a current, valid retail dispensary license issued under this chapter may do both of the following:

(1) Obtain medical marijuana from one or more processors;

(2) Dispense or sell medical marijuana in accordance with division (B) of this section.

(B) When dispensing or selling medical marijuana, a licensed retail dispensary shall do all of the following:

(1) Dispense or sell only upon a showing of a current, valid identification card and in accordance with a written recommendation issued by a physician in accordance with an holding a certificate to recommend issued by the state medical board under section 4731.30 of the Revised Code;

(2) Report to the drug database the information required by section 4729.771 of the Revised Code;

(3) Label the package containing medical marijuana with the following information:

(a) The name and address of the licensed processor and retail dispensary;

(b) The name of the patient and caregiver, if any;

(c) The name of the physician who recommended treatment with medical marijuana;

(d) The directions for use, if any, as recommended by the physician;

(e) The date on which the medical marijuana was dispensed;

(f) The quantity, strength, kind, or form of medical marijuana contained in the package.

(C) When operating a licensed retail dispensary, both of the following apply:

(1) A dispensary shall use only employees who have met the training requirements established in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(2) A dispensary shall not make public any information it collects that identifies or would tend to identify any specific patient.

Sec. 3796.21. (A) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, the holder of a current, valid laboratory license issued under this chapter may do both of the following:

(1) Obtain medical marijuana from one or more cultivators, processors, and retail dispensaries licensed under this chapter;

(2) Conduct medical marijuana testing in the manner specified in rules adopted under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code.

(B) When testing medical marijuana, a licensed laboratory shall do both of the following:

(1) Test the marijuana for potency, homogeneity, and contamination;

(2) Prepare a report of the test results.

Sec. 3796.22. (A) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, a patient registered under this chapter who obtains medical marijuana from a retail dispensary licensed under this chapter may do both of the following:

(1) Use medical marijuana;

(2) Possess medical marijuana, subject to division (B) of this section;

(3) Possess any paraphernalia or accessories specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(B) The amount of medical marijuana possessed by a registered patient shall not exceed a ninety-day supply, as specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(C) A registered patient shall not be subject to arrest or criminal prosecution for doing any of the following in accordance with this chapter:

(1) Obtaining, using, or possessing medical marijuana;

(2) Possessing any paraphernalia or accessories specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(D) This section does not authorize a registered patient to operate a vehicle, streetcar, trackless trolley, watercraft, or aircraft while under the influence of medical marijuana.

Sec. 3796.23. (A) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, a caregiver registered under this chapter who obtains medical marijuana from a retail dispensary licensed under this chapter may do both of the following:

(1) Possess medical marijuana on behalf of a registered patient under the caregiver's care, subject to division (B) of this section;

(2) Assist a registered patient under the caregiver's care in the use or administration of medical marijuana;

(3) Possess any paraphernalia or accessories specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(B) The amount of medical marijuana possessed by a registered caregiver on behalf of a registered patient shall not exceed a ninety-day supply, as specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised

Code. If a caregiver provides care to more than one registered patient, the caregiver shall maintain separate inventories of medical marijuana for each patient.

(C) A registered caregiver shall not be subject to arrest or criminal prosecution for doing any of following in accordance with this chapter:

(1) Obtaining or possessing medical marijuana on behalf of a registered patient:

(2) Assisting a registered patient in the use or administration of medical marijuana:

(3) Possessing any paraphernalia or accessories specified in rules adopted under section 3796.04 of the Revised Code.

(D) This section does not permit a registered caregiver to personally use medical marijuana, unless the caregiver is also a registered patient.

Sec. 3796.24. (A) The holder of a license, as defined in section 4776.01 of the Revised Code, is not subject to professional disciplinary action solely for engaging in professional or occupational activities related to medical marijuana.

(B) Unless there is clear and convincing evidence that a child is unsafe, the use, possession, or administration of medical marijuana in accordance with this chapter shall not be the sole or primary basis for any of the following:

(1) An adjudication under section 2151.28 of the Revised Code determining that a child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child;

(2) An allocation of parental rights and responsibilities under section 3109.04 of the Revised Code;

(3) A parenting time order under section 3109.051 or 3109.12 of the Revised Code.

(C) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, the use or possession of medical marijuana in accordance with this chapter shall not be used as a reason for disqualifying a patient from medical care or from including a patient on a transplant waiting list.

(D) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, the use, possession, administration, cultivation, processing, testing, or dispensing of medical marijuana in accordance with this chapter shall not be used as the sole or primary reason for taking action under any criminal or civil statute in the forfeiture or seizure of any property or asset.

(E) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, a person's status as a registered patient or caregiver is not a sufficient basis for conducting a field sobriety test on the person or for suspending the person's driver's license. To conduct any field sobriety test, a law enforcement officer

must have an independent, factual basis giving reasonable suspicion that the person is operating a vehicle under the influence of marijuana or with a prohibited concentration of marijuana in the person's whole blood, blood serum, plasma, breath, or urine.

(F) Notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code, a person's status as a registered patient or caregiver shall not be used as the sole or primary basis for rejecting the person as a tenant unless the rejection is required by federal law.

(G) This chapter does not do any of the following:

(1) Require a physician to recommend that a patient use medical marijuana to treat a qualifying medical condition;

(2) Permit the use, possession, or administration of medical marijuana other than as authorized by this chapter;

(3) Permit the use, possession, or administration of medical marijuana on federal land located in this state;

(4) Require any public place to accommodate a registered patient's use of medical marijuana;

(5) Prohibit any public place from accommodating a registered patient's use of medical marijuana;

(6) Restrict research related to marijuana conducted at a state university, academic medical center, or private research and development organization as part of a research protocol approved by an institutional review board or equivalent entity.

Sec. 3796.27. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Financial institution" means any of the following:

(a) Any bank, trust company, savings and loan association, savings bank, or credit union or any affiliate, agent, or employee of a bank, trust company, savings and loan association, savings bank, or credit union;

(b) Any money transmitter licensed under sections 1315.01 to 1315.18 of the Revised Code or any affiliate, agent, or employee of such a licensee.

(2) "Financial services" means services that a financial institution is authorized to provide under Title XI, sections 1315.01 to 1315.18, or Chapter 1733. of the Revised Code, as applicable.

(B) A financial institution that provides financial services to any cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory licensed under this chapter shall be exempt from any criminal law of this state an element of which may be proven by substantiating that a person provides financial services to a person who possesses, delivers, or manufactures marijuana or marijuana derived products, including section 2925.05 of the Revised Code and sections 2923.01 and 2923.03 of the Revised Code as those sections

apply to violations of Chapter 2925. of the Revised Code, if the cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory is in compliance with this chapter and the applicable tax laws of this state.

(C)(1) Notwithstanding section 149.43 of the Revised Code or any other public records law to the contrary, upon the request of a financial institution, the department of commerce or state board of pharmacy shall provide to the financial institution all of the following information:

(a) Whether a person with whom the financial institution is seeking to do business is a cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory licensed under this chapter;

(b) The name of any other business or individual affiliated with the person;

(c) An unredacted copy of the application for a license under this chapter, and any supporting documentation, that was submitted by the person;

(d) If applicable, information relating to sales and volume of product sold by the person;

(e) Whether the person is in compliance with this chapter;

(f) Any past or pending violation by the person of this chapter, and any penalty imposed on the person for such a violation.

(2) The department or board may charge a financial institution a reasonable fee to cover the administrative cost of providing the information.

(D) Information received by a financial institution under division (C) of this section is confidential. Except as otherwise permitted by other state law or federal law, a financial institution shall not make the information available to any person other than the customer to whom the information applies and any trustee, conservator, guardian, personal representative, or agent of that customer.

Sec. 3796.28. (A) Nothing in this chapter does any of the following:

(1) Requires an employer to permit or accommodate an employee's use, possession, or distribution of medical marijuana;

(2) Prohibits an employer from refusing to hire, discharging, disciplining, or otherwise taking an adverse employment action against a person with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of that person's use, possession, or distribution of medical marijuana;

(3) Prohibits an employer from establishing and enforcing a drug testing policy, drug-free workplace policy, or zero-tolerance drug policy;

(4) Interferes with any federal restrictions on employment, including the regulations adopted by the United States department of transportation in

Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended:

(5) Permits a person to commence a cause of action against an employer for refusing to hire, discharging, disciplining, discriminating, retaliating, or otherwise taking an adverse employment action against a person with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment related to medical marijuana;

(6) Affects the authority of the administrator of workers' compensation to grant rebates or discounts on premium rates to employers that participate in a drug-free workplace program established in accordance with rules adopted by the administrator under Chapter 4123. of the Revised Code.

(B) A person who is discharged from employment because of that person's use of medical marijuana shall be considered to have been discharged for just cause for purposes of division (D) of section 4141.29 of the Revised Code if the person's use of medical marijuana was in violation of an employer's drug-free workplace policy, zero-tolerance policy, or other formal program or policy regulating the use of medical marijuana.

Sec. 3796.29. The legislative authority of a municipal corporation may adopt an ordinance, or a board of township trustees may adopt a resolution, to prohibit, or limit the number of, cultivators, processors, or retail dispensaries licensed under this chapter within the municipal corporation or within the unincorporated territory of the township, respectively.

This section does not authorize the legislative authority of a municipal corporation or a board of township trustees to adopt an ordinance or resolution limiting research related to marijuana conducted at a state university, academic medical center, or private research and development organization as part of a research protocol approved by an institutional review board or equivalent entity.

Sec. 3796.30. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, no medical marijuana cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory that tests medical marijuana shall be located within five hundred feet of the boundaries of a parcel of real estate having situated on it a school, church, public library, public playground, or public park.

If the relocation of a cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory licensed under this chapter results in the cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory being located within five hundred feet of the boundaries of a parcel of real estate having situated on it a school, church, public library, public playground, or public park, the department of commerce or state board of pharmacy shall revoke the license it previously issued to the cultivator, processor, retail dispensary, or laboratory.

(B) This section does not apply to research related to marijuana

conducted at a state university, academic medical center, or private research and development organization as part of a research protocol approved by an institutional review board or equivalent entity.

(C) As used in this section and sections 3796.04 and 3796.12 of the Revised Code:

"Church" has the meaning defined in section 1710.01 of the Revised Code.

"Public library" means a library provided for under Chapter 3375. of the Revised Code.

"Public park" means a park established by the state or a political subdivision of the state including a county, township, municipal corporation, or park district.

"Public playground" means a playground established by the state or a political subdivision of the state including a county, township, municipal corporation, or park district.

"School" means a child day-care center as defined under section 5104.01 of the Revised Code, a preschool as defined under section 2950.034 of the Revised Code, or a public or nonpublic primary school or secondary school.

Sec. 4123.54. (A) Except as otherwise provided in this division or divisions (I) and (K) of this section, every employee, who is injured or who contracts an occupational disease, and the dependents of each employee who is killed, or dies as the result of an occupational disease contracted in the course of employment, wherever ~~such the~~ injury has occurred or occupational disease has been contracted, ~~provided the same were not:~~

~~(1) Purposely self-inflicted; or~~

~~(2) Caused by the employee being intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance not prescribed by a physician where the intoxication or being under the influence of the controlled substance not prescribed by a physician was the proximate cause of the injury;~~ is entitled to receive, ~~either directly from the employee's self-insuring employer as provided in section 4123.35 of the Revised Code, or from the state insurance fund,~~ the compensation for loss sustained on account of the injury, occupational disease, or death, and the medical, nurse, and hospital services and medicines, and the amount of funeral expenses in case of death, as are provided by this chapter. The compensation and benefits shall be provided, as applicable, directly from the employee's self-insuring employer as provided in section 4123.35 of the Revised Code or from the state insurance fund. An employee or dependent is not entitled to receive compensation or benefits under this division if the employee's injury or occupational disease

is either of the following:

(1) Purposely self-inflicted;

(2) Caused by the employee being intoxicated, under the influence of a controlled substance not prescribed by a physician, or under the influence of marihuana if being intoxicated, under the influence of a controlled substance not prescribed by a physician, or under the influence of marihuana was the proximate cause of the injury.

(B) For the purpose of this section, provided that an employer has posted written notice to employees that the results of, or the employee's refusal to submit to, any chemical test described under this division may affect the employee's eligibility for compensation and benefits pursuant to this chapter and Chapter 4121. of the Revised Code, there is a rebuttable presumption that an employee is intoxicated ~~or~~, under the influence of a controlled substance not prescribed by the employee's physician, or under the influence of marihuana and that being intoxicated ~~or~~, under the influence of a controlled substance not prescribed by the employee's physician, or under the influence of marihuana is the proximate cause of an injury under either of the following conditions:

(1) When any one or more of the following is true:

(a) The employee, through a qualifying chemical test administered within eight hours of an injury, is determined to have an alcohol concentration level equal to or in excess of the levels established in divisions (A)(1)(b) to (i) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code;

(b) The employee, through a qualifying chemical test administered within thirty-two hours of an injury, is determined to have one of the following controlled substances not prescribed by the employee's physician or marihuana in the employee's system that tests above the following levels in an enzyme multiplied immunoassay technique screening test and above the levels established in division (B)(1)(c) of this section in a gas chromatography mass spectrometry test:

(i) For amphetamines, one thousand nanograms per milliliter of urine;

(ii) For cannabinoids, fifty nanograms per milliliter of urine;

(iii) For cocaine, including crack cocaine, three hundred nanograms per milliliter of urine;

(iv) For opiates, two thousand nanograms per milliliter of urine;

(v) For phencyclidine, twenty-five nanograms per milliliter of urine.

(c) The employee, through a qualifying chemical test administered within thirty-two hours of an injury, is determined to have one of the following controlled substances not prescribed by the employee's physician or marihuana in the employee's system that tests above the following levels

by a gas chromatography mass spectrometry test:

- (i) For amphetamines, five hundred nanograms per milliliter of urine;
 - (ii) For cannabinoids, fifteen nanograms per milliliter of urine;
 - (iii) For cocaine, including crack cocaine, one hundred fifty nanograms per milliliter of urine;
 - (iv) For opiates, two thousand nanograms per milliliter of urine;
 - (v) For phencyclidine, twenty-five nanograms per milliliter of urine.
- (d) The employee, through a qualifying chemical test administered within thirty-two hours of an injury, is determined to have barbiturates, benzodiazepines, methadone, or propoxyphene in the employee's system that tests above levels established by laboratories certified by the United States department of health and human services.

(2) When the employee refuses to submit to a requested chemical test, on the condition that that employee is or was given notice that the refusal to submit to any chemical test described in division (B)(1) of this section may affect the employee's eligibility for compensation and benefits under this chapter and Chapter 4121. of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) For purposes of division (B) of this section, a chemical test is a qualifying chemical test if it is administered to an employee after an injury under at least one of the following conditions:

(a) When the employee's employer had reasonable cause to suspect that the employee may be intoxicated ~~or~~ under the influence of a controlled substance not prescribed by the employee's physician, or under the influence of marihuana;

(b) At the request of a police officer pursuant to section 4511.191 of the Revised Code, and not at the request of the employee's employer;

(c) At the request of a licensed physician who is not employed by the employee's employer, and not at the request of the employer's employer.

(2) As used in division (C)(1)(a) of this section, "reasonable cause" means, but is not limited to, evidence that an employee is or was using alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana drawn from specific, objective facts and reasonable inferences drawn from these facts in light of experience and training. These facts and inferences may be based on, but are not limited to, any of the following:

(a) Observable phenomena, such as direct observation of use, possession, or distribution of alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana, or of the physical symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana, such as but not limited to slurred speech; dilated pupils; odor of alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana; changes in affect; or dynamic mood swings;

(b) A pattern of abnormal conduct, erratic or aberrant behavior, or deteriorating work performance such as frequent absenteeism, excessive tardiness, or recurrent accidents, that appears to be related to the use of alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana, and does not appear to be attributable to other factors;

(c) The identification of an employee as the focus of a criminal investigation into unauthorized possession, use, or trafficking of a controlled substance or marihuana;

(d) A report of use of alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana provided by a reliable and credible source;

(e) Repeated or flagrant violations of the safety or work rules of the employee's employer, that are determined by the employee's supervisor to pose a substantial risk of physical injury or property damage and that appear to be related to the use of alcohol ~~or~~ a controlled substance, or marihuana and that do not appear attributable to other factors.

(D) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the rights of an employer to test employees for alcohol or controlled substance abuse.

(E) For the purpose of this section, laboratories certified by the United States department of health and human services or laboratories that meet or exceed the standards of that department for laboratory certification shall be used for processing the test results of a qualifying chemical test.

(F) The written notice required by division (B) of this section shall be the same size or larger than the proof of workers' compensation coverage furnished by the bureau of workers' compensation and shall be posted by the employer in the same location as the proof of workers' compensation coverage or the certificate of self-insurance.

(G) If a condition that pre-existed an injury is substantially aggravated by the injury, and that substantial aggravation is documented by objective diagnostic findings, objective clinical findings, or objective test results, no compensation or benefits are payable because of the pre-existing condition once that condition has returned to a level that would have existed without the injury.

(H)(1) Whenever, with respect to an employee of an employer who is subject to and has complied with this chapter, there is possibility of conflict with respect to the application of workers' compensation laws because the contract of employment is entered into and all or some portion of the work is or is to be performed in a state or states other than Ohio, the employer and the employee may agree to be bound by the laws of this state or by the laws of some other state in which all or some portion of the work of the employee is to be performed. The agreement shall be in writing and shall be filed with

the bureau of workers' compensation within ten days after it is executed and shall remain in force until terminated or modified by agreement of the parties similarly filed. If the agreement is to be bound by the laws of this state and the employer has complied with this chapter, then the employee is entitled to compensation and benefits regardless of where the injury occurs or the disease is contracted and the rights of the employee and the employee's dependents under the laws of this state are the exclusive remedy against the employer on account of injury, disease, or death in the course of and arising out of the employee's employment. If the agreement is to be bound by the laws of another state and the employer has complied with the laws of that state, the rights of the employee and the employee's dependents under the laws of that state are the exclusive remedy against the employer on account of injury, disease, or death in the course of and arising out of the employee's employment without regard to the place where the injury was sustained or the disease contracted. If an employer and an employee enter into an agreement under this division, the fact that the employer and the employee entered into that agreement shall not be construed to change the status of an employee whose continued employment is subject to the will of the employer or the employee, unless the agreement contains a provision that expressly changes that status.

(2) If an employee or the employee's dependents receive an award of compensation or benefits under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code for the same injury, occupational disease, or death for which the employee or the employee's dependents previously pursued or otherwise elected to accept workers' compensation benefits and received a decision on the merits as defined in section 4123.542 of the Revised Code under the laws of another state or recovered damages under the laws of another state, the claim shall be disallowed and the administrator or any self-insuring employer, by any lawful means, may collect from the employee or the employee's dependents any of the following:

(i)(a) The amount of compensation or benefits paid to or on behalf of the employee or the employee's dependents by the administrator or a self-insuring employer pursuant to this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code for that award;

(i)(b) Any interest, attorney's fees, and costs the administrator or the self-insuring employer incurs in collecting that payment.

(3) If an employee or the employee's dependents receive an award of compensation or benefits under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code and subsequently pursue or otherwise elect to accept workers' compensation benefits or damages under the laws of another

state for the same injury, occupational disease, or death the claim under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code shall be disallowed. The administrator or a self-insuring employer, by any lawful means, may collect from the employee or the employee's dependents or other-states' insurer any of the following:

~~(i)~~(a) The amount of compensation or benefits paid to or on behalf of the employee or the employee's dependents by the administrator or the self-insuring employer pursuant to this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code for that award;

~~(ii)~~(b) Any interest, costs, and attorney's fees the administrator or the self-insuring employer incurs in collecting that payment;

~~(iii)~~(c) Any costs incurred by an employer in contesting or responding to any claim filed by the employee or the employee's dependents for the same injury, occupational disease, or death that was filed after the original claim for which the employee or the employee's dependents received a decision on the merits as described in section 4123.542 of the Revised Code.

(4) If the employee's employer pays premiums into the state insurance fund, the administrator shall not charge the amount of compensation or benefits the administrator collects pursuant to division (H)(2) or (3) of this section to the employer's experience. If the administrator collects any costs incurred by an employer in contesting or responding to any claim pursuant to division (H)(2) or (3) of this section, the administrator shall forward the amount collected to that employer. If the employee's employer is a self-insuring employer, the self-insuring employer shall deduct the amount of compensation or benefits the self-insuring employer collects pursuant to this division from the paid compensation the self-insuring employer reports to the administrator under division (L) of section 4123.35 of the Revised Code.

(5) If an employee is a resident of a state other than this state and is insured under the workers' compensation law or similar laws of a state other than this state, the employee and the employee's dependents are not entitled to receive compensation or benefits under this chapter, on account of injury, disease, or death arising out of or in the course of employment while temporarily within this state, and the rights of the employee and the employee's dependents under the laws of the other state are the exclusive remedy against the employer on account of the injury, disease, or death.

(6) An employee, or the dependent of an employee, who elects to receive compensation and benefits under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code for a claim may not receive compensation and benefits under the workers' compensation laws of any

state other than this state for that same claim. For each claim submitted by or on behalf of an employee, the administrator or, if the employee is employed by a self-insuring employer, the self-insuring employer, shall request the employee or the employee's dependent to sign an election that affirms the employee's or employee's dependent's acceptance of electing to receive compensation and benefits under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code for that claim that also affirmatively waives and releases the employee's or the employee's dependent's right to file for and receive compensation and benefits under the laws of any state other than this state for that claim. The employee or employee's dependent shall sign the election form within twenty-eight days after the administrator or self-insuring employer submits the request or the administrator or self-insuring employer shall dismiss that claim.

In the event a workers' compensation claim has been filed in another jurisdiction on behalf of an employee or the dependents of an employee, and the employee or dependents subsequently elect to receive compensation, benefits, or both under this chapter or Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code, the employee or dependent shall withdraw or refuse acceptance of the workers' compensation claim filed in the other jurisdiction in order to pursue compensation or benefits under the laws of this state. If the employee or dependents were awarded workers' compensation benefits or had recovered damages under the laws of the other state, any compensation and benefits awarded under this chapter or ~~Chapters~~ Chapter 4121., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code shall be paid only to the extent to which those payments exceed the amounts paid under the laws of the other state. If the employee or dependent fails to withdraw or to refuse acceptance of the workers' compensation claim in the other jurisdiction within twenty-eight days after a request made by the administrator or a self-insuring employer, the administrator or self-insuring employer shall dismiss the employee's or employee's dependents' claim made in this state.

(I) If an employee who is covered under the federal "Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act," 98 Stat. 1639, 33 U.S.C. 901 et seq., is injured or contracts an occupational disease or dies as a result of an injury or occupational disease, and if that employee's or that employee's dependents' claim for compensation or benefits for that injury, occupational disease, or death is subject to the jurisdiction of that act, the employee or the employee's dependents are not entitled to apply for and shall not receive compensation or benefits under this chapter and Chapter 4121. of the Revised Code. The rights of such an employee and the employee's dependents under the federal "Longshore and Harbor Workers'

Compensation Act," 98 Stat. 1639, 33 U.S.C. 901 et seq., are the exclusive remedy against the employer for that injury, occupational disease, or death.

(J) Compensation or benefits are not payable to a claimant during the period of confinement of the claimant in any state or federal correctional institution, or in any county jail in lieu of incarceration in a state or federal correctional institution, whether in this or any other state for conviction of violation of any state or federal criminal law.

(K) An employer, upon the approval of the administrator, may provide for workers' compensation coverage for the employer's employees who are professional athletes and coaches by submitting to the administrator proof of coverage under a league policy issued under the laws of another state under either of the following circumstances:

(1) The employer administers the payroll and workers' compensation insurance for a professional sports team subject to a collective bargaining agreement, and the collective bargaining agreement provides for the uniform administration of workers' compensation benefits and compensation for professional athletes.

(2) The employer is a professional sports league, or is a member team of a professional sports league, and all of the following apply:

(a) The professional sports league operates as a single entity, whereby all of the players and coaches of the sports league are employees of the sports league and not of the individual member teams.

(b) The professional sports league at all times maintains workers' compensation insurance that provides coverage for the players and coaches of the sports league.

(c) Each individual member team of the professional sports league, pursuant to the organizational or operating documents of the sports league, is obligated to the sports league to pay to the sports league any workers' compensation claims that are not covered by the workers' compensation insurance maintained by the sports league.

If the administrator approves the employer's proof of coverage submitted under division (K) of this section, a professional athlete or coach who is an employee of the employer and the dependents of the professional athlete or coach are not entitled to apply for and shall not receive compensation or benefits under this chapter and Chapter 4121. of the Revised Code. The rights of such an athlete or coach and the dependents of such an athlete or coach under the laws of the state where the policy was issued are the exclusive remedy against the employer for the athlete or coach if the athlete or coach suffers an injury or contracts an occupational disease in the course of employment, or for the dependents of the athlete or

the coach if the athlete or coach is killed as a result of an injury or dies as a result of an occupational disease, regardless of the location where the injury was suffered or the occupational disease was contracted.

Sec. 4729.75. The state board of pharmacy may establish and maintain a drug database. The board shall use the drug database to monitor the misuse and diversion of the following: controlled substances, as defined in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code; medical marijuana, as authorized under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code; and other dangerous drugs the board includes in the database pursuant to rules adopted under section 4729.84 of the Revised Code. In establishing and maintaining the database, the board shall electronically collect information pursuant to sections 4729.77, 4729.771, and 4729.79 of the Revised Code and shall disseminate information as authorized or required by sections 4729.80 and 4729.81 of the Revised Code. The board's collection and dissemination of information shall be conducted in accordance with rules adopted under section 4729.84 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4729.771. (A) If the state board of pharmacy establishes and maintains a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code, each retail dispensary licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code by the board shall submit to the board the information regarding medical marijuana dispensed to a patient as specified by the board in rules adopted under section 4729.84 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The information shall be transmitted as specified by the board in rules adopted under section 4729.84 of the Revised Code.

(2) The information shall be submitted in accordance with any time limits specified by the board, except that the board may grant an extension if either of the following occurs:

(a) The retail dispensary's transmission system suffers a mechanical or electronic failure or the retail dispensary cannot meet the deadline for other reasons beyond the dispensary's control.

(b) The board is unable to receive electronic submissions.

(C) The information required to be submitted under division (A) of this section may be submitted on behalf of the retail dispensary by a delegate approved by that dispensary.

Sec. 4729.80. (A) If the state board of pharmacy establishes and maintains a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code, the board is authorized or required to provide information from the database in accordance with the following:

(1) On receipt of a request from a designated representative of a government entity responsible for the licensure, regulation, or discipline of

health care professionals with authority to prescribe, administer, or dispense drugs, the board may provide to the representative information from the database relating to the professional who is the subject of an active investigation being conducted by the government entity.

(2) On receipt of a request from a federal officer, or a state or local officer of this or any other state, whose duties include enforcing laws relating to drugs, the board shall provide to the officer information from the database relating to the person who is the subject of an active investigation of a drug abuse offense, as defined in section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, being conducted by the officer's employing government entity.

(3) Pursuant to a subpoena issued by a grand jury, the board shall provide to the grand jury information from the database relating to the person who is the subject of an investigation being conducted by the grand jury.

(4) Pursuant to a subpoena, search warrant, or court order in connection with the investigation or prosecution of a possible or alleged criminal offense, the board shall provide information from the database as necessary to comply with the subpoena, search warrant, or court order.

(5) On receipt of a request from a prescriber or the prescriber's delegate approved by the board, the board shall provide to the prescriber a report of information from the database relating to a patient who is either a current patient of the prescriber or a potential patient of the prescriber based on a referral of the patient to the prescriber, if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The prescriber certifies in a form specified by the board that it is for the purpose of providing medical treatment to the patient who is the subject of the request;

(b) The prescriber has not been denied access to the database by the board.

(6) On receipt of a request from a pharmacist or the pharmacist's delegate approved by the board, the board shall provide to the pharmacist information from the database relating to a current patient of the pharmacist, if the pharmacist certifies in a form specified by the board that it is for the purpose of the pharmacist's practice of pharmacy involving the patient who is the subject of the request and the pharmacist has not been denied access to the database by the board.

(7) On receipt of a request from an individual seeking the individual's own database information in accordance with the procedure established in rules adopted under section 4729.84 of the Revised Code, the board may provide to the individual the individual's own database information.

(8) On receipt of a request from a medical director or a pharmacy director of a managed care organization that has entered into a contract with the department of medicaid under section 5167.10 of the Revised Code and a data security agreement with the board required by section 5167.14 of the Revised Code, the board shall provide to the medical director or the pharmacy director information from the database relating to a medicaid recipient enrolled in the managed care organization, including information in the database related to prescriptions for the recipient that were not covered or reimbursed under a program administered by the department of medicaid.

(9) On receipt of a request from the medicaid director, the board shall provide to the director information from the database relating to a recipient of a program administered by the department of medicaid, including information in the database related to prescriptions for the recipient that were not covered or paid by a program administered by the department.

(10) On receipt of a request from a medical director of a managed care organization that has entered into a contract with the administrator of workers' compensation under division (B)(4) of section 4121.44 of the Revised Code and a data security agreement with the board required by section 4121.447 of the Revised Code, the board shall provide to the medical director information from the database relating to a claimant under Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code assigned to the managed care organization, including information in the database related to prescriptions for the claimant that were not covered or reimbursed under Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code, if the administrator of workers' compensation confirms, upon request from the board, that the claimant is assigned to the managed care organization.

(11) On receipt of a request from the administrator of workers' compensation, the board shall provide to the administrator information from the database relating to a claimant under Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code, including information in the database related to prescriptions for the claimant that were not covered or reimbursed under Chapter 4121., 4123., 4127., or 4131. of the Revised Code.

(12) On receipt of a request from a prescriber or the prescriber's delegate approved by the board, the board shall provide to the prescriber information from the database relating to a patient's mother, if the prescriber certifies in a form specified by the board that it is for the purpose of providing medical treatment to a newborn or infant patient diagnosed as opioid dependent and the prescriber has not been denied access to the database by the board.

(13) On receipt of a request from the director of health, the board shall provide to the director information from the database relating to the duties of the director or the department of health in implementing the Ohio violent death reporting system established under section 3701.93 of the Revised Code.

(14) On receipt of a request from a requestor described in division (A)(1), (2), (5), or (6) of this section who is from or participating with another state's prescription monitoring program, the board may provide to the requestor information from the database, but only if there is a written agreement under which the information is to be used and disseminated according to the laws of this state.

(15) On receipt of a request from a delegate of a retail dispensary licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code who is approved by the board to serve as the dispensary's delegate, the board shall provide to the delegate a report of information from the database pertaining only to a patient's use of medical marijuana, if both of the following conditions are met:

(a) The delegate certifies in a form specified by the board that it is for the purpose of dispensing medical marijuana for use in accordance with Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code.

(b) The retail dispensary or delegate has not been denied access to the database by the board.

(B) The state board of pharmacy shall maintain a record of each individual or entity that requests information from the database pursuant to this section. In accordance with rules adopted under section 4729.84 of the Revised Code, the board may use the records to document and report statistics and law enforcement outcomes.

The board may provide records of an individual's requests for database information to the following:

(1) A designated representative of a government entity that is responsible for the licensure, regulation, or discipline of health care professionals with authority to prescribe, administer, or dispense drugs who is involved in an active criminal or disciplinary investigation being conducted by the government entity of the individual who submitted the requests for database information;

(2) A federal officer, or a state or local officer of this or any other state, whose duties include enforcing laws relating to drugs and who is involved in an active investigation being conducted by the officer's employing government entity of the individual who submitted the requests for database information.

(C) Information contained in the database and any information obtained from it is confidential and is not a public record. Information contained in the records of requests for information from the database is confidential and is not a public record. Information contained in the database that does not identify a person, including any licensee or registrant of the board or other entity, may be released in summary, statistical, or aggregate form.

(D) Information contained in the database may be provided only as expressly permitted in law, including any information contained in the database that relates to any person, including any licensee or registrant of the board or other entity.

(E) A pharmacist or prescriber shall not be held liable in damages to any person in any civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property on the basis that the pharmacist or prescriber did or did not seek or obtain information from the database.

Sec. 4729.84. For purposes of establishing and maintaining a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code, the state board of pharmacy shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to carry out and enforce sections 4729.75 to 4729.83 of the Revised Code. The rules shall specify all of the following:

(A) A means of identifying each patient, each terminal distributor of dangerous drugs, ~~and~~ each purchase at wholesale of dangerous drugs, and each retail dispensary licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code about which information is entered into the drug database;

(B) Requirements for the transmission of information from terminal distributors of dangerous drugs, wholesale distributors of dangerous drugs, ~~and~~ prescribers, and retail dispensaries;

(C) An electronic format for the submission of information from terminal distributors, wholesale distributors, ~~and~~ prescribers, and retail dispensaries;

(D) A procedure whereby a terminal distributor-, wholesale distributor, ~~or~~ prescriber, or retail dispensary unable to submit information electronically may obtain a waiver to submit information in another format;

(E) A procedure whereby the board may grant a request from a law enforcement agency or a government entity responsible for the licensure, regulation, or discipline of licensed health professionals authorized to prescribe drugs that information that has been stored for three years be retained when the information pertains to an open investigation being conducted by the agency or entity;

(F) A procedure whereby a terminal distributor, wholesale distributor, ~~or~~ prescriber, or retail dispensary may apply for an extension to the time by

which information must be transmitted to the board;

(G) A procedure whereby a person or government entity to which the board is authorized to provide information may submit a request to the board for the information and the board may verify the identity of the requestor;

(H) A procedure whereby the board can use the database request records required by division (B) of section 4729.80 of the Revised Code to document and report statistics and law enforcement outcomes;

(I) A procedure whereby an individual may request the individual's own database information and the board may verify the identity of the requestor;

(J) A reasonable fee that the board may charge under section 4729.83 of the Revised Code for providing an individual with the individual's own database information pursuant to section 4729.80 of the Revised Code;

(K) The other specific dangerous drugs that, in addition to controlled substances, must be included in the database;

(L) The types of pharmacies licensed as terminal distributors of dangerous drugs that are required to submit prescription information to the board pursuant to section 4729.77 of the Revised Code;

(M) The information regarding medical marijuana dispensed to a patient that a retail dispensary is required to submit to the board pursuant to section 4729.771 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4729.85. If the state board of pharmacy establishes and maintains a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code, the board shall prepare reports regarding the database and present or submit them in accordance with both of the following:

(A) The board shall present a biennial report to the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate that are primarily responsible for considering health and human services issues. Each

~~Each~~ report shall include all of the following:

(1) The cost to the state of establishing and maintaining the database;

(2) Information from the board, terminal distributors of dangerous drugs, prescribers, and ~~the board~~ retail dispensaries licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code regarding the board's effectiveness in providing information from the database;

(3) The board's timeliness in transmitting information from the database.

(B) The board shall submit a semiannual report to the governor, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the attorney general, the chairpersons of the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate that are primarily responsible for considering health and human services issues, the department of public

safety, the state dental board, the board of nursing, the state board of optometry, the state medical board, and the state veterinary medical licensing board. The state board of pharmacy shall make the report available to the public on its internet web site. Each report submitted shall include all of the following for the period covered by the report:

(1) An aggregate of the information submitted to the board under section 4729.77 of the Revised Code regarding prescriptions for controlled substances containing opioids, including all of the following:

- (a) The number of prescribers who issued the prescriptions;
- (b) The number of patients to whom the controlled substances were dispensed;
- (c) The average quantity of the controlled substances dispensed per prescription;
- (d) The average daily morphine equivalent dose of the controlled substances dispensed per prescription.

(2) An aggregate of the information submitted to the board under section 4729.79 of the Revised Code regarding controlled substances containing opioids that have been personally furnished to a patient by a prescriber, other than a prescriber who is a veterinarian, including all of the following:

- (a) The number of prescribers who personally furnished the controlled substances;
- (b) The number of patients to whom the controlled substances were personally furnished;
- (c) The average quantity of the controlled substances that were furnished at one time;
- (d) The average daily morphine equivalent dose of the controlled substances that were furnished at one time.

(3) An aggregate of the information submitted to the board under section 4729.771 of the Revised Code regarding medical marijuana.

Sec. 4729.86. If the state board of pharmacy establishes and maintains a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code, all of the following apply:

(A)(1) No person identified in divisions (A)(1) to (13) or (15) or (B) of section 4729.80 of the Revised Code shall disseminate any written or electronic information the person receives from the drug database or otherwise provide another person access to the information that the person receives from the database, except as follows:

- (a) When necessary in the investigation or prosecution of a possible or alleged criminal offense;

(b) When a person provides the information to the prescriber ~~or~~, pharmacist, or retail dispensary licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code for whom the person is approved by the board to serve as a delegate of the prescriber ~~or~~, pharmacist, or retail dispensary for purposes of requesting and receiving information from the drug database under division (A)(5) ~~or~~, (6), or (15) of section 4729.80 of the Revised Code;

(c) When a prescriber ~~or~~, pharmacist, or retail dispensary licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code provides the information to a person who is approved by the board to serve as such a delegate of the prescriber ~~or~~, pharmacist, or retail dispensary;

(d) When a prescriber or pharmacist includes the information in a medical record, as defined in section 3701.74 of the Revised Code.

(2) No person shall provide false information to the state board of pharmacy with the intent to obtain or alter information contained in the drug database.

(3) No person shall obtain drug database information by any means except as provided under section 4729.80 or 4729.81 of the Revised Code.

(B) A person shall not use information obtained pursuant to division (A) of section 4729.80 of the Revised Code as evidence in any civil or administrative proceeding.

(C)(1) Except as provided in division (C)(2) of this section, after providing notice and affording an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the board may restrict a person from obtaining further information from the drug database if any of the following is the case:

(a) The person violates division (A)(1), (2), or (3) of this section;

(b) The person is a requestor identified in division (A)(14) of section 4729.80 of the Revised Code and the board determines that the person's actions in another state would have constituted a violation of division (A)(1), (2), or (3) of this section;

(c) The person fails to comply with division (B) of this section, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the failure to comply occurred;

(d) The person creates, by clear and convincing evidence, a threat to the security of information contained in the database.

(2) If the board determines that allegations regarding a person's actions warrant restricting the person from obtaining further information from the drug database without a prior hearing, the board may summarily impose the restriction. A telephone conference call may be used for reviewing the allegations and taking a vote on the summary restriction. The summary restriction shall remain in effect, unless removed by the board, until the

board's final adjudication order becomes effective.

(3) The board shall determine the extent to which the person is restricted from obtaining further information from the database.

Sec. 4731.22. (A) The state medical board, by an affirmative vote of not fewer than six of its members, may limit, revoke, or suspend an individual's certificate to practice or certificate to recommend, refuse to grant a certificate to an individual, refuse to renew a certificate, refuse to reinstate a certificate, or reprimand or place on probation the holder of a certificate if the individual or certificate holder is found by the board to have committed fraud during the administration of the examination for a certificate to practice or to have committed fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in applying for, renewing, or securing any certificate to practice or certificate to recommend issued by the board.

(B) The board, by an affirmative vote of not fewer than six members, shall, to the extent permitted by law, limit, revoke, or suspend an individual's certificate to practice or certificate to recommend, refuse to issue a certificate to an individual, refuse to renew a certificate, refuse to reinstate a certificate, or reprimand or place on probation the holder of a certificate for one or more of the following reasons:

(1) Permitting one's name or one's certificate to practice to be used by a person, group, or corporation when the individual concerned is not actually directing the treatment given;

(2) Failure to maintain minimal standards applicable to the selection or administration of drugs, or failure to employ acceptable scientific methods in the selection of drugs or other modalities for treatment of disease;

(3) Selling, giving away, personally furnishing, prescribing, or administering drugs for other than legal and legitimate therapeutic purposes or a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction of, a violation of any federal or state law regulating the possession, distribution, or use of any drug;

(4) Willfully betraying a professional confidence.

For purposes of this division, "willfully betraying a professional confidence" does not include providing any information, documents, or reports under sections 307.621 to 307.629 of the Revised Code to a child fatality review board; does not include providing any information, documents, or reports to the director of health pursuant to guidelines established under section 3701.70 of the Revised Code; does not include written notice to a mental health professional under section 4731.62 of the Revised Code; and does not include the making of a report of an employee's use of a drug of abuse, or a report of a condition of an employee other than

one involving the use of a drug of abuse, to the employer of the employee as described in division (B) of section 2305.33 of the Revised Code. Nothing in this division affects the immunity from civil liability conferred by section 2305.33 or 4731.62 of the Revised Code upon a physician who makes a report in accordance with section 2305.33 or notifies a mental health professional in accordance with section 4731.62 of the Revised Code. As used in this division, "employee," "employer," and "physician" have the same meanings as in section 2305.33 of the Revised Code.

(5) Making a false, fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading statement in the solicitation of or advertising for patients; in relation to the practice of medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, podiatric medicine and surgery, or a limited branch of medicine; or in securing or attempting to secure any certificate to practice issued by the board.

As used in this division, "false, fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading statement" means a statement that includes a misrepresentation of fact, is likely to mislead or deceive because of a failure to disclose material facts, is intended or is likely to create false or unjustified expectations of favorable results, or includes representations or implications that in reasonable probability will cause an ordinarily prudent person to misunderstand or be deceived.

(6) A departure from, or the failure to conform to, minimal standards of care of similar practitioners under the same or similar circumstances, whether or not actual injury to a patient is established;

(7) Representing, with the purpose of obtaining compensation or other advantage as personal gain or for any other person, that an incurable disease or injury, or other incurable condition, can be permanently cured;

(8) The obtaining of, or attempting to obtain, money or anything of value by fraudulent misrepresentations in the course of practice;

(9) A plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, a felony;

(10) Commission of an act that constitutes a felony in this state, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the act was committed;

(11) A plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, a misdemeanor committed in the course of practice;

(12) Commission of an act in the course of practice that constitutes a misdemeanor in this state, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the act was committed;

(13) A plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, a

misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;

(14) Commission of an act involving moral turpitude that constitutes a misdemeanor in this state, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the act was committed;

(15) Violation of the conditions of limitation placed by the board upon a certificate to practice;

(16) Failure to pay license renewal fees specified in this chapter;

(17) Except as authorized in section 4731.31 of the Revised Code, engaging in the division of fees for referral of patients, or the receiving of a thing of value in return for a specific referral of a patient to utilize a particular service or business;

(18) Subject to section 4731.226 of the Revised Code, violation of any provision of a code of ethics of the American medical association, the American osteopathic association, the American podiatric medical association, or any other national professional organizations that the board specifies by rule. The state medical board shall obtain and keep on file current copies of the codes of ethics of the various national professional organizations. The individual whose certificate is being suspended or revoked shall not be found to have violated any provision of a code of ethics of an organization not appropriate to the individual's profession.

For purposes of this division, a "provision of a code of ethics of a national professional organization" does not include any provision that would preclude the making of a report by a physician of an employee's use of a drug of abuse, or of a condition of an employee other than one involving the use of a drug of abuse, to the employer of the employee as described in division (B) of section 2305.33 of the Revised Code. Nothing in this division affects the immunity from civil liability conferred by that section upon a physician who makes either type of report in accordance with division (B) of that section. As used in this division, "employee," "employer," and "physician" have the same meanings as in section 2305.33 of the Revised Code.

(19) Inability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care by reason of mental illness or physical illness, including, but not limited to, physical deterioration that adversely affects cognitive, motor, or perceptive skills.

In enforcing this division, the board, upon a showing of a possible violation, may compel any individual authorized to practice by this chapter or who has submitted an application pursuant to this chapter to submit to a mental examination, physical examination, including an HIV test, or both a mental and a physical examination. The expense of the examination is the

responsibility of the individual compelled to be examined. Failure to submit to a mental or physical examination or consent to an HIV test ordered by the board constitutes an admission of the allegations against the individual unless the failure is due to circumstances beyond the individual's control, and a default and final order may be entered without the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence. If the board finds an individual unable to practice because of the reasons set forth in this division, the board shall require the individual to submit to care, counseling, or treatment by physicians approved or designated by the board, as a condition for initial, continued, reinstated, or renewed authority to practice. An individual affected under this division shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate to the board the ability to resume practice in compliance with acceptable and prevailing standards under the provisions of the individual's certificate. For the purpose of this division, any individual who applies for or receives a certificate to practice under this chapter accepts the privilege of practicing in this state and, by so doing, shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination when directed to do so in writing by the board, and to have waived all objections to the admissibility of testimony or examination reports that constitute a privileged communication.

(20) Except when civil penalties are imposed under section 4731.225 or 4731.282 of the Revised Code, and subject to section 4731.226 of the Revised Code, violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provisions of this chapter or any rule promulgated by the board.

This division does not apply to a violation or attempted violation of, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted by the board that would preclude the making of a report by a physician of an employee's use of a drug of abuse, or of a condition of an employee other than one involving the use of a drug of abuse, to the employer of the employee as described in division (B) of section 2305.33 of the Revised Code. Nothing in this division affects the immunity from civil liability conferred by that section upon a physician who makes either type of report in accordance with division (B) of that section. As used in this division, "employee," "employer," and "physician" have the same meanings as in section 2305.33 of the Revised Code.

(21) The violation of section 3701.79 of the Revised Code or of any abortion rule adopted by the director of health pursuant to section 3701.341 of the Revised Code;

(22) Any of the following actions taken by an agency responsible for

authorizing, certifying, or regulating an individual to practice a health care occupation or provide health care services in this state or another jurisdiction, for any reason other than the nonpayment of fees: the limitation, revocation, or suspension of an individual's license to practice; acceptance of an individual's license surrender; denial of a license; refusal to renew or reinstate a license; imposition of probation; or issuance of an order of censure or other reprimand;

(23) The violation of section 2919.12 of the Revised Code or the performance or inducement of an abortion upon a pregnant woman with actual knowledge that the conditions specified in division (B) of section 2317.56 of the Revised Code have not been satisfied or with a heedless indifference as to whether those conditions have been satisfied, unless an affirmative defense as specified in division (H)(2) of that section would apply in a civil action authorized by division (H)(1) of that section;

(24) The revocation, suspension, restriction, reduction, or termination of clinical privileges by the United States department of defense or department of veterans affairs or the termination or suspension of a certificate of registration to prescribe drugs by the drug enforcement administration of the United States department of justice;

(25) Termination or suspension from participation in the medicare or medicaid programs by the department of health and human services or other responsible agency for any act or acts that also would constitute a violation of division (B)(2), (3), (6), (8), or (19) of this section;

(26) Impairment of ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care because of habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs, alcohol, or other substances that impair ability to practice.

For the purposes of this division, any individual authorized to practice by this chapter accepts the privilege of practicing in this state subject to supervision by the board. By filing an application for or holding a certificate to practice under this chapter, an individual shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination when ordered to do so by the board in writing, and to have waived all objections to the admissibility of testimony or examination reports that constitute privileged communications.

If it has reason to believe that any individual authorized to practice by this chapter or any applicant for certification to practice suffers such impairment, the board may compel the individual to submit to a mental or physical examination, or both. The expense of the examination is the responsibility of the individual compelled to be examined. Any mental or physical examination required under this division shall be undertaken by a

treatment provider or physician who is qualified to conduct the examination and who is chosen by the board.

Failure to submit to a mental or physical examination ordered by the board constitutes an admission of the allegations against the individual unless the failure is due to circumstances beyond the individual's control, and a default and final order may be entered without the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence. If the board determines that the individual's ability to practice is impaired, the board shall suspend the individual's certificate or deny the individual's application and shall require the individual, as a condition for initial, continued, reinstated, or renewed certification to practice, to submit to treatment.

Before being eligible to apply for reinstatement of a certificate suspended under this division, the impaired practitioner shall demonstrate to the board the ability to resume practice in compliance with acceptable and prevailing standards of care under the provisions of the practitioner's certificate. The demonstration shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

(a) Certification from a treatment provider approved under section 4731.25 of the Revised Code that the individual has successfully completed any required inpatient treatment;

(b) Evidence of continuing full compliance with an aftercare contract or consent agreement;

(c) Two written reports indicating that the individual's ability to practice has been assessed and that the individual has been found capable of practicing according to acceptable and prevailing standards of care. The reports shall be made by individuals or providers approved by the board for making the assessments and shall describe the basis for their determination.

The board may reinstate a certificate suspended under this division after that demonstration and after the individual has entered into a written consent agreement.

When the impaired practitioner resumes practice, the board shall require continued monitoring of the individual. The monitoring shall include, but not be limited to, compliance with the written consent agreement entered into before reinstatement or with conditions imposed by board order after a hearing, and, upon termination of the consent agreement, submission to the board for at least two years of annual written progress reports made under penalty of perjury stating whether the individual has maintained sobriety.

(27) A second or subsequent violation of section 4731.66 or 4731.69 of the Revised Code;

(28) Except as provided in division (N) of this section:

(a) Waiving the payment of all or any part of a deductible or copayment that a patient, pursuant to a health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan that covers the individual's services, otherwise would be required to pay if the waiver is used as an enticement to a patient or group of patients to receive health care services from that individual;

(b) Advertising that the individual will waive the payment of all or any part of a deductible or copayment that a patient, pursuant to a health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan that covers the individual's services, otherwise would be required to pay.

(29) Failure to use universal blood and body fluid precautions established by rules adopted under section 4731.051 of the Revised Code;

(30) Failure to provide notice to, and receive acknowledgment of the notice from, a patient when required by section 4731.143 of the Revised Code prior to providing nonemergency professional services, or failure to maintain that notice in the patient's file;

(31) Failure of a physician supervising a physician assistant to maintain supervision in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 4730. of the Revised Code and the rules adopted under that chapter;

(32) Failure of a physician or podiatrist to enter into a standard care arrangement with a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner with whom the physician or podiatrist is in collaboration pursuant to section 4731.27 of the Revised Code or failure to fulfill the responsibilities of collaboration after entering into a standard care arrangement;

(33) Failure to comply with the terms of a consult agreement entered into with a pharmacist pursuant to section 4729.39 of the Revised Code;

(34) Failure to cooperate in an investigation conducted by the board under division (F) of this section, including failure to comply with a subpoena or order issued by the board or failure to answer truthfully a question presented by the board in an investigative interview, an investigative office conference, at a deposition, or in written interrogatories, except that failure to cooperate with an investigation shall not constitute grounds for discipline under this section if a court of competent jurisdiction has issued an order that either quashes a subpoena or permits the individual to withhold the testimony or evidence in issue;

(35) Failure to supervise an oriental medicine practitioner or acupuncturist in accordance with Chapter 4762. of the Revised Code and the board's rules for providing that supervision;

(36) Failure to supervise an anesthesiologist assistant in accordance with Chapter 4760. of the Revised Code and the board's rules for supervision of

an anesthesiologist assistant;

(37) Assisting suicide, as defined in section 3795.01 of the Revised Code;

(38) Failure to comply with the requirements of section 2317.561 of the Revised Code;

(39) Failure to supervise a radiologist assistant in accordance with Chapter 4774. of the Revised Code and the board's rules for supervision of radiologist assistants;

(40) Performing or inducing an abortion at an office or facility with knowledge that the office or facility fails to post the notice required under section 3701.791 of the Revised Code;

(41) Failure to comply with the standards and procedures established in rules under section 4731.054 of the Revised Code for the operation of or the provision of care at a pain management clinic;

(42) Failure to comply with the standards and procedures established in rules under section 4731.054 of the Revised Code for providing supervision, direction, and control of individuals at a pain management clinic;

(43) Failure to comply with the requirements of section 4729.79 or 4731.055 of the Revised Code, unless the state board of pharmacy no longer maintains a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code;

(44) Failure to comply with the requirements of section 2919.171 of the Revised Code or failure to submit to the department of health in accordance with a court order a complete report as described in section 2919.171 of the Revised Code;

(45) Practicing at a facility that is subject to licensure as a category III terminal distributor of dangerous drugs with a pain management clinic classification unless the person operating the facility has obtained and maintains the license with the classification;

(46) Owning a facility that is subject to licensure as a category III terminal distributor of dangerous drugs with a pain management clinic classification unless the facility is licensed with the classification;

(47) Failure to comply with the requirement regarding maintaining notes described in division (B) of section 2919.191 of the Revised Code or failure to satisfy the requirements of section 2919.191 of the Revised Code prior to performing or inducing an abortion upon a pregnant woman;

(48) Failure to comply with the requirements in section 3719.061 of the Revised Code before issuing for a minor a prescription for an opioid analgesic, as defined in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code;

(49) Failure to comply with the requirements of section 4731.30 of the Revised Code or rules adopted under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code

when recommending treatment with medical marijuana.

(C) Disciplinary actions taken by the board under divisions (A) and (B) of this section shall be taken pursuant to an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, except that in lieu of an adjudication, the board may enter into a consent agreement with an individual to resolve an allegation of a violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under it. A consent agreement, when ratified by an affirmative vote of not fewer than six members of the board, shall constitute the findings and order of the board with respect to the matter addressed in the agreement. If the board refuses to ratify a consent agreement, the admissions and findings contained in the consent agreement shall be of no force or effect.

A telephone conference call may be utilized for ratification of a consent agreement that revokes or suspends an individual's certificate to practice or certificate to recommend. The telephone conference call shall be considered a special meeting under division (F) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

If the board takes disciplinary action against an individual under division (B) of this section for a second or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding of guilt of, a violation of section 2919.123 of the Revised Code, the disciplinary action shall consist of a suspension of the individual's certificate to practice for a period of at least one year or, if determined appropriate by the board, a more serious sanction involving the individual's certificate to practice. Any consent agreement entered into under this division with an individual that pertains to a second or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding of guilt of, a violation of that section shall provide for a suspension of the individual's certificate to practice for a period of at least one year or, if determined appropriate by the board, a more serious sanction involving the individual's certificate to practice.

(D) For purposes of divisions (B)(10), (12), and (14) of this section, the commission of the act may be established by a finding by the board, pursuant to an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, that the individual committed the act. The board does not have jurisdiction under those divisions if the trial court renders a final judgment in the individual's favor and that judgment is based upon an adjudication on the merits. The board has jurisdiction under those divisions if the trial court issues an order of dismissal upon technical or procedural grounds.

(E) The sealing of conviction records by any court shall have no effect upon a prior board order entered under this section or upon the board's jurisdiction to take action under this section if, based upon a plea of guilty, a judicial finding of guilt, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction, the board issued a notice of opportunity for a hearing

prior to the court's order to seal the records. The board shall not be required to seal, destroy, redact, or otherwise modify its records to reflect the court's sealing of conviction records.

(F)(1) The board shall investigate evidence that appears to show that a person has violated any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted under it. Any person may report to the board in a signed writing any information that the person may have that appears to show a violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted under it. In the absence of bad faith, any person who reports information of that nature or who testifies before the board in any adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code shall not be liable in damages in a civil action as a result of the report or testimony. Each complaint or allegation of a violation received by the board shall be assigned a case number and shall be recorded by the board.

(2) Investigations of alleged violations of this chapter or any rule adopted under it shall be supervised by the supervising member elected by the board in accordance with section 4731.02 of the Revised Code and by the secretary as provided in section 4731.39 of the Revised Code. The president may designate another member of the board to supervise the investigation in place of the supervising member. No member of the board who supervises the investigation of a case shall participate in further adjudication of the case.

(3) In investigating a possible violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter, or in conducting an inspection under division (E) of section 4731.054 of the Revised Code, the board may question witnesses, conduct interviews, administer oaths, order the taking of depositions, inspect and copy any books, accounts, papers, records, or documents, issue subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses and production of books, accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony, except that a subpoena for patient record information shall not be issued without consultation with the attorney general's office and approval of the secretary and supervising member of the board.

(a) Before issuance of a subpoena for patient record information, the secretary and supervising member shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that the complaint filed alleges a violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under it and that the records sought are relevant to the alleged violation and material to the investigation. The subpoena may apply only to records that cover a reasonable period of time surrounding the alleged violation.

(b) On failure to comply with any subpoena issued by the board and after reasonable notice to the person being subpoenaed, the board may move

for an order compelling the production of persons or records pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure.

(c) A subpoena issued by the board may be served by a sheriff, the sheriff's deputy, or a board employee designated by the board. Service of a subpoena issued by the board may be made by delivering a copy of the subpoena to the person named therein, reading it to the person, or leaving it at the person's usual place of residence, usual place of business, or address on file with the board. When serving a subpoena to an applicant for or the holder of a certificate issued under this chapter, service of the subpoena may be made by certified mail, return receipt requested, and the subpoena shall be deemed served on the date delivery is made or the date the person refuses to accept delivery. If the person being served refuses to accept the subpoena or is not located, service may be made to an attorney who notifies the board that the attorney is representing the person.

(d) A sheriff's deputy who serves a subpoena shall receive the same fees as a sheriff. Each witness who appears before the board in obedience to a subpoena shall receive the fees and mileage provided for under section 119.094 of the Revised Code.

(4) All hearings, investigations, and inspections of the board shall be considered civil actions for the purposes of section 2305.252 of the Revised Code.

(5) A report required to be submitted to the board under this chapter, a complaint, or information received by the board pursuant to an investigation or pursuant to an inspection under division (E) of section 4731.054 of the Revised Code is confidential and not subject to discovery in any civil action.

The board shall conduct all investigations or inspections and proceedings in a manner that protects the confidentiality of patients and persons who file complaints with the board. The board shall not make public the names or any other identifying information about patients or complainants unless proper consent is given or, in the case of a patient, a waiver of the patient privilege exists under division (B) of section 2317.02 of the Revised Code, except that consent or a waiver of that nature is not required if the board possesses reliable and substantial evidence that no bona fide physician-patient relationship exists.

The board may share any information it receives pursuant to an investigation or inspection, including patient records and patient record information, with law enforcement agencies, other licensing boards, and other governmental agencies that are prosecuting, adjudicating, or investigating alleged violations of statutes or administrative rules. An agency or board that receives the information shall comply with the same

requirements regarding confidentiality as those with which the state medical board must comply, notwithstanding any conflicting provision of the Revised Code or procedure of the agency or board that applies when it is dealing with other information in its possession. In a judicial proceeding, the information may be admitted into evidence only in accordance with the Rules of Evidence, but the court shall require that appropriate measures are taken to ensure that confidentiality is maintained with respect to any part of the information that contains names or other identifying information about patients or complainants whose confidentiality was protected by the state medical board when the information was in the board's possession. Measures to ensure confidentiality that may be taken by the court include sealing its records or deleting specific information from its records.

(6) On a quarterly basis, the board shall prepare a report that documents the disposition of all cases during the preceding three months. The report shall contain the following information for each case with which the board has completed its activities:

- (a) The case number assigned to the complaint or alleged violation;
- (b) The type of certificate to practice, if any, held by the individual against whom the complaint is directed;
- (c) A description of the allegations contained in the complaint;
- (d) The disposition of the case.

The report shall state how many cases are still pending and shall be prepared in a manner that protects the identity of each person involved in each case. The report shall be a public record under section 149.43 of the Revised Code.

(G) If the secretary and supervising member determine both of the following, they may recommend that the board suspend an individual's certificate to practice or certificate to recommend without a prior hearing:

- (1) That there is clear and convincing evidence that an individual has violated division (B) of this section;
- (2) That the individual's continued practice presents a danger of immediate and serious harm to the public.

Written allegations shall be prepared for consideration by the board. The board, upon review of those allegations and by an affirmative vote of not fewer than six of its members, excluding the secretary and supervising member, may suspend a certificate without a prior hearing. A telephone conference call may be utilized for reviewing the allegations and taking the vote on the summary suspension.

The board shall issue a written order of suspension by certified mail or in person in accordance with section 119.07 of the Revised Code. The order

shall not be subject to suspension by the court during pendency of any appeal filed under section 119.12 of the Revised Code. If the individual subject to the summary suspension requests an adjudicatory hearing by the board, the date set for the hearing shall be within fifteen days, but not earlier than seven days, after the individual requests the hearing, unless otherwise agreed to by both the board and the individual.

Any summary suspension imposed under this division shall remain in effect, unless reversed on appeal, until a final adjudicative order issued by the board pursuant to this section and Chapter 119. of the Revised Code becomes effective. The board shall issue its final adjudicative order within seventy-five days after completion of its hearing. A failure to issue the order within seventy-five days shall result in dissolution of the summary suspension order but shall not invalidate any subsequent, final adjudicative order.

(H) If the board takes action under division (B)(9), (11), or (13) of this section and the judicial finding of guilt, guilty plea, or judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction is overturned on appeal, upon exhaustion of the criminal appeal, a petition for reconsideration of the order may be filed with the board along with appropriate court documents. Upon receipt of a petition of that nature and supporting court documents, the board shall reinstate the individual's certificate to practice. The board may then hold an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to determine whether the individual committed the act in question. Notice of an opportunity for a hearing shall be given in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. If the board finds, pursuant to an adjudication held under this division, that the individual committed the act or if no hearing is requested, the board may order any of the sanctions identified under division (B) of this section.

(I) The certificate to practice issued to an individual under this chapter and the individual's practice in this state are automatically suspended as of the date of the individual's second or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding of guilt of, a violation of section 2919.123 of the Revised Code, ~~or~~. In addition, the certificate to practice or certificate to recommend issued to an individual under this chapter and the individual's practice in this state are automatically suspended as of the date the individual pleads guilty to, is found by a judge or jury to be guilty of, or is subject to a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction in this state or treatment or intervention in lieu of conviction in another jurisdiction for any of the following criminal offenses in this state or a substantially equivalent criminal offense in another jurisdiction: aggravated murder, murder,

voluntary manslaughter, felonious assault, kidnapping, rape, sexual battery, gross sexual imposition, aggravated arson, aggravated robbery, or aggravated burglary. Continued practice after suspension shall be considered practicing without a certificate.

The board shall notify the individual subject to the suspension by certified mail or in person in accordance with section 119.07 of the Revised Code. If an individual whose certificate is automatically suspended under this division fails to make a timely request for an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the board shall do whichever of the following is applicable:

(1) If the automatic suspension under this division is for a second or subsequent plea of guilty to, or judicial finding of guilt of, a violation of section 2919.123 of the Revised Code, the board shall enter an order suspending the individual's certificate to practice for a period of at least one year or, if determined appropriate by the board, imposing a more serious sanction involving the individual's certificate to practice.

(2) In all circumstances in which division (I)(1) of this section does not apply, enter a final order permanently revoking the individual's certificate to practice.

(J) If the board is required by Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to give notice of an opportunity for a hearing and if the individual subject to the notice does not timely request a hearing in accordance with section 119.07 of the Revised Code, the board is not required to hold a hearing, but may adopt, by an affirmative vote of not fewer than six of its members, a final order that contains the board's findings. In that final order, the board may order any of the sanctions identified under division (A) or (B) of this section.

(K) Any action taken by the board under division (B) of this section resulting in a suspension from practice shall be accompanied by a written statement of the conditions under which the individual's certificate to practice may be reinstated. The board shall adopt rules governing conditions to be imposed for reinstatement. Reinstatement of a certificate suspended pursuant to division (B) of this section requires an affirmative vote of not fewer than six members of the board.

(L) When the board refuses to grant or issue a certificate to practice to an applicant, revokes an individual's certificate to practice, refuses to renew an individual's certificate to practice, or refuses to reinstate an individual's certificate to practice, the board may specify that its action is permanent. An individual subject to a permanent action taken by the board is forever thereafter ineligible to hold a certificate to practice and the board shall not

accept an application for reinstatement of the certificate or for issuance of a new certificate.

(M) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Revised Code, all of the following apply:

(1) The surrender of a certificate issued under this chapter shall not be effective unless or until accepted by the board. A telephone conference call may be utilized for acceptance of the surrender of an individual's certificate to practice. The telephone conference call shall be considered a special meeting under division (F) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code. Reinstatement of a certificate surrendered to the board requires an affirmative vote of not fewer than six members of the board.

(2) An application for a certificate made under the provisions of this chapter may not be withdrawn without approval of the board.

(3) Failure by an individual to renew a certificate to practice in accordance with this chapter or a certificate to recommend in accordance with rules adopted under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code shall not remove or limit the board's jurisdiction to take any disciplinary action under this section against the individual.

(4) At the request of the board, a certificate holder shall immediately surrender to the board a certificate that the board has suspended, revoked, or permanently revoked.

(N) Sanctions shall not be imposed under division (B)(28) of this section against any person who waives deductibles and copayments as follows:

(1) In compliance with the health benefit plan that expressly allows such a practice. Waiver of the deductibles or copayments shall be made only with the full knowledge and consent of the plan purchaser, payer, and third-party administrator. Documentation of the consent shall be made available to the board upon request.

(2) For professional services rendered to any other person authorized to practice pursuant to this chapter, to the extent allowed by this chapter and rules adopted by the board.

(O) Under the board's investigative duties described in this section and subject to division (F) of this section, the board shall develop and implement a quality intervention program designed to improve through remedial education the clinical and communication skills of individuals authorized under this chapter to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, and podiatric medicine and surgery. In developing and implementing the quality intervention program, the board may do all of the following:

(1) Offer in appropriate cases as determined by the board an educational and assessment program pursuant to an investigation the board conducts under this section;

(2) Select providers of educational and assessment services, including a quality intervention program panel of case reviewers;

(3) Make referrals to educational and assessment service providers and approve individual educational programs recommended by those providers. The board shall monitor the progress of each individual undertaking a recommended individual educational program.

(4) Determine what constitutes successful completion of an individual educational program and require further monitoring of the individual who completed the program or other action that the board determines to be appropriate;

(5) Adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to further implement the quality intervention program.

An individual who participates in an individual educational program pursuant to this division shall pay the financial obligations arising from that educational program.

Sec. 4731.229. Any disciplinary action taken on an individual's certificate to practice by the board under section 4731.22 of the Revised Code operates automatically on the individual's certificate to recommend and remains in effect for as long as the action remains in effect on the certificate to practice.

Sec. 4731.281. (A)(1) Each person holding a certificate under this chapter to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine and surgery wishing to renew that certificate shall apply to the board for renewal. Applications shall be submitted to the board in a manner prescribed by the board. Each application shall be accompanied by a biennial renewal fee of three hundred five dollars. Applications shall be submitted according to the following schedule:

(a) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "A" through "B," on or before April 1, 2001, and the first day of April of every odd-numbered year thereafter;

(b) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "C" through "D," on or before January 1, 2001, and the first day of January of every odd-numbered year thereafter;

(c) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "E" through "G," on or before October 1, 2000, and the first day of October of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(d) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "H" through "K," on

or before July 1, 2000, and the first day of July of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(e) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "L" through "M," on or before April 1, 2000, and the first day of April of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(f) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "N" through "R," on or before January 1, 2000, and the first day of January of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(g) Persons whose last name begins with the letter "S," on or before October 1, 1999, and the first day of October of every odd-numbered year thereafter;

(h) Persons whose last name begins with the letters "T" through "Z," on or before July 1, 1999, and the first day of July of every odd-numbered year thereafter.

The board shall deposit the fee in accordance with section 4731.24 of the Revised Code, except that the board shall deposit twenty dollars of the fee into the state treasury to the credit of the physician loan repayment fund created by section 3702.78 of the Revised Code.

(2) The board shall provide to every person holding a certificate to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine and surgery, a renewal notice or may provide the notice to the person through the secretary of any recognized medical, osteopathic, or podiatric society, according to the following schedule:

(a) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "A" through "B," on or before January 1, 2001, and the first day of January of every odd-numbered year thereafter;

(b) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "C" through "D," on or before October 1, 2000, and the first day of October of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(c) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "E" through "G," on or before July 1, 2000, and the first day of July of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(d) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "H" through "K," on or before April 1, 2000, and the first day of April of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(e) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "L" through "M," on or before January 1, 2000, and the first day of January of every even-numbered year thereafter;

(f) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "N" through "R," on or before October 1, 1999, and the first day of October of every

odd-numbered year thereafter;

(g) To persons whose last name begins with the letter "S," on or before July 1, 1999, and the first day of July of every odd-numbered year thereafter;

(h) To persons whose last name begins with the letters "T" through "Z," on or before April 1, 1999, and the first day of April of every odd-numbered year thereafter.

(3) Failure of any person to receive a notice of renewal from the board shall not excuse the person from the requirements contained in this section.

(4) The board's notice shall inform the applicant of the renewal procedure. The board shall provide the application for renewal in a form determined by the board.

(5) The applicant shall provide in the application the applicant's full name; the applicant's residence address, business address, and electronic mail address; the number of the applicant's certificate to practice; and any other information required by the board.

(6)(a) Except as provided in division (A)(6)(b) of this section, in the case of an applicant who prescribes or personally furnishes opioid analgesics or benzodiazepines, as defined in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code, the applicant shall certify to the board whether the applicant has been granted access to the drug database established and maintained by the state board of pharmacy pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code.

(b) The requirement in division (A)(6)(a) of this section does not apply if any of the following is the case:

(i) The state board of pharmacy notifies the state medical board pursuant to section 4729.861 of the Revised Code that the applicant has been restricted from obtaining further information from the drug database.

(ii) The state board of pharmacy no longer maintains the drug database.

(iii) The applicant does not practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine and surgery in this state.

(c) If an applicant certifies to the state medical board that the applicant has been granted access to the drug database and the board finds through an audit or other means that the applicant has not been granted access, the board may take action under section 4731.22 of the Revised Code.

(7) The applicant shall include with the application a list of the names and addresses of any clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives, or certified nurse practitioners with whom the applicant is currently collaborating, as defined in section 4723.01 of the Revised Code.

(8) The applicant shall report any criminal offense to which the applicant has pleaded guilty, of which the applicant has been found guilty,

or for which the applicant has been found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction, since last filing an application for a certificate to practice or renewal of a certificate.

(9) The applicant shall execute and deliver the application to the board in a manner prescribed by the board.

(B) The board shall renew a certificate under this chapter to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine and surgery upon application and qualification therefor in accordance with this section. A renewal shall be valid for a two-year period.

(C) Failure of any certificate holder to renew and comply with this section shall operate automatically to suspend the holder's certificate to practice and if applicable, the holder's certificate to recommend issued under section 4731.30 of the Revised Code. Continued practice after the suspension ~~of the certificate to practice~~ shall be considered as practicing in violation of section 4731.41, 4731.43, or 4731.60 of the Revised Code. If the certificate has been suspended pursuant to this division for two years or less, it may be reinstated. The board shall reinstate a certificate to practice suspended for failure to renew upon an applicant's submission of a renewal application, the biennial renewal fee, and the applicable monetary penalty. The penalty for reinstatement shall be one hundred dollars. If the certificate has been suspended pursuant to this division for more than two years, it may be restored. Subject to section 4731.222 of the Revised Code, the board may restore a certificate to practice suspended for failure to renew upon an applicant's submission of a restoration application, the biennial renewal fee, and the applicable monetary penalty and compliance with sections 4776.01 to 4776.04 of the Revised Code. The board shall not restore to an applicant a certificate to practice unless the board, in its discretion, decides that the results of the criminal records check do not make the applicant ineligible for a certificate issued pursuant to section 4731.14, 4731.56, or 4731.57 of the Revised Code. The penalty for restoration shall be two hundred dollars. The board shall deposit the penalties in accordance with section 4731.24 of the Revised Code. Any renewal or restoration of a certificate to practice under this section shall operate automatically to renew the holder's certificate to recommend.

(D) If an individual certifies completion of the number of hours and type of continuing medical education required to renew or reinstate a certificate to practice, and the board finds through the random samples it conducts under this section or through any other means that the individual did not complete the requisite continuing medical education, the board may impose a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars. The board's

finding shall be made pursuant to an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and by an affirmative vote of not fewer than six members.

A civil penalty imposed under this division may be in addition to or in lieu of any other action the board may take under section 4731.22 of the Revised Code. The board shall deposit civil penalties in accordance with section 4731.24 of the Revised Code.

(E) The state medical board may obtain information not protected by statutory or common law privilege from courts and other sources concerning malpractice claims against any person holding a certificate to practice under this chapter or practicing as provided in section 4731.36 of the Revised Code.

(F) Each mailing sent by the board under division (A)(2) of this section to a person holding a certificate to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery shall inform the applicant of the reporting requirement established by division (H) of section 3701.79 of the Revised Code. At the discretion of the board, the information may be included on the application for renewal or on an accompanying page.

(G) Each person holding a certificate to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine and surgery shall give notice to the board of any of the following changes not later than thirty days after the change occurs:

(1) A change in the certificate holder's residence address, business address, or electronic mail address;

(2) A change in the list provided under division (B)(7) of this section of names and addresses of the nurses with whom the certificate holder is collaborating.

Sec. 4731.30. (A) As used in this section and sections 4731.301 and 4731.302 of the Revised Code, "medical marijuana," "drug database," "physician," and "qualifying medical condition" have the same meanings as in section 3796.01 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) Except as provided in division (B)(4) of this section, a physician seeking to recommend treatment with medical marijuana shall apply to the state medical board for a certificate to recommend. An application shall be submitted in the manner established in rules adopted under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code.

(2) The board shall grant a certificate to recommend if both of the following conditions are met:

(a) The application is complete and meets the requirements established in rules.

(b) The applicant demonstrates that the applicant does not have an

ownership or investment interest in or compensation arrangement with an entity licensed under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code or an applicant for licensure.

(3) A certificate to recommend expires according to the renewal schedule established in rules adopted under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code and may be renewed in accordance with the procedures established in those rules.

(4) This section does not apply to a physician who recommends treatment with marijuana or a drug derived from marijuana under any of the following that is approved by an investigational review board or equivalent entity, the United States food and drug administration, or the national institutes of health or one of its cooperative groups or centers under the United States department of health and human services:

- (a) A research protocol;
- (b) A clinical trial;
- (c) An investigational new drug application;
- (d) An expanded access submission.

(C)(1) A physician who holds a certificate to recommend may recommend that a patient be treated with medical marijuana if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The patient has been diagnosed with a qualifying medical condition;
- (b) A bona fide physician-patient relationship has been established through all of the following:

- (i) An in-person physical examination of the patient by the physician;
- (ii) A review of the patient's medical history by the physician;
- (iii) An expectation of providing care and receiving care on an ongoing basis.

(c) The physician has requested, or a physician delegate approved by the state board of pharmacy has requested, from the drug database a report of information related to the patient that covers at least the twelve months immediately preceding the date of the report, and the physician has reviewed the report.

(2) In the case of a patient who is a minor, the physician may recommend treatment with medical marijuana only after obtaining the consent of the patient's parent or other person responsible for providing consent to treatment.

(D)(1) When issuing a written recommendation to a patient, the physician shall specify any information required in rules adopted by the board under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code.

(2) A written recommendation issued to a patient under this section is

valid for a period of not more than ninety days. The physician may renew the recommendation for not more than three additional periods of not more than ninety days each. Thereafter, the physician may issue another recommendation to the patient only upon a physical examination of the patient.

(E) Annually, the physician shall submit to the state medical board a report that describes the physician's observations regarding the effectiveness of medical marijuana in treating the physician's patients during the year covered by the report. When submitting reports, a physician shall not include any information that identifies or would tend to identify any specific patient.

(F) Each physician who holds a certificate to recommend shall complete annually at least two hours of continuing medical education in medical marijuana approved by the state medical board.

(G) A physician shall not do any of the following:

(1) Personally furnish or otherwise dispense medical marijuana;

(2) Issue a recommendation for a family member or the physician's self.

(H) A physician is immune from civil liability, is not subject to professional disciplinary action by the state medical board or state board of pharmacy, and is not subject to criminal prosecution for any of the following actions:

(1) Advising a patient, patient representative, or caregiver about the benefits and risks of medical marijuana to treat a qualifying medical condition;

(2) Recommending that a patient use medical marijuana to treat or alleviate the condition;

(3) Monitoring a patient's treatment with medical marijuana.

Sec. 4731.301. (A) Not later than one year after the effective date of this section, the state medical board shall adopt rules establishing all of the following:

(1) The procedures when applying for a certificate to recommend under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code;

(2) The conditions that must be met to be eligible for a certificate to recommend;

(3) The schedule and procedures for renewing a certificate to recommend;

(4) The reasons for which a certificate may be suspended or revoked;

(5) The standards under which a certificate suspension may be lifted;

(6) The minimal standards of care when recommending treatment with medical marijuana.

The rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(B) In addition to the rules described in division (A) of this section, the board may adopt any other rules it considers necessary to implement sections 4731.30 and 4731.302 of the Revised Code which may include rules specifying the information that must be included in a written recommendation issued under section 4731.30 of the Revised Code. The rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(C) The board shall approve one or more continuing medical education courses of study, which may be a course or courses certified by the Ohio state medical association or Ohio osteopathic association, that assist physicians holding certificates to recommend in both of the following:

(1) Diagnosing qualifying medical conditions as defined in section 3796.01 of the Revised Code;

(2) Treating qualifying medical conditions with medical marijuana.

Sec. 4731.302. (A) Any person may submit a petition to the state medical board requesting that a disease or condition be added as a qualifying medical condition for the purposes of section 3796.01 of the Revised Code. A petition shall be submitted to the board in a manner prescribed by the board. A petition shall be limited to one disease or condition and shall include a description of the disease or condition. A petition shall not seek to add a broad category of diseases or conditions.

(B) On receipt of a petition, the board shall review it to determine whether to approve or deny the addition of the disease or condition described in the petition. The board may consolidate the review of petitions for the same or similar diseases or conditions. In making its determination, the board shall do all of the following:

(1) Consult with one or more experts who specialize in the study of the disease or condition;

(2) Review any relevant medical or scientific evidence pertaining to the disease or condition;

(3) Consider whether conventional medical therapies are insufficient to treat or alleviate the disease or condition;

(4) Review evidence supporting the use of medical marijuana to treat or alleviate the disease or condition;

(5) Review any letters of support provided by physicians with knowledge of the disease or condition, including any letter provided by a physician treating the petitioner.

(C) The board shall approve or deny the petition in accordance with any rules adopted by the board under section 4731.301 of the Revised Code. The

board's decision is final.

Sec. 4776.02. (A) An applicant for an initial license or restored license from a licensing agency, a person seeking to satisfy the criteria for being a qualified pharmacy technician that are specified in section 4729.42 of the Revised Code, ~~or~~ a person seeking to satisfy the requirements to be an employee of a pain management clinic as specified in section 4729.552 of the Revised Code, or a person seeking employment with an entity holding a license issued under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code shall submit a request to the bureau of criminal identification and investigation for a criminal records check of the applicant or person. The request shall be accompanied by a completed copy of the form prescribed under division (C)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code, a set of fingerprint impressions obtained as described in division (C)(2) of that section, and the fee prescribed under division (C)(3) of that section. The applicant or person shall ask the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation in the request to obtain from the federal bureau of investigation any information it has pertaining to the applicant or person.

An applicant or person requesting a criminal records check shall provide the bureau of criminal identification and investigation with the applicant's or person's name and address and, regarding an applicant, with the licensing agency's name and address. If the person requesting the criminal records check is a person seeking employment with an entity holding a license under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code, the person also shall provide the bureau with the name and address of the entity holding the license.

(B) Upon receipt of the completed form, the set of fingerprint impressions, and the fee provided for in division (A) of this section, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall conduct a criminal records check of the applicant or person under division (B) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code. Upon completion of the criminal records check, the superintendent shall do whichever of the following is applicable:

(1) If the request was submitted by an applicant for an initial license or restored license, report the results of the criminal records check and any information the federal bureau of investigation provides to the licensing agency identified in the request for a criminal records check;

(2) If the request was submitted by a person seeking to satisfy the criteria for being a qualified pharmacy technician that are specified in section 4729.42 of the Revised Code or a person seeking to satisfy the requirements to be an employee of a pain management clinic as specified in section 4729.552 of the Revised Code, do both of the following:

(a) Report the results of the criminal records check and any information the federal bureau of investigation provides to the person who submitted the request;

(b) Report the results of the portion of the criminal records check performed by the bureau of criminal identification and investigation under division (B)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code to the employer or potential employer specified in the request of the person who submitted the request and send a letter to that employer or potential employer regarding the information provided by the federal bureau of investigation that states either that based on that information there is no record of any conviction or that based on that information the person who submitted the request may not meet the criteria that are specified in section 4729.42 of the Revised Code, whichever is applicable.

(3) If the request was submitted by a person seeking employment with an entity holding a license issued under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code, report the results of the criminal records check, including any information the federal bureau of investigation provides as part of the criminal records check, to both of the following:

(a) The person who submitted the request;

(b) The entity holding a license issued under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code from which the person who submitted the request is seeking employment.

Sec. 4776.04. The results of any criminal records check conducted pursuant to a request made under this chapter and any report containing those results, including any information the federal bureau of investigation provides, are not public records for purposes of section 149.43 of the Revised Code and shall not be made available to any person or for any purpose other than as follows:

(A) If the request for the criminal records check was submitted by an applicant for an initial license or restored license, as follows:

(1) The superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall make the results available to the licensing agency for use in determining, under the agency's authorizing chapter of the Revised Code, whether the applicant who is the subject of the criminal records check should be granted a license under that chapter.

(2) The licensing agency shall make the results available to the applicant who is the subject of the criminal records check.

(B) If the request for the criminal records check was submitted by a person seeking to satisfy the criteria for being a qualified pharmacy technician that are specified in section 4729.42 of the Revised Code or a

person seeking to satisfy the requirements to be an employee of a pain management clinic as specified in section 4729.552 of the Revised Code, the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall make the results available in accordance with the following:

(1) The superintendent shall make the results of the criminal records check, including any information the federal bureau of investigation provides, available to the person who submitted the request and is the subject of the criminal records check.

(2) The superintendent shall make the results of the portion of the criminal records check performed by the bureau of criminal identification and investigation under division (B)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code available to the employer or potential employer specified in the request of the person who submitted the request and shall send a letter of the type described in division (B)(2) of section 4776.02 of the Revised Code to that employer or potential employer regarding the information provided by the federal bureau of investigation that contains one of the types of statements described in that division.

(C) If the request for the criminal records check was submitted by an applicant for a trainee license under section 4776.021 of the Revised Code, as follows:

(1) The superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall make the results available to the licensing agency or other agency identified in division (B) of section 4776.021 of the Revised Code for use in determining, under the agency's authorizing chapter of the Revised Code and division (D) of section 4776.021 of the Revised Code, whether the applicant who is the subject of the criminal records check should be granted a trainee license under that chapter and that division.

(2) The licensing agency or other agency identified in division (B) of section 4776.021 of the Revised Code shall make the results available to the applicant who is the subject of the criminal records check.

(D) If the request for the criminal records check was submitted by a person seeking employment with an entity holding a license issued under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code, the superintendent shall make the results available in accordance with division (B)(3) of section 4776.02 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5713.30. As used in sections 5713.31 to 5713.37 and 5715.01 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Land devoted exclusively to agricultural use" means:

(1) Tracts, lots, or parcels of land totaling not less than ten acres to which, during the three calendar years prior to the year in which application

is filed under section 5713.31 of the Revised Code, and through the last day of May of such year, one or more of the following apply:

(a) The tracts, lots, or parcels of land were devoted exclusively to commercial animal or poultry husbandry, aquaculture, algaculture meaning the farming of algae, apiculture, the production for a commercial purpose of timber, field crops, tobacco, fruits, vegetables, nursery stock, ornamental trees, sod, or flowers, or the growth of timber for a noncommercial purpose, if the land on which the timber is grown is contiguous to or part of a parcel of land under common ownership that is otherwise devoted exclusively to agricultural use.

(b) The tracts, lots, or parcels of land were devoted exclusively to biodiesel production, biomass energy production, electric or heat energy production, or biologically derived methane gas production if the land on which the production facility is located is contiguous to or part of a parcel of land under common ownership that is otherwise devoted exclusively to agricultural use, provided that at least fifty per cent of the feedstock used in the production was derived from parcels of land under common ownership or leasehold.

(c) The tracts, lots, or parcels of land were devoted to and qualified for payments or other compensation under a land retirement or conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government.

(2) Tracts, lots, or parcels of land totaling less than ten acres that, during the three calendar years prior to the year in which application is filed under section 5713.31 of the Revised Code and through the last day of May of such year, were devoted exclusively to commercial animal or poultry husbandry, aquaculture, algaculture meaning the farming of algae, apiculture, the production for a commercial purpose of field crops, tobacco, fruits, vegetables, timber, nursery stock, ornamental trees, sod, or flowers where such activities produced an average yearly gross income of at least twenty-five hundred dollars during such three-year period or where there is evidence of an anticipated gross income of such amount from such activities during the tax year in which application is made, or were devoted to and qualified for payments or other compensation under a land retirement or conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government;

(3) A tract, lot, or parcel of land taxed under sections 5713.22 to 5713.26 of the Revised Code is not land devoted exclusively to agricultural use;

(4) Tracts, lots, or parcels of land, or portions thereof that, during the previous three consecutive calendar years have been designated as land

devoted exclusively to agricultural use, but such land has been lying idle or fallow for up to one year and no action has occurred to such land that is either inconsistent with the return of it to agricultural production or converts the land devoted exclusively to agricultural use as defined in this section. Such land shall remain designated as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use provided that beyond one year, but less than three years, the landowner proves good cause as determined by the board of revision.

(5) Tracts, lots, or parcels of land, or portions thereof that, during the previous three consecutive calendar years have been designated as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use, but such land has been lying idle or fallow because of dredged material being stored or deposited on such land pursuant to a contract between the land's owner and the department of natural resources or the United States army corps of engineers and no action has occurred to the land that is either inconsistent with the return of it to agricultural production or converts the land devoted exclusively to agricultural use. Such land shall remain designated as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use until the last year in which dredged material is stored or deposited on the land pursuant to such a contract, but not to exceed five years.

"Land devoted exclusively to agricultural use" includes tracts, lots, or parcels of land or portions thereof that are used for conservation practices, provided that the tracts, lots, or parcels of land or portions thereof comprise twenty-five per cent or less of the total of the tracts, lots, or parcels of land that satisfy the criteria established in division (A)(1), (2), (4), or (5) of this section together with the tracts, lots, or parcels of land or portions thereof that are used for conservation practices.

A tract, lot, parcel, or portion thereof on which medical marijuana, as defined by section 3796.01 of the Revised Code, is cultivated or processed is not land devoted exclusively to agricultural use.

(B) "Conversion of land devoted exclusively to agricultural use" means any of the following:

(1) The failure of the owner of land devoted exclusively to agricultural use during the next preceding calendar year to file a renewal application under section 5713.31 of the Revised Code without good cause as determined by the board of revision;

(2) The failure of the new owner of such land to file an initial application under that section without good cause as determined by the board of revision;

(3) The failure of such land or portion thereof to qualify as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use for the current calendar year as requested by

an application filed under such section;

(4) The failure of the owner of the land described in division (A)(4) or (5) of this section to act on such land in a manner that is consistent with the return of the land to agricultural production after three years.

The construction or installation of an energy facility, as defined in section 5727.01 of the Revised Code, on a portion of a tract, lot, or parcel of land devoted exclusively to agricultural use shall not cause the remaining portion of the tract, lot, or parcel to be regarded as a conversion of land devoted exclusively to agricultural use if the remaining portion of the tract, lot, or parcel continues to be devoted exclusively to agricultural use.

(C) "Tax savings" means the difference between the dollar amount of real property taxes levied in any year on land valued and assessed in accordance with its current agricultural use value and the dollar amount of real property taxes that would have been levied upon such land if it had been valued and assessed for such year in accordance with Section 2 of Article XII, Ohio Constitution.

(D) "Owner" includes, but is not limited to, any person owning a fee simple, fee tail, or life estate or a buyer on a land installment contract.

(E) "Conservation practices" are practices used to abate soil erosion as required in the management of the farming operation, and include, but are not limited to, the installation, construction, development, planting, or use of grass waterways, terraces, diversions, filter strips, field borders, windbreaks, riparian buffers, wetlands, ponds, and cover crops for that purpose.

(F) "Wetlands" has the same meaning as in section 6111.02 of the Revised Code.

(G) "Biodiesel" means a mono-alkyl ester combustible liquid fuel that is derived from vegetable oils or animal fats or any combination of those reagents and that meets the American society for testing and materials specification D6751-03a for biodiesel fuel (B100) blend stock distillate fuels.

(H) "Biologically derived methane gas" means gas from the anaerobic digestion of organic materials, including animal waste and agricultural crops and residues.

(I) "Biomass energy" means energy that is produced from organic material derived from plants or animals and available on a renewable basis, including, but not limited to, agricultural crops, tree crops, crop by-products, and residues.

(J) "Electric or heat energy" means electric or heat energy generated from manure, cornstalks, soybean waste, or other agricultural feedstocks.

(K) "Dredged material" means material that is excavated or dredged

from waters of this state. "Dredged material" does not include material resulting from normal farming, silviculture, and ranching activities, such as plowing, cultivating, seeding, and harvesting, for production of food, fiber, and forest products.

SECTION 2. That existing sections 109.572, 519.21, 4123.54, 4729.75, 4729.80, 4729.84, 4729.85, 4729.86, 4731.22, 4731.281, 4776.02, 4776.04, and 5713.30 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. The Department of Commerce and State Board of Pharmacy shall take all actions necessary to ensure that the Medical Marijuana Control Program established under Chapter 3796. of the Revised Code, as enacted by this act, is fully operational not later than two years after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 4. The General Assembly hereby declares that it intends to recommend that the United States Congress, the Attorney General of the United States, and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration take actions as necessary to reclassify marijuana in an effort to ease the regulatory burdens associated with research on its potential medical benefits.

SECTION 5. (A) The Department of Commerce shall not issue a license to conduct laboratory testing of medical marijuana under section 3796.09 of the Revised Code, unless the applicant for licensure is an institution of higher education that meets all of the following conditions:

(1) The institution is public and located in this state.

(2) The institution has the resources and facilities necessary to conduct testing in accordance with the standards and procedures established in rules adopted by the Department under section 3796.03 of the Revised Code.

(B) This section shall expire on the date that occurs one year after the date on which the Department begins accepting applications for licensure pursuant to section 3796.09 of the Revised Code.

SECTION 6. (A) As used in this section, "drug database," "medical marijuana," "physician," and "qualifying medical condition" have the same meanings as in section 3796.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) It is an affirmative defense to a charge of a violation of section 2925.11 or section 2925.141 of the Revised Code relating to marihuana that the individual is a patient or parent or guardian of a patient who is a minor and who meets both of the following requirements:

(1) A physician issued a written recommendation certifying all of the following:

(a) That a bona fide physician-patient relationship exists between the physician and patient;

(b) That the patient has been diagnosed with a qualifying medical condition;

(c) That the physician or physician delegate has requested from the drug database a report of information related to the patient that covers at least the twelve months immediately preceding the date of the report;

(d) That the physician has informed the patient or the patient's parent or guardian of the risks and benefits of medical marijuana as it pertains to the patient's qualifying medical condition and medical history;

(e) That the physician has informed the patient or the patient's parent or guardian that it is the physician's opinion that the benefits of medical marijuana outweigh its risks.

(2) The individual used or possessed medical marijuana only in a form or by a method described in section 3796.06 of the Revised Code.

(C) The affirmative defense established by this section may be raised only for conduct occurring on or after the effective date of this section, but not later than sixty days after the date the State Board of Pharmacy begins accepting applications for registration pursuant to section 3796.08 of the Revised Code.

(D) In the case of a parent or guardian, this section does not establish an affirmative defense to a charge of a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code relating to the use of marihuana, unless the parent or guardian is also a patient who meets the requirements of division (B) of this section.

Speaker _____ *of the House of Representatives.*

President _____ *of the Senate.*

Passed _____, 20____

Approved _____, 20____

Governor.

Sub. H. B. No. 523

131st G.A.

The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the ___ day of _____, A. D. 20____.

Secretary of State.

File No. _____ Effective Date _____