

# LA HFMA SUMMER INSTITUTE 2022

David D. “Beau” Haynes, Jr., JD  
Healthcare Partner-Phelps Dunbar

Randy J. Mire, Pharm. D.  
CEO and Founder-Capitol Wellness Solutions

# Legislative and Regulatory Update: Medical Marijuana in Louisiana Today

David D. “Beau” Haynes, Jr., JD  
Healthcare Partner-Phelps Dunbar

Randy J. Mire, Pharm. D.  
CEO and Founder-Capitol Wellness Solutions

Louisiana

**9 Dispensary Licenses issued 2019**  
**First Patient - August 2019**

Two Growers -(LSU and Southern)

Good Day Farm

Ilera Holistic Healthcare

### Louisiana Dispensary Locations

**Alexandria** – Medicine Cabinet. Phone: 318-545-4460. Address: 403 Bolton Ave. Website: [themedicinecabinetla.com](http://themedicinecabinetla.com)

**Baton Rouge** – Capitol Wellness Solutions. Phone: 225-800-9420. Address: 7941 Picardy Ave. Website: [capitolpharmacy.com](http://capitolpharmacy.com)

**Houma** – Green Leaf Dispensary. Phone: 985-360-3372. Address: 6048 West Park Ave. Website: [greenleaf-dispensary.com](http://greenleaf-dispensary.com)

**Lake Charles** – Medicis. Phone: 337-420-8420. Address: 1727 Imperial Blvd. Building 4. Website: [medicispharmacy.com](http://medicispharmacy.com)

**Lafayette** – The Apothecary Shoppe. Phone: 337-345-4500. Address: 620 Guilbeau Rd. Suite A. Website: [theapothecaryshoppe.net](http://theapothecaryshoppe.net)

**Madisonville** – Willow Dispensary. Phone: 985-792-2391. Address: 1519 Hwy 22 West. Website: [willowofmadisonville.com](http://willowofmadisonville.com)

**New Orleans** – H&W Dispensary. Phone: 504-301-2363. Address: 1667 Tchoupitoulas Ave. Website: [hwdispensary.com](http://hwdispensary.com)

**Shreveport** – Hope Pharmacy. Phone: 318-585-0420. Address: 1410 Kings Highway. Suite A. Website: [hoperxla.com](http://hoperxla.com)

**West Monroe** – Delta Medmar. Phone: 318-855-3373. Address: 111 McMillan Rd.

Louisiana - Conditions

**Alzheimer's disease**  
**Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease)**  
**Cachexia or wasting syndrome**  
**Cancer**  
**Chronic Pain**  
**Concussion**  
**Crohn's Disease**  
**Epilepsy**  
**Glaucoma**  
**HIV/AIDS**

Louisiana- Conditions

Hospice or palliative care  
Huntington's Disease  
Intractable Pain  
Lewy-body dementia  
Motor-neuron disease  
Multiple Sclerosis (MS)  
Muscular Dystrophy  
Non-Epileptic Seizures

Louisiana- Conditions

Parkinson's Disease

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Seizure disorders

Severe muscle spasm

Spasticity

Spinal muscular atrophy

Traumatic brain injury

Any debilitating condition if a physician believes a patient will benefit

Louisiana- Who can “recommend?”

Any physician in licensed in Louisiana. (Certain NPs, too as of August 1, 2022)

Telehealth Recommendation?



#### Louisiana-Types of Products

The acceptable forms of medical marijuana in Louisiana, approved by the legislature, are oils, extracts, tinctures, sprays, capsules, pills, solutions, suspension, gelatin-based chewables, lotions, transdermal patches, suppositories, and metered-dosed inhalation.

**As of January 1, 2022, flower is available as a form of medical cannabis in the state of Louisiana.**

Louisiana Regulatory Structure

Dispensaries – Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

Cultivators-

2019-2022 Louisiana Department of Agriculture  
and Forestry

Effective August 1, 2022- Louisiana Department of  
Health

Louisiana Legislative Session 2022

The new cannabis laws enacted Aug. 1 focused on expansion of approved marijuana pharmacies , increased access, and improved affordability for medical marijuana patients and such laws were also focused on the protection of such patients in their day-to-day lives.

### Summary of 2022 Legislative Session

Act 473 (House Bill 629) by Rep. Marcus Bryant, D–New Iberia, limits law enforcement from using marijuana odor as a pretext for searching someone’s home without a warrant.

Act 651 (House Bill 988) by Rep. Mandie Landry, D-New Orleans, prevents state workers from being discriminated against based solely on a positive drug test for marijuana if they are state-registered medical marijuana patients.

Act 499 (House Bill 775) by Rep. Cedric Glover, D-Shreveport, legalizes equipment or devices used for the inhalation of marijuana for state-registered medical marijuana patients.

### Summary of 2022 Legislative Session

Act 438 (House bill 135) by Rep. Joe Marino, I-Gretna, authorizes the dispensing of medical marijuana to non-Louisiana patients who are currently in another state's medical marijuana program.

Act 439 (House Bill 137) by Marino provides immunity from criminal prosecution to qualifying non-Louisiana medical cannabis patients.

Act 444 (House Bill 190) by Rep. Travis Johnson, D-Vidalia, adds nurse practitioners to those medical professionals who can recommend medical cannabis use.

Act 478 (House Bill 234) by Rep. Laurie Schlegel, R-Metairie, makes it illegal for a driver or passengers in a motor vehicle to smoke or vape any form of marijuana.

Summary of 2022 Legislative Session

[Act 491 \(House Bill 697\)](#) by Republican Speaker Pro Tem Tanner Magee of Houma was the most comprehensive piece of legislation. It keeps the current number of medical marijuana pharmacies but directs the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to issue the 10<sup>th</sup> permit to the New Orleans region. Most importantly, it allows the current medical marijuana pharmacies to open satellite dispensaries within their regions when their patient count hits certain thresholds.

Summary of 2022 Legislative Session

[Act 491 \(House Bill 697\)](#) directs the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to issue the 10th marijuana pharmacy permit to an entity in the administrative region that includes Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines and St. Bernard parishes. The applicants for the 10<sup>th</sup> permit must submit applications for consideration by the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy on or before September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### Summary of 2022 Legislative Session

[Act 491 \(House Bill 697\)](#) also allows current marijuana pharmacy permit holders to open up to two satellite locations depending on the number of active, qualified patients identified in the prescription monitoring program in their region. Under the legislation, each permit holder could open a satellite location in its region whenever the number of patients in that region reaches 3,500. If, after a first satellite location opens, the number of patients served by each location in a region reaches 3,500, the permit holder may open a second satellite location. If the marijuana pharmacy declines to open a second satellite location, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy may award an additional marijuana pharmacy license in that region to open one location in lieu of the original licensee's second location.



Summary of 2022 Legislative Session

Speaker Pro Tem Magee's bill also shifts regulation of the state's medical marijuana program from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture to the Louisiana Department of Health. This change is expected to allow for better alignment between different points in the medical marijuana supply chain and such change had broad support from industry stakeholders.

A white geometric pattern consisting of interconnected triangles and hexagons is overlaid on the blue background of the slide.

What does it all mean?

Interested stakeholders should continue to monitor the future legislative sessions. The continued evolution of the medical marijuana program in Louisiana shall foster legislation focused on equitable participation in the program for current and future stakeholders while trying to expand patient access and to protect patient usage.

QUESTIONS?

Thank you!

[Beau.Haynes@Phelps.com](mailto:Beau.Haynes@Phelps.com)  
[randy@capitolpharmacy.com](mailto:randy@capitolpharmacy.com)