

# DHHS medical cannabis proposals for 2026 general session

The Utah Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) proposes the following legislation for the 2026 general session: (1) technical changes; (2) public education campaign funding; (3) a recommending medical provider requirement to inform patients about certain risks; and (4) an amendment applicable to disabled adults.

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## 1. Technical changes

- Remove “qualified medical provider” in the Compassionate Use Board statute and replace it with “recommending medical provider.”
- Remove information required on medical cannabis caregiver cards that’s not required on medical cannabis patient cards.

## 2. Public education campaign funding

- Clarify the statute to allow the DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis to fund public education campaigns focused on cannabis from the Qualified Patient Enterprise Fund.
- Current statute limits DHHS to educate the public about medical cannabis and this amendment expands the scope of education to include cannabis in general so funds could be used to support public education campaigns that focus on dangers of using illegal cannabis products.

## 3. Require medical providers to inform patients about potential effects

- Require recommending medical providers to inform their patients about the effects associated with using medical cannabis frequently, using it as a young adult, and using high THC products.

## 4. Adults with disabilities amendment

- Allow an adult with a disability who has a court-appointed guardian to apply for a medical cannabis patient card using a government-issued photo identification from their adult guardian if they do not have a government-issued photo identification of their own.
- This change would treat an adult with a disability applying for a medical cannabis card as if they were a minor applying for a card. Only the adult guardian would be required to submit government issued-photo identification.