

## MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACTS AND CONCERNS

The present law in Michigan for medical marihuana use was adopted in November 2008. It is called the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA). An individual obtains a card from the state of Michigan to grow/use marijuana for medical purpose. Identities and locations are confidential.

### FACTS

The law we are discussing pertains to Medical Marihuana not Recreational Marihuana.

The state of Michigan will oversee all operations of medical marijuana facilities.

The state of Michigan adopted a new law on December 16, 2016. There are three acts:

A. Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA) (PA 281 of 2016)

1. Five different types of facilities. Growers, Processors, Safety Compliance, Provisioning, Transporters
2. Creates a licensing board
3. Requires compliance and licensing
4. Imposes taxes and fees. 3% tax on gross. 25% allocated proportionately to municipalities. Annual fee up to \$5000.

B. Marihuana Tracking Act PA 282 of 2016)

1. Monitors and verifies registry cards
2. Tracks sales
3. Monitors amount sold to each qualified patient

C. Michigan Medical Marihuana Act Amendment (PA 283 of 2016)

1. Allows useable marihuana equivalents, including infused products.
2. Verifies registration ID cards.

The MMFLA will not allow applications to be submitted until December 2017.

If Coldwater Township does not adopt a policy then a person/persons **may not** acquire a license from the state of Michigan and open a facility in Coldwater Township.

If Coldwater Township adopts a policy regarding the MMMA then a person/persons **may** acquire a license from the state of Michigan and open a facility in Coldwater Township.

If Coldwater Township adopts a policy they can determine which type of facilities, how many of each facility and other special requirements for a facility (zoning).

Growers may locate in agricultural or industrial districts only.

If Coldwater Township adopts a policy they can determine separation from other facilities ( church, schools, etc.)

If Coldwater Township adopts a policy they can determine an annual fee up to \$5000/facility.

A person is not allowed to get a license for medical marijuana if they have had a felony in the last 10 years.

Marijuana in licensed facilities has been tested.

A medical marijuana patient may only purchase 2.5 ounces at a time.

Medical marijuana can't be used in a public place

## **FACTS (cont.)**

All transactions dealing with medical marijuana are cash.

Medical Marijuana is not covered by insurance.

We have approximately 654 medical marijuana card holders in Branch County as of 2016.

We have approximately 131,000 medical marijuana card holders in the state of Michigan as of 2016.

## **THINGS TO CONSIDER**

How effective will the state be in regulating the facilities (inspection, tracking, enforcement)

The quality of the product

The location of the facility (zoning)

Determine the type of facility that would serve Coldwater Township best.

The actual health benefit of the product

How the product will be packaged.

Safer and more convenient for a patient

More transparent when purchased at a facility.

LARA does the background check after the MM applicant applies for a special use permit and site plan.

Grower has to have 2 years' experience in the existing caregiver/patient program