

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5121**

Chapter 71, Laws of 2015

64th Legislature  
2015 Regular Session

MARIJUANA RESEARCH LICENSE

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/24/2015

Passed by the Senate March 2, 2015  
Yeas 45 Nays 3

BRAD OWEN

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 10, 2015  
Yeas 95 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved April 24, 2015 2:56 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5121** as passed by Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

HUNTER G. GOODMAN

**Secretary**

FILED

April 25, 2015

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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SENATE BILL 5121

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Passed Legislature - 2015 Regular Session

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Rivers, Bailey, Pedersen, Liias, McAuliffe, Frockt, Chase, Keiser, and Hatfield

Read first time 01/14/15. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a marijuana research license;  
2 amending RCW 28B.20.502 and 43.350.030; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 69.50 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 42.56 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 69.50  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) There shall be a marijuana research license that permits a  
8 licensee to produce and possess marijuana for the following limited  
9 research purposes:

10 (a) To test chemical potency and composition levels;

11 (b) To conduct clinical investigations of marijuana-derived drug  
12 products;

13 (c) To conduct research on the efficacy and safety of  
14 administering marijuana as part of medical treatment; and

15 (d) To conduct genomic or agricultural research.

16 (2) As part of the application process for a marijuana research  
17 license, an applicant must submit to the life sciences discovery fund  
18 authority a description of the research that is intended to be  
19 conducted. The life sciences discovery fund authority must review the  
20 project and determine that it meets the requirements of subsection  
21 (1) of this section. If the life sciences discovery fund authority

1 determines that the research project does not meet the requirements  
2 of subsection (1) of this section, the application must be denied.

3 (3) A marijuana research licensee may only sell marijuana grown  
4 or within its operation to other marijuana research licensees. The  
5 state liquor control board may revoke a marijuana research license  
6 for violations of this subsection.

7 (4) A marijuana research licensee may contract with the  
8 University of Washington or Washington State University to perform  
9 research in conjunction with the university. All research projects  
10 must be approved by the life sciences discovery fund authority and  
11 meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

12 (5) In establishing a marijuana research license, the state  
13 liquor control board may adopt rules on the following:

14 (a) Application requirements;

15 (b) Marijuana research license renewal requirements, including  
16 whether additional research projects may be added or considered;

17 (c) Conditions for license revocation;

18 (d) Security measures to ensure marijuana is not diverted to  
19 purposes other than research;

20 (e) Amount of plants, useable marijuana, marijuana concentrates,  
21 or marijuana-infused products a licensee may have on its premises;

22 (f) Licensee reporting requirements;

23 (g) Conditions under which marijuana grown by marijuana  
24 processors may be donated to marijuana research licensees; and

25 (h) Additional requirements deemed necessary by the state liquor  
26 control board.

27 (6) The production, possession, delivery, donation, and sale of  
28 marijuana in accordance with this section and the rules adopted to  
29 implement and enforce it, by a validly licensed marijuana researcher,  
30 shall not be a criminal or civil offense under Washington state law.  
31 Every marijuana research license shall be issued in the name of the  
32 applicant, shall specify the location at which the marijuana  
33 researcher intends to operate, which must be within the state of  
34 Washington, and the holder thereof shall not allow any other person  
35 to use the license.

36 (7) The application fee for a marijuana research license is two  
37 hundred fifty dollars. The annual fee for issuance and renewal of a  
38 marijuana research license is one thousand dollars. Fifty percent of  
39 the application fee and the renewal fee must be deposited to the life  
40 sciences discovery fund under RCW 43.350.070.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.20.502 and 2011 c 181 s 1002 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) The University of Washington and Washington State University  
4 may conduct scientific research on the efficacy and safety of  
5 administering ~~((cannabis))~~marijuana as part of medical treatment. As  
6 part of this research, the University of Washington and Washington  
7 State University may develop and conduct studies to ascertain the  
8 general medical safety and efficacy of ~~((cannabis))~~marijuana, and may  
9 develop medical guidelines for the appropriate administration and use  
10 of ~~((cannabis))~~marijuana.

11       (2) The University of Washington and Washington State University  
12 may, in accordance with section 1 of this act, contract with  
13 marijuana research licensees to conduct research permitted under this  
14 section and section 1 of this act.

15       **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.350.030 and 2005 c 424 s 4 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17       In addition to other powers and duties prescribed in this  
18 chapter, the authority is empowered to:

19       (1) Use public moneys in the life sciences discovery fund,  
20 leveraging those moneys with amounts received from other public and  
21 private sources in accordance with contribution agreements, to  
22 promote life sciences research;

23       (2) Solicit and receive gifts, grants, and bequests, and enter  
24 into contribution agreements with private entities and public  
25 entities other than the state to receive moneys in consideration of  
26 the authority's promise to leverage those moneys with amounts  
27 received through appropriations from the legislature and  
28 contributions from other public entities and private entities, in  
29 order to use those moneys to promote life sciences research. Nonstate  
30 moneys received by the authority for this purpose shall be deposited  
31 in the life sciences discovery fund created in RCW 43.350.070;

32       (3) Hold funds received by the authority in trust for their use  
33 pursuant to this chapter to promote life sciences research;

34       (4) Manage its funds, obligations, and investments as necessary  
35 and as consistent with its purpose including the segregation of  
36 revenues into separate funds and accounts;

37       (5) Make grants to entities pursuant to contract for the  
38 promotion of life sciences research to be conducted in the state.  
39 Grant agreements shall specify deliverables to be provided by the

1 recipient pursuant to the grant. The authority shall solicit requests  
2 for funding and evaluate the requests by reference to factors such  
3 as: (a) The quality of the proposed research; (b) its potential to  
4 improve health outcomes, with particular attention to the likelihood  
5 that it will also lower health care costs, substitute for a more  
6 costly diagnostic or treatment modality, or offer a breakthrough  
7 treatment for a particular disease or condition; (c) its potential  
8 for leveraging additional funding; (d) its potential to provide  
9 health care benefits or benefit human learning and development; (e)  
10 its potential to stimulate the health care delivery, biomedical  
11 manufacturing, and life sciences related employment in the state; (f)  
12 the geographic diversity of the grantees within Washington; (g)  
13 evidence of potential royalty income and contractual means to  
14 recapture such income for purposes of this chapter; and (h) evidence  
15 of public and private collaboration;

16 (6) Create one or more advisory boards composed of scientists,  
17 industrialists, and others familiar with life sciences research;  
18 ((and))

19 (7) Review and approve or disapprove marijuana research license  
20 applications under section 1 of this act;

21 (8) Review any reports made by marijuana research licensees under  
22 state liquor control board rule and provide the state liquor control  
23 board with its determination on whether the research project  
24 continues to meet research qualifications under section 1(1) of this  
25 act; and

26 (9) Adopt policies and procedures to facilitate the orderly  
27 process of grant application, review, and reward.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 42.56  
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 Reports submitted by marijuana research licensees in accordance  
31 with rules adopted by the state liquor control board under section 1  
32 of this act that contain proprietary information are exempt from  
33 disclosure under this chapter.

Passed by the Senate March 2, 2015.  
Passed by the House April 10, 2015.  
Approved by the Governor April 24, 2015.  
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