	Page 1		Page	3
1	ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH	1	APPEARANCES	
2		2	PRESENT:	
3	X	3	LESLIE MENDOZA TEMPLE, Chairperson	
4	In Re the Matter of: :	4	MICHAEL FINE, Vice Chairman	
5	Public hearing to review :	5	JAMES CHAMPION, Member	
6	petitions requesting the :	6	ERIC CHRISTOFF, Member	
7	addition of debilitating :	7	JACQUELINE LESKOVEC, Member	
8	conditions to the :	8	DAVID MC CURDY, Member	
9	medical cannabis :	9	THERESA MILLER, Member	
10	registry program. :	10	JYOTIN PARIKH, Member	
11	x	11	NESTOR RAMIREZ, Member	
12	ADVICODY DOADD MEETING	12	ALLISON WEATHERS, Member	
13 14	ADVISORY BOARD MEETING	13	ALCO DECENT.	
15	Countryside, Illinois Wednesday, October 7, 2015	14 15	ALSO PRESENT:	
16	9:13 a.m.	16	CONNY MOODY MALLORY SINNER	
17	5.13 d.III.	17	MALLORI SINNER	
18		18		
19		19		
20		20		
21		21		
22		22		
23		23		
24	Reported By: Paula Quetsch, CSR	24		
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1	Report of Proceedings held at the location of:	1	CONTENTS	
2		2	PAGE	
3		3	Call to Order 5	
4		4	Housekeeping Matters 7	
5	HOLIDAY INN	5	Approval of May 4, 2015, Minutes 12	
6	6201 Joliet Road	6	Chronic Pain Due to Trauma 14	
7	Countryside, Illinois 60525	7	Chronic Pain Syndrome 33	
8 9	(708) 354-4200	8   9	Chronic Postoperative Pain 47 Intractable Pain 51	
10		10	Osteoarthritis 68	
11		11	Irritable Bowel Syndrome 94	- [
12		12	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder 126	- [
13	Pursuant to notice, before Paula Quetsch, CSR,	13	Autism 143	- [
14	and Notary Public in and for the State of Illinois.	14		- [
15	,	15		- [
16		16		- [
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24		24		- 1

Page 5 Page 7 1 PROCEEDINGS 1 100 percent service-connected disabled veteran, and 2 2 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I'd like to I've had MS for 27 years. 3 call this meeting to order for the Illinois Department 3 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you 4 of Public Health's public hearing to review petitions 4 everyone for those introductions. 5 5 requesting the addition of debilitating conditions to I have the list of also the housekeeping 6 the medical cannabis registry program. 6 things. I could go over some of that. 7 7 So with that in mind, we open this meeting So we are convening this meeting, this 8 and we'll start with introductions. Why don't we 8 public hearing for the sole purpose of reviewing 9 9 start with and just go down the table with Conny. petitions from the residents of Illinois for the 10 10 MS. MOODY: And I'd also like to introduce addition of debilitating conditions or diseases that 11 today our -- I'd also like to introduce our court 11 would benefit from the use of cannabis, and this Board 12 reporter Paula today. So I would ask everyone on our 12 will make recommendations on each condition to the 13 Board and our speakers to speak very clearly and 13 director of the Department of Public Health based upon 14 slowly, and our speakers later, we'll ask them to 14 the collective expertise of the members of this Board. 15 15 introduce themselves and spell their name. So, first of all, all persons must sign in 16 My name is Conny Moody, and I'm the deputy 16 at the registration table at the entrance to the room. 17 director for the Illinois Department of Public Health 17 So if you have not done that, please do so. 18 18 Office of Health Promotion. All participants shall refrain from 19 MEMBER LESKOVEC: Jacqueline Leskovec. I'm 19 interrupting the proceedings of the Advisory Board and 20 here to represent the Board as a registered nurse, as 20 conduct themselves in a civil and courteous manner, 21 well as an information specialist. 21 and audience members should refrain if they can from 22 MEMBER WEATHERS: Allison Weathers. I am an 22 clapping, cheering, and other loud noises. Any 23 academic general neurologist from Rush University 23 participant that disrupts the proceeding will be asked 24 24 Medical Center in Chicago. to leave the hearing. Page 6 Page 8 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Michael Fine, F-i-n-e, 1 1 For the presentation of technical evidence, 2 2 and I am a patient advocate. the persons who submitted an intent to present 3 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Leslie Mendoza 3 technical evidence about a petition being reviewed 4 Temple, MD. I'm a board-certified family physician 4 which was accepted by the Department will be 5 and a clinical assistant professor of family medicine 5 recognized to speak at the appropriate time. Persons 6 6 at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of who have not filed a statement of intent will not be 7 7 Medicine and medical director of the Integrative able to present technical evidence at the hearing. 8 Medicine program at the NorthShore University Health 8 After being recognized to speak by the 9 9 System, and I'm the chairperson of this Board. Board, persons will begin by giving their first and 10 10 MEMBER MILLER: Theresa Miller and I'm an last names and, if applicable, identifying the 11 associate professor, and I represent a registered 11 organization or group they're representing. Speakers 12 nurse. 12 are asked to spell their first and last name so our 13 MEMBER MC CURDY: I'm David McCurdy, a 13 court reporter can make an accurate record of the 14 14 retired health care ethicist and teaching as an attendees and their questions. 15 15 adjunct faculty member in religious studies. I teach Persons must limit their presentations to no 16 courses in ethics and healthcare at Elmhurst College. 16 more than three minutes, and persons who exceed the 17 17 MEMBER CHRISTOFF: Dr. Christoff. I time limit will be advised to conclude their 18 practice general internal medicine at Northwestern. I 18 presentation to ensure that all presenters will have 19 also have an HIV practice, and I'm an appointed member 19 the opportunity to participate, and Conny will be 20 20 of this Board. giving time cues to the speakers who will be sitting 21 21 MEMBER RAMIREZ: Nestor Ramirez. I'm a in that chair giving their presentations. As the time

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winds down, you will get a cue to start wrapping your

comments up. It's very important that we keep to that

time frame because we have 29 speakers and four closed

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neonatologist here in Chicago, Illinois.

MEMBER CHAMPION: My name is Jim Champion.

I'm the veteran's rep on the Advisory Board. I'm a

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	Page 9		Page 11
1	sessions.	1	And, also, the Department of Public Health.
2	So the way that this meeting is going to run	2	Dr. Nirav Shah, the director of public health, also
3	is we're going to go through each petition and present	3	sends his greetings to the Board and also thanks the
4	the technical evidence, have the petitioner speak. If	4	Board for the important work that you're about to do
5	there's anything closed, we ask everyone except for	5	today.
6	the speaker to leave the room. It will be about	6	And we want to make sure that as far as the
7	five minutes, you can take your bathroom breaks, the	7	Board goes, from the department, from our director,
8	speaker will finish, you'll be summoned to come back	8	Director Shah, and also from myself that we believe
9	into the room, and then we will hear the rest of the	9	that the work that you do is very, very important.
10	petitioners speak. Following that we will have	10	This is a pilot program, the Compassionate Use of
11	discussion amongst the Board regarding questions that	11	Medical Cannabis pilot program, and we believe that
12	need clarification, and then we will put the condition	12	all of the stories, the testimony that we hear today,
13	to a vote.	13	the comments from the Board based on their research of
14	And what will happen is that we submit our	14	these issues, and their consideration of the petitions
15	votes on paper so that we can make our votes in	15	today will contribute immensely to the evaluation of
16	confidence and in privacy, and then the tallies will	16	this program and our ability to move forward with this
17	be read. We have 9 members present, and a quorum will	17	program.
18	be 6. So if 6 votes approve a condition, then the	18	So please do know that our department thanks
19	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	19	you for your service and for all of the work that you
20	condition will pass and I will announce those.	20	·
	So is there anything else?	21	put in in preparation of this meeting, of this hearing
21	MS. MOODY: Yes. Leslie, we had another	22	and, also, to all of our speakers today who are going
22	Board member join us, so our actual number is actually		to present comments and present and do some storytelling
23	10 now.	23	about how this program and how the debilitating
24	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Great.	24	conditions affect their lives. So thank you very much.
	Page 10		Page 12
1	MS. MOODY: If you'd like to have Dr. Parikh	1	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for
2	introduce himself, that would be great.	2	noting that, and I would love to know when he comes.
3	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So 7 out of 10	3	What is his name again?
4	then is a quorum?	4	MS. MOODY: His name is Joseph Wright. And
5	MS. MOODY: So it would be 6.	5	we can certainly Tina and Mallory, who are
6	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: It's still	6	department staff and who are manning the registration
7	6 out of 10.	7	table will be able to give the Board some information
8	So please introduce yourself.	8	when he comes, and then you're welcome to introduce
9	MEMBER PARIKH: I came from Washington, DC,	9	him at that time.
10	sorry about that. My name is Jyotin Parikh.	10	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: That would be
11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: And if you can	11	great. Do you know approximately when he's coming?
12	give a background and your organization.	12	MS. MOODY: I don't know. I understand he's
13	MEMBER PARIKH: I'm a pharmacist by	13	caught up in another meeting, and he's trying to get
14	profession.	14	here as quickly as possible.
15	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you very	15	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. Great.
16	much everyone for coming. First of all	16	So with that I would like to go through the
17	MS. MOODY: Madam Chair, may I also make a	17	review and approval of the May 4th, 2015, petition
18	welcome and an introduction from our statewide program	18	hearing minutes. We have reviewed this as a board,
19	coordinator?	19	but we are also opening it up for any corrections that
20	So our statewide program coordinator for the	20	Board members would like to make to the transcript
21	medical cannabis program is Joseph Wright with the	21	that were discussed.
22	office of the governor, and he will be here later	22	MEMBER CHAMPION: On the May 4th transcript,
1			
23	today, but he did ask that I welcome the Board on	23	in fact, on page 71 when we were speaking of neuropathy,

	Page 13		Page 15
1	are not effective in treating neuropathic pain. I	1	have had a request to present testimony in closed
2	found this to be untrue myself." What I actually said	2	session. I would need the Board to move and to
3	was that I found this to be true myself. I have given	3	approve the closed session.
4	testimony under oath that narcotics are ineffective in	4	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: So pursuant
5	treating my neuropathic pain, while cannabis provides	5	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4) I hereby motion to close the
6	me unparalleled relief from this misery.	6	session to address this first condition.
7	On page 126 under anorexia, it says that I	7	MEMBER MILLER: Second.
8	say, "There is nothing we can do for these people."	8	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All those in
9	What I actually say is that I know there is something	9	favor.
10	we can do for these people, as I have come close to	10	(Ayes heard.)
11	having a feeding tube myself. Cannabis helps me keep	11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Following this
12	a regular diet.	12	closed session there will be an open session also
13	Finally, I'd like the record to reflect that	13	regarding chronic pain due to trauma oh, the closed
14	any errors from this petition hearing transcript will	14	session person is not here.
15	be corrected at our next petition hearing, as well.	15	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Oh, sorry. Psych.
16	Also, I will not also, I will be voting against	16	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: That was just a
17	approving any further minutes with inaccuracies even	17	practice.
18	if we are allowed to address the errors at a	18	MS. MOODY: That was our practice run.
19	later time.	19	MEMBER WEATHERS: Everybody did a very nice
20	Thank you.	20	job of getting up.
21	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you, Jim.	21	MS. MOODY: So, Michael, we are actually
22	Any other corrections from the Board to the	22	
23	•	23	going to have to entertain because we've closed
23	minutes as they stood in May so that we can make proper corrections?	24	session.  MEMBER WEATHERS: I move to reopen the
27		27	<u> </u>
	Page 14		Page 16
1	(No response.)	1	session.
2	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. So I	2	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.
3	move to approve the corrections that Mr. Champion has	3	MS. MOODY: All right. So we are back in
4	recommended to the Board so that they be incorporated	4	open session now. I want to make sure that Paula is
5	into corrections for the minutes, I believe on a	5	good with this.
6	separate document for the minutes of this meeting.	6	THE COURT REPORTER: Okay. I haven't closed.
7	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.	7	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So I call
8	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All those in	8	Dr. Marc Sloan to speak regarding chronic pain due to
9	favor.	9	trauma, and you have three minutes.
10	(Ayes heard.)	10	MS. MOODY: And if you will kindly yes,
11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. The	11	your mic should be live. As Chairman Mendoza Temple
12	motion is passed.	12	indicated, please state your name, your organization,
13	Okay. We're going to get down to it. The	13	spell your name, please, both first name and last
14	ordering of the conditions that we decided to use	14	name, and then I'm going to at the one-minute mark
15	the conditions, the ordering of that based on our	15	and at the 30-second mark I'm going to hold up a sign
16	petitioners' comfort level. So we chose the chronic	16	so that you know where you are at in your three allotted
17	pain conditions to go first so that they have an	17	minutes.
18	opportunity to speak first and then be able to go if	18	DR. SLOAN: Just as a point of order, I have
1	they wish, but we invite everyone to stay to hear all	19	been asked to speak
19	they wish, but we invite everyone to stay to hear an		
19 20	of the testimonies today.	20	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Can you bring
		20 21	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Can you bring the mic closer to you?
20	of the testimonies today.		· -
20 21	of the testimonies today.  And we are going to open up with chronic	21	the mic closer to you?

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1	just continue, I would just, if possible, present once	1	one-third of the U.S. population and is more than the
2	for all three or four conditions. Is that possible?	2	associated patients afflicted with heart disease,
3	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Can you do it	3	diabetes, and cancer combined. Opioids, narcotics
4	in three minutes, though?	4	remain as the primary drugs in the treatment of
5	DR. SLOAN: I can do it in three minutes. I	5	chronic pain. 2014 the Institute of Medicine noted
6	worked hard to try to do it in three minutes.	6	that Hydrocodone was the number two medication
7	MEMBER WEATHERS: Can we apply the testimony	7	prescribed in the United States, second only to
8	to the other conditions in the record?	8	thyroid supplement with 119 million prescriptions.
9	MS. MOODY: If the Board so chooses, yes.	9	Average opioid sale per U.S. citizens have increased
10	MEMBER WEATHERS: I make a motion to apply	10	from 1997 of 74 milligrams to 369 milligrams as noted
11	his testimony to the it will be the exact wording,	11	by Pain Physician 2010. It is estimated that 16,000
12	obviously, but it will be reflected in the minutes	12	to 18,000 deaths per year occur due to opioid
13	that it applies.	13	poisoning. We know dosage increases, side-effects
14	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.	14	increase, deaths increase.
15	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All those in	15	Cannabinoids have a role in treating pain.
16	favor.	16	Cannabinoids have been shown to be anti-inflammatory,
17	(Ayes heard.)	17	neuroprotective in ischemia, hypoxemia, and also act
18	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Please.	18	as an anxiolytic. Analgesics that the cannabinoids
19	DR. SLOAN: Good morning. My name is Marc,	19	provide have minimal toxicity with essentially no risk
20	M-a-r-c; Sloan, MD. I am a board-certified physician	20	of lethal overdose. Cannabinoids have central effects
21	in anesthesia and pain medicine. I've been practicing	21	but are only associated with mild withdrawal effects.
22	pain medicine since 1984, and I'm the director of Pain	22	MS. MOODY: Thank you for your comments
23	Management Consultants since 1987. I would like to	23	today, Dr. Sloan.
24	thank the Advisory Board for allowing me to speak for	24	DR. SLOAN: All finished.
	Page 18		Page 20
1	the use of medical marijuana in the treatment of	1	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. You
2	chronic pain conditions.	2	actually could use the opportunity again since you are
3	The International Association for the Study	3	slated to speak at the other conditions if you have
4	of Pain and the NAH define chronic pain as any, any	4	more to say.
5	painful condition lasting three months or more. The	5	DR. SLOAN: Okay.
6	World Health Organization defines chronic pain as any	6	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for
7	painful condition lasting six months or more.	7	your testimony.
8	Chronic pain, furthermore, is any pain that	8	So we open it up to the Board for
9	persists beyond the expected normal healing time.	9	conversation about chronic pain due to trauma.
10	Chronic pain can be associated with diseases such as	10	Comments from the Board?
11	rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, spinal stenosis,	11	MEMBER CHRISTOFF: I will just make a
12	nerve entrapment syndromes, and metastatic disease.	12	comment that I think as an alternative to addictive
13	Chronic pain can be a result of surgery, trauma, or	13	opioids
14	infection.	14	MS. MOODY: Could you pull your microphone a
15	We know as physicians chronic pain is	15	little bit closer, Dr. Christoff?
16	associated with changes in the central nervous system,	16	MEMBER CHRISTOFF: I think that because
17	and it's felt that these changes are responsible for	17	addictive opiate narcotics are not always a solution
18	the continued symptom complexes. These predominant	18	to chronic pain as a result of trauma that many other
19	changes occur in the cortex, thalamus, amygdala, and	19	options such as cannabis should be made available in
20	periaqueductal gray areas.	20	the treatment algorithm of various chronic pain
21	In 2011 the Institute of Medicine postulated	21	approaches that we attempt to deploy in situations
22	that 100 million Americans experience chronic pain at	22	like this. So I strongly agree with this proposal.
23	a cost of \$600 billion a year in medical treatments	23	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: As a patient and
24	and lost productivity. This represents approximately	24	someone who was severely addicted to opioid narcotics

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that ranged the gamut from Norco, Vicodin, methadone, OxyContin, morphine, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, to the point of a suicide attempt, I have to agree wholeheartedly with Dr. Christoff and recommend this strongly for approval.

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MEMBER MILLER: I just had a question because when reading the petitions, particularly with this first one, I didn't see any trauma stated in this particular petition. It was more related to musculoskeletal. So then I questioned what the difference is between all these.

So do we -- do we approve chronic pain in its generality or is it too broad? But I'm seeing a lot of overlap with the chronic pain petitions. This particular petition really I felt was more in the general chronic pain category.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Jim? MEMBER CHAMPION: I was going to say first off, as a person who took 59 pills a day, to include methadone, morphine, Vicodin all at the same time, I agree totally with the doctor.

But, also, I'd like to say that studies have shown, and I personally know that cannabis is highly effective for treating pain due to inflammation,

1 definition, makes them feel more comfortable that this

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2 is specific to that. I think it's good to pass as

3 trauma. Pain is pain and to me it's a deficit in the 4

endocannabinoid system where you need to establish balance again. I looked at the evidence base

regarding pain not specifically to trauma but pain from different comers. It can be from neuropathy or, like you said, inflammation, infection, and whatnot.

But as a board we've got a unique set of chronic pain conditions that all say chronic pain. Chronic pain due to trauma, chronic pain syndrome which is the catch-all, and it's a challenge to the Board to see are we at a place where we can say let's do the blanket chronic pain and not have the clinician have to decide if that patient has -- what is the cause; what's the etiology? Etiology means cause.

When I looked at the petition specifically on paper from chronic pain due to trauma, it was actually noted that the trauma was from a slipped disc. Yes, that's an internal trauma and a physiologic or pathologic accident that happened, but it wasn't like a car accident like Michael went through, which to me is an external trauma.

So we can talk about specific causes all day

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neuropathic pain, and arthritis, and many of those conditions were approved by this Board previously, neuropathic pain and some of the others. So I urge a yes vote.

MEMBER WEATHERS: Theresa does seem to have -- because I had the same concern when I was reading through this, purely not in any way from the medical standpoint, purely from one of the things that we've been tasked with has been to look at the specificity of the request being accurate or to ensure that we're approving specific conditions and not a generalized category.

Chronic pain due to trauma does have its own ICD 10-code. I think it's probably shared with many. It's G89.21. So I think it is actually its own category and diagnosis, which was reassuring to me.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I think as a board we also have to look at do we look -- I mean, many of the conditions that are already eligible like fibromyalgia, which is on the list of the 39 conditions -- I've already recommended this to my patients with fibromyalgia. This is all pain to me.

So whether -- what's the cause? I think it helps for clinicians who really need that level of

but do we -- and I don't know how the rest of the 1 2 Board feels about the specificity in sticking with the 3 ICD-10 codes to make it more user friendly for the 4 clinicians who are the gatekeepers to this system. 5 They want, they need to see something more 6 specific.

But from a -- to me from a compassion. common sense point of view, I don't really need to see, is it from trauma, is it from diabetes. We've already passed various shades of pain control through the Pilot Act as it stands. So to me this is just more specificity that might help some. And I don't particularly need it, but we're going to be moving on after this to chronic pain syndrome, chronic post-op pain which we already approved anyway last time, and then intractable pain, which is pain that is not responding to anything.

So whether that's -- chronic is a time thing. It's six months of no pain relief. But intractable is a higher shade of intensity and to me that is -- you know, and we'll get to that piece, but I want to talk about this on a global level because we have to approve the conditions as they are stated here. It's the paperwork we received.

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They are different codes, which is why to the public it might not really make a lot of sense why we have all these specific pain syndromes with different causes, but why didn't they talk about chronic pain due to -- I don't know, it's not on here -- neuropathy again. It's because we can only talk about what was sent to us.

So anyway, when I looked at the different states that have chronic pain without a cause associated, there are a few states, I don't remember exactly which ones, but we would not be the first state to approve chronic pain or chronic intractable pain as a medically eligible condition. So that's nice to know I think from a national landscape.

So I would be in support of this as a specific condition, chronic pain due to trauma.

Other comments?

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MEMBER PARIKH: I see the condition chronic pain syndrome as one of the conditions listed here, and what I feel like is last meeting we also discussed why don't we just approve chronic pain syndrome as a general blanket situation for all types of patients. That will eliminate future time wasting for all the different types of pain syndromes. One blanketly

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So that would be my only argument about addressing them as listed because we're approving very specific conditions that correspond to very specific codes, which increases people's chances of actually --

MEMBER PARIKH: If you have an ICD-10 code for chronic pain syndrome, it's automatically covered. You don't have to go into a specific ICD-10 code for those things.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Well, there's codes for just chronic pain syndrome and intractable pain. So if they all pass, then we have a pretty good shot, but what we don't know is what IDPH down the road --

MEMBER PARIKH: That we don't know, yes. THE COURT REPORTER: Okay. One at a time. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: They might only pick two.

MEMBER MC CURDY: I guess my only other comment is in light of the fact that this is still a pilot program and part of I think the approach the State has made in general is to proceed cautiously, this is also part of that. So I would think as much as some of it may not make a lot of sense to have to sort of do each individual condition the way we do it,

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covers everything, all kind of pain which is chronic. And chronic means it's not just pain for short-term. And there is a situation where it says chronic pain syndrome and that's it. Basically, we are covering everything else.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I was thinking about that common sense approach, but on the flip side I was wondering if -- we have to send this to IDPH, and I don't know, we don't know what the thinking is, the rationale, do they want the specific conditions.

So from a playing your odds kind of point of view, then yes, I do like the blanket term, but if that gets rejected flat out, you know, we have to be able to rely on these more specific pain-related causes. So trying to increase our chances.

MEMBER WEATHERS: Exactly. Going back, they are -- seem to be separate ICD-10 codes, and I would just hate for depending on how this is interpreted and the work we do and what's eventually approved is if a provider were to put one down and not the other, because of the increased specificity around ICD-10 to have something not approved when we obviously intended it to be.

at this stage of the game it may be most appropriate in terms of building a base for whatever comes in the future, if that makes sense.

MEMBER MILLER: Then I just have one follow-up because I'm okay with doing it each separately, as well as generic overall, but how are we then defining trauma? Because in this particular petition it was more musculoskeletal internal trauma rather than how I see trauma defined. So how are we going to separate out that specificity then with this petition?

MEMBER WEATHERS: It looks like -- again, just trying to go back to the coding database that I'm using, coding due to injury or trauma both mapped to G89.21. So I think we're okay. It seems to catch that whether -- so either in this petition if the trauma were an injury versus true external.

> CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Dr. Ramirez. MEMBER RAMIREZ: I was just thinking of all

the things that were said, I realize that since we're an experimental pilot program, it is better for us to separate things now. If we later on, as time goes by, we can engulf them all into one thing, then it'll be easier to handle. But for now if we incorporate it

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Page 29 Page 31 and we get into trouble, it's hard to separate them at 1 going to have lots of chronic pain patients filing. 1 2 2 that time. Whether we approve it or not it would be a different 3 3 kind of situation, but we would be subject to a lot of The other thing is I'm not guite clear if 4 we're approving the petitioner's issue or the specific 4 persons coming in. 5 symptom or syndrome or issue. 5 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: So I would suggest that 6 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I look at it 6 we move forward with what we have and maybe -- hint, 7 7 hint -- in the future somebody will submit a petition we're looking at the syndrome, the condition. The 8 petitioner adds their story, their testimony, and we 8 suggesting chronic pain syndrome. 9 9 add Dr. Sloan's discussion. Is that clear? CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: It did. 10 10 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Okay. Then we're good. Other comments? 11 (No response.) 11 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Do we have 12 12 MS. MOODY: Madam Chair, if I may. I'm another comment on the floor? 13 reading from the Illinois Administrative Code 946. 13 MS. MOODY: How about Dr. McCurdy. 14 14 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Did you have which is the compassionate use of medical cannabis 15 15 code for the Department. And with regard to the one? 16 petitions themselves, G2 states that, "Each petition 16 MEMBER MC CURDY: I did not. 17 17 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Oh, okay. shall be a specific description of the medical 18 18 condition or disease that is the subject of the All right. My last comment is that we 19 petition, and the petitioners shall not submit broad 19 have -- this is going -- we make recommendations. So 20 categories. For example, all of mental illnesses. 20 what gets approved is unknown. So I want to keep that 21 21 Each petition shall be limited to a single condition in mind, too, makes total common sense. If we end up 22 or disease." 22 getting petitions in the future and we see that the 23 So if that provides any sort of guidance for 23 flavor of the approvals from above say we need 24 24 the Board. specifics, I'm worried that if we disapprove chronic Page 30 Page 32 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Well, the fact 1 pain due to trauma and we just say let's just go for 1 2 2 chronic pain syndrome and disapprove everything else that -- okay. That helps a lot because all mental 3 3 disease would be rejected. I would say, all pain from so that we go comprehensive, if that gets shut down, 4 4 anything will be -- you know, I think that is well then we've got nothing. 5 defined, and the fact that there is an ICD-10 code for 5 So I would say just let's just keep taking 6 6 all of these conditions already defines them as them as they come. And if it's chronic pain due to I 7 7 got a paper cut, we'd reject that, and then we just discrete conditions. 8 8 take them as they come. So I think that we're on -- we're okay with 9 9 MEMBER MC CURDY: And I would say apropos judging these as they are written. 10 10 Other comments? kind of reading from the holy text of the regulations, 11 11 the reality is we need to follow the regulations, and MEMBER PARIKH: My point is that all 12 conditions -- chronic pain only, chronic pain due to 12 what the rule says is that we need to work within that 13 13 trauma, chronic pain syndrome, intractable pain, like framework. It would seem to me, therefore, that even 14 14 though it's cumbersome, at this stage of the game this this. So if we have conditions that we keep 15 15 approving, in the future it's going to have different is the best we can do, and at some point some of that 16 chronic pain for this, chronic pain for this, chronic 16 may change. But a list of 39 conditions already is 17 17 pretty lengthy. Heaven only knows how many there pain for this. We are subjecting ourselves to all 18 18 kinds of reasons for that. Might as well just do one could be as we went along. 19 chronic pain syndrome and just call it everything. 19 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Many of which

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cause chronic pain.

seconded it. So let's vote.

I make a motion to vote.

MEMBER WEATHERS: I did. He seconded it.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Michael

It's not a blanket like all mental illness. It's

for any kind of chronic pain.

chronic pain specifically. Syndrome is just a name

So I think that would be a suggestion that

we can approve only one condition. You know, you're

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Page 35 Page 33 1 While we're tallying the votes, the next 1 estimated that nearly 10,000 Americans died of opiate-2 2 related prescription deaths in 2013 alone. It was the condition is chronic pain syndrome, and we have four 3 3 fear of becoming one of these statistics and the speakers. 4 Dr. Sloan, are you going to speak again? 4 intense debilitating pain that resulted from my 5 5 Yes? Okav. condition, to the point at which I could -- to the 6 6 So we'll start with Zach Cutrara, Jessie point that it impacted myself and my family's quality 7 7 Fosdick, Dr. Marc Sloan, and Jared Taylor, we'll do it of life to the point to which I can no longer be a 8 in that order. So if you can kind of prepare 8 proper father that led me in the pursuit of medical 9 9 yourselves, they're all open sessions. cannabis. 10 10 Okay. The condition for chronic pain due to I have effectively managed my condition with 11 trauma has passed with a vote of 10 yes, 0 no. 11 medical cannabis and feel that others suffering from 12 12 similar conditions should be presented with the same Thank you. 13 opportunity to have safe and effective relief. 13 (Discussion off the record.) 14 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So like we 14 That is all. Thank you for your time. 15 15 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for discussed at our last meeting if we have petitioners 16 who say they are going to be here to give public 16 your testimony. 17 comment, please show up. So those who are not here, 17 Dr. Marc Sloan. 18 18 that was for you. DR. SLOAN: Reintroduce myself? 19 19 Okay. So I will make a call out to -- we're MS. MOODY: That would be appropriate, please. 20 ready to move on to chronic pain syndrome. What's the 20 DR. SLOAN: Good morning. My name is 21 21 ICD-10 for that? Marc Sloan; M-a-r-c, S-l-o-a-n, MD, board-certified 22 MEMBER WEATHERS: G89.4. 22 anesthesiologist, pain medicine, practicing pain 23 23 medicine since 1984, and director of Pain Management CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: G89.4. 24 24 Consultants since 1987. Zach Cutrara, who I did not see sign in, is Page 34 Page 36 he here? 1 1 In the June issue of the Journal of American 2 2 (No response.) Medical Association of 2015 in an article titled 3 3 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. Then "Cannabinoids for Medical Use," this article reported 4 we'll move on to our second speaker, Jessie Fosdick. 4 that there was a 30 percent reduction of pain with the 5 Did I pronounce that correctly? Thank you. Thank you 5 use of cannabinoids. These patients reported a 6 for coming. 6 decrease in the use of narcotic analgesics, and when 7 7 MR. FOSDICK: Mv name is Jessie Fosdick. they did take their narcotic analgesics while using 8 8 F-o-s-d-i-c-k. I am speaking in favor of chronic pain cannabinoids, there was some proved analgesia. 9 9 syndrome. Yes, it is true that these studies were 10 I am speaking today on behalf of millions of 10 classified as moderate using the grade classification. 11 individuals affected by chronic pain syndrome, which 11 However, as we know in the world of pain medicine, 12 the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies 12 high-quality ratings require randomization and double-13 13 estimates nearly 100 million Americans suffer from a blind observation. It's not going to happen with pain 14 14 form of chronic pain. patients. A moderate study is about the highest a 15 15 When I originally began my application pain study can ever get. Studies involving pain 16 process a year and a half ago, I did so with the 16 patients cannot be randomized and double-blinded. 17 17 2012 Clinical Journal of Pain Cannabinergic intent of qualifying under chronic pain. Due to the 18 overlap of symptoms, it was not until later that I was 18 Pain Medicine describes that 71 percent of the studies 19 diagnosed with fibromyalgia. Also, due to the unknown 19 found that cannabinoids were associated with

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demonstrable pain relieving effects. Additional

quality of life, improved sleep, and greater

studies have found that there is an improvement in

productivity. Quality of life, improved sleep, and

greater productivity in my mind is the goal of

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nature of the condition, it makes it difficult to

the leading causes of opioid dependencies.

effectively manage the condition, which often results

The National Institute of Drug Abuse

in long-term opioid use and has been considered one of

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management of patients with chronic pain.

Like all of our present medication, cannabinoids are not the panacea for patients suffering from chronic pain. However, with cannabis being available to chronic pain patients, it is reasonable to expect pain is improved, improvement of quality of life, a decrease in the number of pain prescriptions, followed by a decrease in the associated side effects, and, ultimately, a decrease in accidental opioid poisoning and associated deaths.

Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you, Dr. Sloan, for your testimony.

And our last speaker for chronic pain syndrome is Jared Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: Good morning my name is Jared Taylor. That's J-a-r-e-d, T-a-y-l-o-r. I'm here this morning to urge the Illinois Medical Cannabis Advisory Board to recommend chronic pain syndrome as a qualifying condition for the medical cannabis pilot program.

Chronic pain syndrome (also known as CPS) is a common problem that presents a major challenge to healthcare providers because of its complex history,

medical reactions to long-term treatments.

I myself experienced chronic pain for approximately 2 1/2 years. While I now know that my pain is due to my osteoarthritis, many patients with CPS do not know the underlying cause, and as I can personally attest, chronic pain makes daily life much more difficult. It is hard sometimes to see the proverbial silver lining in dark clouds when one has chronic pain, as chronic pain causes sufferers to have gray skies on a daily basis. Mundane activities such as going to work, doing household chores, caring for dependents, and other normal day-to-day activities are difficult with chronic pain.

Cannabis is a proven medicine that effectively inhibits pain signals from being transferred from the brain to the point of origin. Pain is subjective and what may be painful to me may not be painful for others. I realize that the Advisory Board has proceeded carefully with blanket conditions, and I can admit that chronic pain is a very broad condition. However, I myself suffered for nearly 2 1/2 years in silence from chronic pain on a daily basis which was caused by my osteoarthritis. It affected me heavily and, fortunately, I now have a

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unknown causes, and poor response to therapy. CPS is poorly defined, yet many medical professionals consider ongoing pain that lasts more than six months as a qualifying criterion. Other professionals have used three months of chronic pain as the minimum criterion. However, with chronic pain, a demarcation of time is arbitrary.

Chronic pain syndrome is a conglomeration of syndromes that do not typically respond to medical treatments. CPS is best managed by combining a variety of approaches, including bad posture, exercising regularly, practicing good sleeping habits, and having balanced meals. Approximately 35 percent of Americans have some element of chronic pain, and approximately 50 million Americans are partially or totally disabled due to chronic pain. As well, chronic pain is reported more commonly in women.

CPS affects suffers on a daily basis. Patients are affected by depressed mood, poor-quality/ nonrestorative sleep, being fatigued, a lack or reduction in libido, and experience disability out of proportion with impairment. Chronic pain may lead to prolonged physical suffering, marital or family problems, loss of employment, and may cause adverse diagnosis and can better manage my symptoms. Other patients are not so fortunate to have a diagnosis, yet they continue to live with chronic pain on a daily basis.

Because chronic pain syndrome is a disease that affects every facet of a patient's life, it is truly a debilitating condition. As such, I urge the Advisory Board to recommend chronic pain syndrome as a qualifying condition to the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

Thank you for your time, and God bless the State of Illinois.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for your testimony. And thank you for everyone who has come up so far. I know that it takes a lot.

So we open up the conversation through the Board for comments.

MEMBER CHAMPION: I'm just going to say our state -- our state is the only state in the medical cannabis states that requires an ongoing doctorpatient relationship. If a doctor can recommend opiates and narcotics and things like that, I see nothing holding them back from recommending cannabis. As well, in September the Illinois

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Page 41 Page 43 1 Department of Public Health recognized chronic pain, 1 on the stand. 2 at least chronic pain in the month of September, so I 2 MEMBER MC CURDY: I'm looking at the face 3 recommend we as a board recognize and approve this 3 sheet in the petition itself, and I note two things. 4 condition, as well. 4 One is -- and what I wonder, for those of you who are 5 Thank you. 5 in the clinical field, if these come from the -- from CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Other comments? 6 6 the DSM or ICD manual or if these are somebody's 7 7 interpretation. But the third paragraph says, "A (No response.) 8 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: We had a 8 person may have two or more coexisting pain conditions," 9 9 conversation about this already regarding that this et cetera. And it also says, "This condition is 10 10 condition doesn't have any causes attached to it. So managed best with a multidisciplinary approach. we really need to think about yes, it is its own 11 11 Unlike pain due acute physical injury, chronic pain 12 discrete condition, with its own ICD-10 code, but we 12 syndrome is not generally well controlled by opioids 13 are now traveling into sort of an overall general 13 alone and shows nearly no response to anti-inflammatory 14 14 agents." And the bullet point below that says, "CPS condition area. 15 But I also am reassured that we don't have 15 is different from the term 'chronic pain.'" 16 to be the first state to do that. And, also, from the 16 So I guess the guestion I'm asking is, is 17 evidence base that I had reviewed in the literature 17 this straight from the manual, and, if so, is this a 18 18 provided, as well as my own research outside of this, formal statement of what's distinctive about both the 19 I see enough evidence base regarding medical cannabis 19 condition and its treatment, for those of you who 20 for chronic pain with respect to how the brain 20 may know? 21 interprets pain with the CB1 and CB2 receptors and the 21 MEMBER WEATHERS: When you say "manual," 22 potential for this medicine to help ameliorate a 22 there is no one set -- I don't know where -- what 23 23 dysfunction in that signaling and a deficit of the source they're using for that. The only manual that 24 24 endogenous, meaning our own homemade cannabinoids. really would list something out would be kind of for Page 44 Page 42 We actually make our own chemicals that look 1 1 psychiatry, the DSM-V. I don't believe it's in there. 2 2 like marijuana so that we can relax, eat, sleep, I don't know that for sure, though. I can try to look 3 3 protect, and forget pain when we're trying to defend 4 4 ourselves of the so we have this system is already in But I agree with most of what they --5 place. We now have a medicine that mimics those 5 whatever the source was, that was accurate in that 6 6 cannabinoids that we make ourselves, but if anti-inflammatories don't work, it is a 7 individuals have trouble making them in a robust, 7 multidisciplinary approach. The remainder of that I 8 balanced way, then getting it externally is something 8 felt was an accurate statement. 9 9 that can be helpful. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Yes, Michael. 10 10 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: I suffer from chronic So from a just purely scientific basis, I 11 feel that this is a valid condition regardless of the 11 residual limb pain syndrome, so I could fall under 12 etiology or the cause. So I just want to put an 12 this catch-all, as well, but fortunately, limb pain 13 asterisk out there, though, that we have to

13 syndrome is already an approved condition. 14 acknowledge this is still a pretty general condition. From a practical standpoint I understand 15 exactly what the concern is, but I think that, you approved by IDPH, it might help us reduce the need to 16 know, assuming, you know, that there is a condition 17 have other petitions for every other cause there is, worthy of being added to the gospel list that has 18 already passed, this could be denied while we'll have MEMBER PARIKH: In Mr. Jared Taylor the 19 all the specific conditions already articulated and to 20 be articulated after this one just in case that 21 previous finding was for chronic pain syndrome. So occurs.

> But I don't see any problem with throwing this out there and approving it and having, you know -- in a perfect world this one being denied and

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But I think it will also help us -- if it gets

underlying condition is osteoarthritis, but the

petition. So it would be nice to say if it is

basically, it boils down to one condition of the same

approved, then we don't have to have further witnesses

and we'll find out how that all goes.

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1	the other ones being approved. So I strongly	1	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: What was that
2	recommend passage.	2	code again?
3	MEMBER MC CURDY: I would be willing to move	3	MEMBER WEATHERS: G89.4.
4	approval of this condition at this point.	4	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: G89.4. Okay.
5	MEMBER MILLER: I'll second it.	5	So I move that we vote on approval or
6	MEMBER PARIKH: As an advisory board, if we	6	disapproval for chronic pain syndrome, which is ICD-10
7	somehow can put this emphasis in the minutes that the	7	Code G89.4, a condition specific a specific
8	Board as a whole has approved this chronic pain	8	condition for pain.
9	syndrome as a blanket condition, and I don't know if	9	MEMBER MILLER: I'll second.
10	that would put any weight on the Department or not,	10	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Okay.
11	but if we can put somewhere in the minutes that this	11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All right.
12	is a condition we all think that this is a blanket	12	Let's vote.
13	condition.	13	While those votes are being collected and
14	MEMBER RAMIREZ: Madam Chair, I'm sort of	14	tallied, our next topic is chronic postoperative pain.
15	confused. I think we discussed that chronic pain	15	I don't know if Dr. Sloan you need to okay. So we
16	syndrome was an entity unto itself and is not a	16	will not have a speaker for that.
17	blanket description of anything; it's a specific	17	This is a condition that was discussed at
18	condition. So I think we need to clear the air so we	18	the May petition meeting, and I believe it passed in a
19	say we're voting on a specific condition.	19	vote of from my notes, chronic postoperative pain
20	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Well, I think	20	passed, but I did not recall the vote tally. But it
21	the fact that it has its own code and is billable	21	passed.
22	through insurance through various all the	22	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: We're beating a dead
23	multidisciplinary physical therapy can get coded	23	horse now, and it's really dead and I'd certainly
24	with it, I believe, the pharmaceutical medications	24	welcome any comments from anybody, but I'd motion for
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1	it is a condition in and of itself, but common sense	1	a vote.
2	tells me it's a blanket condition. We know that;	2	MEMBER WEATHERS: Second.
3	we're pretty intelligent here.	3	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Oh, we need to
4	But as a condition itself, I move that we	4	hear the tally first.
5	start to vote on this and make sure that we	5	MEMBER WEATHERS: Do we?
6	differentiate that this is a specific condition. How	6	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Don't we before
7	it will be interpreted by those who are going to look	7	we move on to chronic postoperative?
8	at this whole list is unknown us. So if we look at it	8	Okay. The condition chronic pain syndrome
9	purely as the condition itself, chronic pain syndrome	9	Code G89.4 in the ICD-10 passed with a vote of 10 yes,
10	in and of itself, I think that we ought to move to a	10	0 no. Thank you.
11	vote unless you have any further clarification.	11	Now, chronic postoperative pain officially.
12	MEMBER RAMIREZ: A little aside from a great	12	Comments from the Board in addition to Michael's
13	Spanish philosopher that once said that common sense	13	comments?
14	is the least common of all senses.	14	MEMBER LESKOVEC: Yes. I want to compliment
15	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you.	15	petitioners on the quality of the petitions in citing
16	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.	16	research for so far of the conditions that we've
17	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Are you	17	already reviewed. So thank you very much.
18	seconding the vote?	18	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. I
19	MS. MOODY: Madam Chair	19	know that also requires a lot of work and research,
20	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Yes.	20	as well.
21	MS. MOODY: you can make very clear in	21	Jim, did you have a comment?
22	your motion what exactly what condition specifically,	22	MEMBER CHAMPION: No, I was just going to
23	including the ICD-10 code, that the Board wishes to now	23	say
24	take a vote on. You can be very specific about that.	24	THE COURT REPORTER: I can't hear him.

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1	MEMBER MC CURDY: I tend to agree but I	1	MEMBER PARIKH: Is it all 22, 28, and 29?
2	wanted to say I particularly appreciated the research	2	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All three?
3	that was included with this petition. It seemed to	3	MEMBER WEATHERS: I think that's fine.
4	make the case, if anything, more strongly than even	4	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Yes. All three.
5	some of the other ones we've seen just in that regard.	5	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.
6	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So without any	6	MS. MOODY: Madam Chair, could you restate
7	comments from the Board, I move to vote for the	7	the motion clearly for the court reporter?
8	condition chronic postoperative pain. Do you have an	8	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I will.
9	ICD-10 code for that?	9	MS. MOODY: Thank you.
10	MEMBER WEATHERS: G89.28.	10	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I move that we
11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: G89.28.	11	vote on the condition chronic postoperative pain
12	MEMBER WEATHERS: And this one is I'm	12	encompassing the ICD-10 codes G89.22, G89.28 and
13	sorry; I had it up other chronic postprocedural	13	G89.29.
14	pain. So chronic postop, chronic postoperative pain,	14	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.
15	painful chronic postoperative. So G89.28 and G89.29	15	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Please vote.
16	is also painful chronic postoperative not otherwise	16	While the votes are being collected and
17	classified.	17	tallied, the next condition is intractable pain, and
18	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So maybe amend	18	our speakers we have one who is closed, and then we
19	that to include chronic postoperative pain within both	19	have five speakers. So I'm going to check the
20	codes G89.28 and G89.29.	20	attendance list first before I fake close the meeting
21	MEMBER MC CURDY: Are we permitted to do	21	again.
22	that if the .29 is not on the petition?	22	So the closed petitioner whose name I cannot
23	MEMBER WEATHERS: Was the .28 on the petition?	23	mention has not signed in. So we will not close that,
24	MEMBER MC CURDY: Yes.	24	and we will not go through that again. We will just
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1	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I would	1	open it up to the following speakers, Jonathan Byrne
2	interpret the .29 as the same	2	who also has not checked in, Karen Freese, who has not
3	MEMBER WEATHERS: As I search through the	3	checked in, Jessica Harshbarger, who has also not signed
4	code, it looks like that's abdominal pain chronic,	4	in, Dr. Sloan, who has declined, and Jared Taylor.
5	chronic abdominal pain. So that's why they're linking	5	So we really only have one speaker, one speaker
6	them together. I would think yeah, G89.28 is the	6	for intractable pain. So if I called your name and
7	one that's really called out as chronic postprocedural	7	you just didn't sign in, would you raise your hand?
8	pain, so I think we're okay. G89.22 is chronic	8	(No response.)
9	postthoracotomy pain. I don't know why that gets	9	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: And then is
10	called out separately.	10	Jared Taylor do you want to speak on it? Okay.
11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Way too	11	We'll wait for the vote first, and then we'll proceed
12	specific. That just means pain	12	with your testimony.
13	MEMBER WEATHERS: I think as a board we have	13	Okay. The condition of chronic
14	it in our right to say we're encompassing all of the	14	postoperative pain with ICD-10 code G89.22, G89.28,
15	diagnostic codes that reference postoperative or	15	and G89.29 passed with a vote of 10 yes, 0 no.
16	postprocedural pain.	16	So moving on to intractable pain, we have
17	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I think it is	17	Mr. Jared Taylor providing testimony.
18	within our rights, too, to make any corrections to	18	MR. TAYLOR: Well, good morning again. My
19	codes that might not be capturing what the materials	19	name is Jared Taylor, and I come before the Medical
20	of the petition say. Given the expertise of the	20	Cannabis Advisory Board to urge that it recommend
21	Board, I think that we can amend that. So is it	21	intractable pain as a qualifying condition to the
22	G89.28?	22	Illinois Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.
23	MEMBER WEATHERS: And G89.22.	23	Because of the lack of knowledge of its
	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: And G89.22.	24	cause, only a few states (such as California,

Page 55 Page 53 1 effective medicine that can and will inhibit and 1 Colorado, Florida, New Jersey, and Texas) have defined 2 2 disrupt the pain that IP patients face on a daily what intractable pain means. However, the State of 3 Minnesota is currently considering intractable pain as 3 basis. 4 a qualifying condition to their launching and 4 As such, I urge the Medical Cannabis 5 5 fledgling medical cannabis pilot program. Advisory Board to recommend intractable pain as a 6 6 Now, according to the Minnesota Department qualifying condition to the Illinois Medical Cannabis 7 7 Pilot Program. Intractable pain is a truly of Public Health, intractable pain means "a pain state 8 in which the cause of the pain cannot be removed or 8 debilitating condition, and Illinois patients with 9 9 otherwise treated, no relief or cure of the cause of this disease should have access to this medicine. 10 10 Thank you for your time. God bless the pain is possible, or none has been found after 11 reasonable efforts." To put it simply, intractable 11 State of Illinois. 12 12 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you, pain is severe pain that has no known cause and does 13 not respond to conventional therapies. 13 Mr. Taylor. 14 14 Okay. Comments regarding intractable pain. While I myself suffer from chronic pain 15 15 caused by the osteoarthritis that I have, this is Do we have a code for that? 16 different from the intractable pain that I'm talking 16 MEMBER WEATHERS: So that's the problem with 17 to you about today because intractable pain causes 17 this one. It really does fall under -- the way the 18 18 adverse biological effects on the body's cardiovascular, ICD-9 works is it's significantly increased 19 hormone, and neurologic systems. Individuals that 19 specificity -- to ICD-10 over ICD-9. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Can you explain 20 suffer from IP experience changes in testosterone, 20 21 21 estrogen, cortisol (which is a stress hormone), actually what the code means? 22 thyroid hormones, and/or pituitary hormones. 22 MEMBER WEATHERS: Sure. It's the 23 23 Intractable also causes patients to be bedinternational classification of diseases, and it 24 24 started out in the 1800s as a way -- it was actually -or housebound. So these are not people that are

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that they have.

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walking around; these are people that are in their bed, or they're in their home.

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Intractable pain is not curable and, left untreated, can cause death. Conventional therapies for IP include using a TENS unit, taking methadone, as well as using opioid medications.

Now, cannabis is a proven medicine that blocks the transmission of pain signals. Because of this, I believe that patients who have intractable pain could greatly benefit from the use of cannabis. Similar to the State of Illinois, the State of Minnesota, like I mentioned, is considering adding IP to its list of qualifying conditions for their medical cannabis program. While what Minnesota does does not change what Illinois will do, it is important to note that intractable pain is a very real condition and that other states are seriously considering adding this condition to their medical cannabis programs.

There's no doubt in my mind that intractable pain would be a horrific disease to have. Intractable pain it has no cure; it has no known reason for its cause, and the pain experienced by patients is constant and severe. While I know that cannabis will not cure intractable pain, I believe that cannabis is an

capture why patients were dying. And over time these have been through -- and this is used worldwide, and it's how we as providers not -- it's not anything to do with how we code what we're charging for but how we code for what we're seeing, so what is the exact diagnosis. And this has specific implications for public health, for reporting, for vocational scores, how sick you are, how sick are the patients that we're seeing, are we accurately capturing the conditions

they were initially death codes, frankly, a way to

So we have been using in the United States an outdated code system for many years called ICD-9, and as of October 1st, last week we transitioned about 11 years behind the rest of the world to ICD-10. The difference is that ICD-10, as I keep saying, has many, many more codes.

So about 25 percent are just what we call laterality, are you dealing with the right or left.
So it used to say ear infection. Well, now it's specifically what's the ear infection, which ear, and if you know, what's the organism or what's the bacteria that's causing the infection.

There's a lot more codes about site, about

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whether it's acute or chronic. That's why we're getting into the specific discussions. So acute or chronic is now differentiated. The episode, is it the first time somebody is coming in for a problem, or is it a long-standing impact due to the problem.

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And as providers we're now obligated to be very, very specific in our coding, and it has specific implications for reimbursement, for our vocational scores, for public health, part of why we're all here today and allows us to better capture the conditions that our patients have.

Intractable is oftentimes what we call a modifier. So if somebody comes in, in my world, migraines, one of the things that we need to say about the specific migraine code in order to get to the very specific ICD-10 code is is it intractable or not.

I don't believe -- and that's what I'm having trouble finding. There doesn't seem to be an actual simple diagnosis of just intractable pain. It's the underlying pain syndrome. So the osteoarthritis with intractable pain or chronic pain syndrome and then intractable or not.

That doesn't say it's not a condition, and we can still vote on it, but it's implied -- it's

MS. MOODY: Currently the Act lists 39 different conditions and diseases and simply lists the name of those conditions and diseases. It does not attach any sort of specific framework for the physician to specify an ICD-9 or -10 code.

The application gives the opportunity for the physician to check one or more debilitating conditions in the certification that they provide to the Department attesting that a qualifying patient has a specific condition or disease that meets the requirements of the Act and the code.

MEMBER MC CURDY: And the petition form that you all have created for people to use says that people must include any applicable diagnostic codes. So it's expected by the Department as part of your review. Am I right?

MS. MOODY: So that is requested in the administrative rule making, that information, and that information was requested and specified in the administrative rulemaking to help the Board in considering the specificity of a particular petition to give you as much information as possible from the petitioner to allow you to make consideration of that petition.

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almost not necessary because it's implied in the other conditions that have been discussed today.

Just to clarify, though, my only -- to finish my statement, I'm concerned, though -- and again, it gets into how are we really tasked with getting into specific ICD-10 codes, and I don't know if we are. Because I'm concerned that if we were to vote it down, I don't want the perception to be that we don't want medical cannabis to be used for intractable pain. It would be more on a technicality rather than the actual intent of what we're trying to do here and that concerns me.

So I think we need to, obviously, take all

of this with a grain of salt. VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: So there's not a necessity to have a code to approve this condition or any condition; correct? It doesn't need to have a specific code? I'm asking as a layperson. We don't need an ICD-10 code to approve something. I know it's helpful from a clinical standpoint when you docs, you know, approve someone for a cannabis permit or license, but is it necessary to have a specific code? MEMBER CHAMPION: Do all of our current

MEMBER WEATHERS: And I know we heard about this last time but we're -- how much are we allowed to use our medical knowledge to say, "We think you meant this, as well"?

So, for example, one of the ones here is that -- you know, nobody included chronic complex regional pain syndrome or reflex sympathetic dystrophy to their own very specific diagnoses but obviously are chronic pain syndromes in the limb, oftentimes postprocedural or posttraumatic. So they get into some of the categories just approved. Would those need specific separate petitions?

MS. MOODY: Those are already part of the debilitating conditions. I believe the precedent that the Board set at the May 4th petition hearing was to consider the recommendation made by the petitioner. So, specifically, for this it is the intractable pain that is cited here in this petition.

However, when the Board makes its recommendations, if you should choose to qualify that information to the Department then --

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Like we did with neuropathy; we split it into groups? MS. MOODY: Exactly. Exactly.

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conditions have a code?

	Page 61		Page 63
1	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: If I may. This	1	MEMBER WEATHERS: They're supposed to know
2	may answer I found a code for intractable pain.	2	what the words mean.
3	It's R52.	3	MEMBER RAMIREZ: People who are coders have
4	MEMBER WEATHERS: I think that's	4	manuals about 7- or 800 pages big in which they
5	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So I actually	5	specify and explain what each code means.
6	am doing litmus test as I went into our medical	6	MEMBER CHRISTOFF: None of this would
7	record, and I looked for the diagnosis in there, and	7	necessarily be written down as an agreed upon
8	there's actually quite a few. There's intractable	8	diagnostic description, I guess, for this or any other
9	pain, intractable abdominal pain, intractable back	9	descriptive code that's used?
10	pain, intractable neuropathic pain of foot left, and	10	MEMBER WEATHERS: So R52 maps to pretty
11	then right, or unspecified laterality.	11	generalized pain, pain disorder, pain generalized,
12	MEMBER WEATHERS: So, yeah, it's coming up	12	pain I mean just by itself. So that's what's coming
13	as pain unspecified.	13	up for all of that. G89.29 is chronic generalized
14	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So this is	14	pain disorder and chronic generalized pain, but the
15	looking at I mean, if we were to go with this is	15	R52 is all the very, very generic. And, actually,
16	an Epic system. So this is used in my hospital	16	acute is in there.
17	system, and if I saw that, I would use that code. I	17	MEMBER PARIKH: I think that ICD-10, when
18	don't other than getting out my manual and trying	18	there is no decimal point after, then it's a
19	to really prove that that wasn't the code, I don't	19	generalized category.
20	know how else I would say that's okay.	20	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I found
21	MEMBER MC CURDY: So the fact that we have	21	another one.
22	an ICD-9 code in these conditions for intractable	22	MEMBER PARIKH: After the decimal points are
23	pain, how does that matter?	23	more specific codes.
24	MEMBER WEATHERS: Actually, that's fine.	24	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. There is
	Page 62		Page 64
1	Again, these conditions were submitted before we	1	a so in my system here they've a chronic intractable
2	converted.	2	pain. The code is G89.29 which we just voted to
3	MEMBER RAMIREZ: My question is, the words	3	approve. So I mean, always thought chronic
4	"intractable pain" came from where? From the	4	MEMBER WEATHERS: Exactly. So you could
5	petitioner? From the Department? From whom? The	5	argue, have we already approved this? It's redundant.
6	exact word intractable pain, where does it come from?	6	It's looped into the other. I don't see any value.
7	Because semantically speaking and I	7	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Then I would
8	apologize, but English is my second language, so I'm	8	not use the R52 code if that's what's coming up on
9	very strict in meanings intractable means you can't	9	yours. Then it would just make
10	treat it. So maybe it should be called analgesic	10	MEMBER WEATHERS: Mine is G89.29.
11	resistant pain, and then you can say we can use	11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: We may need to
12	cannabis for that. Otherwise, if it's intractable,	12	amend our previous approval where we called it chronic
13	intractable period. Because if you're dead, you're	13	pain syndrome because it's also called chronic
14	dead; if you're alive, you're alive. I apologize for	14	intractable pain in other systems, which is the same
15	that but semantically, intractable pain that you can	15	code. I always thought common sense
16	treat with something else is not intractable.	16	MEMBER RAMIREZ: You've got remember that
17	MEMBER CHRISTOFF: I don't know if anyone	17	some of those systems like the Epics, the MedTeks, and
18	I don't know if anyone knows this, but don't these	18	all these, what they have done is they've taken the
19	codes in this ICD-10 like, aren't they defined to	19	codes and adapted them to people's everyday language
20	some degree? Are these just words that are attached	20	so they can code easily, but that does not mean that
21	to a code, and then there's no definition? Like that	21	the ICD-10 is specifically going to say they're
22	could be true. I don't know how like is there even	22	trying to code them and group them so you can use them
23	like a sentence or description, or are clinicians just	23	in your everyday life.

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	Page 65		Page 67
1	motion to include the previously approved chronic pain	1	MEMBER MC CURDY: Second.
2	syndrome to also include the diagnosis of chronic	2	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Now we vote.
3	intractable pain.	3	MEMBER PARIKH: Does that mean intractable
4	MEMBER MC CURDY: Second.	4	means chronic? Because if you've tried for a longer
5	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.	5	term to treat that pain
6	MEMBER MC CURDY: All in favor.	6	MEMBER LESKOVEC: My understanding of
7	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: We will need to	7	intractable is not that it is not treatable but that
8	vote, but on the sheets, then, we're just going to	8	is not being able to be resolved by
9	call that one condition. We're just saying that we're	9	MEMBER PARIKH: Yeah, but that means that
10	going to amend our previously approved so the name	10	you have tried it for a certain period of time to
11	of that will be chronic intractable pain syndrome.	11	relieve chronic pain. If you have tried it only for
12	MEMBER WEATHERS: I would separate them out.	12	four months, then you have not tried all the options.
13	I would say chronic pain syndrome and chronic	13	So when you say it is not a helpful means of treatment,
14	intractable pain.	14	meaning that we have tried over a certain period of
15	MEMBER PARIKH: And I think in the future we	15	time, which is probably three months or six months.
16	should stay away from the ICD-10 code.	16	Obviously, it has to be a certain period of time to be
17	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I know. I'm a	17	tried. So there is no sense of putting chronic in
18	worried about okay. So say that one more time.	18	front of this that is already there.
19	MEMBER WEATHERS: Chronic pain syndrome and	19	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So are you
20	chronic intractable pain.	20	proposing chronic pain syndrome and intractable pain
21	And, again, the intent of this was never	21	and take the chronic out to remove the time?
22	that we were approving necessarily specific ICD-10.	22	MEMBER PARIKH: Yeah. It wasn't there to
23	It's just one of the things we've been tasked with is	23	begin with, so we just leave it as it is.
24	to ensure that we're not approving the entire world of	24	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. Let me
	Page 66		Page 68
1	mental health disorders, and by going with the code,	1	amend that again. I move to amend our previously
2	it just lets us as a board be reassured that we are	2	approved condition to state chronic pain syndrome and
3	talking about very specific conditions.	3	intractable pain.
4	I think that was the only intent of even	4	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.
5	bringing them up, not saying that we're getting into	5	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Do we need a
6	specificity of ICD-10 code despite my really	6	paper vote?
7	fascinating ICD-10 lecture. I have more. If anybody	7	MS. MOODY: You can just proceed.
8	afterwards would like to hear it, I have slides.	8	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All those in
9	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Michael, do you	9	favor.
10	have a comment?	10	(Ayes heard.)
11	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Maybe the thought	11	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Any opposed?
12	process here would be to make a motion that the ICD-9	12	(No response.)
13	and -10 codes are offered purely as additional data	13	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. The
14	that would be helpful for clinicians in issuing, you	14	motion passes 10 to 0.
15	know, their approvals for their patients and are not	15	We are now at osteoarthritis, which our
16	dispositive of a condition.	16	closed petitioner is still not here. Okay. Then we
17	MEMBER RAMIREZ: Point of order, Madam	17	have Jared Taylor again, and I think following this
18	Chairman. Mike's motion is out of order right now	18	let's see, it is now 10:40. I think we could probably
19	because we already have a motion on the floor, we have	19	use a restroom break. And is there anything else?
20	seconded it, and now we need to vote on it.	20	MR. TAYLOR: I was the only person for
21	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Was it seconded	21	osteoarthritis in May, as well.
22	to amend our previously approved conditions to reflect	22	MEMBER WEATHERS: Which we approved.
23	it to say chronic pain syndrome and chronic	23	MR. TAYLOR: You'll remember my face from
24	intractable pain?	24	the repeat coming up here.

Page 69 Page 71 MEMBER WEATHERS: It's nice of you to keep 1 Joint." In this study, it basically discovered that 1 2 doing that. 2 when we use medical cannabis, it activates the 3 3 CB2 receptors in our brain, which inhibits the Okay. Mr. Taylor, please proceed. 4 MR. TAYLOR: So good morning. My name is 4 transmission of chronic pain signals from our brain to 5 Jared Taylor. I feel like a really familiar face up 5 the area that we're in pain. 6 6 here. I have osteoarthritis, OA. Some of you may Now, I myself, I know that medical cannabis 7 7 is not going to cure my osteoarthritis. However, I remember me from earlier this year when I was the only 8 individual who spoke in favor of adding osteoarthritis 8 believe that this medicine is another tool to manage 9 9 at the May 4th public petition period here in Chicago. the symptoms that this disease causes which limit my 10 10 ability to live a happy, productive life. I do not Unfortunately, it's unfortunate I have to 11 join you all today, as this condition should have been 11 intend to only use medical cannabis to manage my 12 12 approved by DPH as a qualifying condition of the chronic pain. I've been to a physical therapist; I've 13 program. Since osteoarthritis has no cure, my disease 13 seen a pain specialist, and I visited a rheumatologist, 14 14 which is a doctor that specializes in arthritis. On a has not miraculously cured itself since I spoke in 15 15 twice daily basis I do stretching exercise; I take front of you five months ago. 16 To be clear, however, I am not upset with 16 acetaminophen and naproxen (also known as Aleve) on an 17 17 as-needed basis, and I've even started taking a yoga the Advisory Board. Each and every one of you has 18 18 done your due diligence to the state's residents and class twice a week. Again, all of these therapies are 19 19 the patients of Illinois. to manage my symptoms. I know that medical cannabis 20 According to Mayo Clinic, osteoarthritis is 20 would be a beneficial medicine to help me manage my 21 21 arthritis. the most common form of arthritis, affecting millions 22 of people worldwide. It occurs when protective 22 In short, I urge the Medical Cannabis 23 23 cartilage on the ends of your bones wear down over Advisory Board to affirm its May recommendation for 24 24 adding OA to the list of qualifying conditions. The time. While OA can appear in any joint, commonly Page 70 Page 72 osteoarthritis that I and millions of Illinois 1 affected areas are the hands, the knees, the hips, and 1 2 2 the spine. patients suffer from on a daily basis isn't going to 3 3 I myself was diagnosed with osteoarthritis go away. We demand access to this medicine which will 4 earlier this year. It is in the facet joints of my 4 help us lead a life with as little pain as possible. 5 spine which are directly above my tailbone. This 5 As such, I will come to this Advisory Board at every 6 makes it difficult and painful for me to sit, to 6 petition period hearing until Illinois osteoarthritis 7 exercise, and to do chores around the house. Overall, 7 patients are given access to the treatment that we 8 8 not only does this disease limits activities that I deserve. 9 9 enjoy, it limits tasks that I must do on a daily basis. Thank you for your time. God bless Illinois. 10 10 Commonly used therapies for treating CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. 11 11 osteoarthritis include taking acetaminophen, also So that's all for the speakers on 12 known as Tylenol, chiropractic therapy, attending a 12 osteoarthritis. So comments from the Board? 13 13 chronic pain class, receiving injections in the joint VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Jared, thank you so 14 14 to increase flexibility, and other pain managementvery much for your testimony today. It's been moving 15 15 based options. While varied, all of these therapies and it's unbelievably explicit and detailed and backed 16 have one thing in common; they are merely treating the 16 up by tons of research, and you point out again, and 17 17 symptoms of osteoarthritis. As there is no cure, again, and again that cannabis doesn't need to be a 18 patients like myself who have OA must merely juggle 18 cure. It's a weapon in the arsenal that you have to 19 various treatments in order to get to a manageable 19 fight chronic pain. 20 20 level of pain. I, too, practice yoga six or seven days a 21 21 Today I'm introducing a study by the week, have acupuncture twice a week, raki, 22 University of Nottingham titled "Cannabinoid CB2 22 craniosacral therapy, sensory deprivation, flotation. 23 23 Receptors Regulate Central Sensitization and Pain Every single one of these things are different items

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in the arsenal that I use to function, and if this is

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Responses Associated with Osteoarthritis of the Knee

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something that can help you function better, it doesn't need to be the cure-all. Because there is no magic bullet, as you, and many other people, and myself have discovered. It's a complex regime of many different things used together in unison to survive and to live and function. So thank you so very much for your testimony.

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MEMBER CHAMPION: I was going to say, I myself have osteoarthritis in several joints, my hips and my knees. Cannabis is effective for treating my arthritic pain. If our program covers rheumatoid arthritis. I don't see how it can be any less effective for osteoarthritis. If it covers one form, I believe it should cover all. And I'm not going to get into a comparison match with somebody with rheumatoid arthritis, but my osteo was pretty, pretty doggone painful.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I would like to differentiate rheumatoid arthritis, which is a covered condition, versus osteoarthritis.

Rheumatoid arthritis is an inflammation of the joints where they start to lose their symmetry, and people start getting -- their hands start deviating. It's a deformative arthritis, as is osteoarthritis,

is, how resistant has it been to conventional medications and treatments, and acupuncture, yoga, all of those things that I use for my patients, as well.

So I would like it reflected in our minutes or in our public record that these conditions, albeit very common -- osteoarthritis is like everybody has got it pretty much -- well, I won't say that, but probably half the people in this room have it after a certain age, that it is going to be physician, provider discretion. That is where the relationship comes in and determines whether the person in front of me is a candidate to be certified under the pilot act.

So I think that's very important to emphasize. Because on the face of it, when I talk to my colleagues and they say, "You guys approved arthritis? Everybody has that, osteoarthritis. Come on," I want it known that this is not a blank check type of group over here. We recognize it is a difficult condition to treat for which joint replacement pretty much is getting rid of the bad joint. It seems to be the main definitive treatment other than symptom management or laying off the joint and not using it anymore, which means limiting activities.

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but not as much as rheumatoid arthritis, which is also extremely inflammatory and an autoimmune-type condition that is mediated a lot by the gut but which we have plenty of CB2 receptors that modulate that.

Osteoarthritis is a wear-and-tear type of phenomenon. So in your runners, or overuse injuries, or poor alignment of the spine, and over time things just start wearing away the cartilage, that causes pain and then we're back to the conversation about pain. So this is where I would look at osteoarthritis as another subtype of chronic pain.

Although, having -- and affirming our May vote I don't think should be very difficult, but I want to differentiate between the two, as well as to add a little more caveat that this is a much more common condition. If you get to a certain age, you're going to have it.

So this is where we discussed last time how do we define -- I was proposing why don't we say severe osteoarthritis, and then we had a long discussion about differentiating it and that it should be the clinician. And I was convinced of that after our discussion that it's going to be the clinician who is going to determine with the patient how severe it

So it can be very debilitating, but it can also be very mild, and as physicians we are there to determine how severe and debilitating these conditions are and whether our patients should be certified for it.

MEMBER PARIKH: As a practicing pharmacist for over 30 years, I haven't seen too many osteoarthritis patients using high doses of oxycodone, or morphine, or hydrocodone, or anything like that, more the Tylenol. So it's a condition that we have to be careful in thinking about it. I don't know if I know patients using too much oxycodone or morphine or pain medication.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: You had a question for me? I'm sorry.

MEMBER PARIKH: These kinds of patients for arthritis, they don't use too much of oxycodone, or narcotics, or high doses of those because that's not helpful to them compared to plain Tylenol, basically.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Other comments from the Board?

MEMBER MILLER: I'd just like to say I struggled with this in the May meeting because of the -- some of the evidence that was presented. I do appreciate having more current research there today

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and looking over it -- having the ability to look that over.

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I'm very much focused on making sure we do the right thing based upon the evidence that's out there, and I know that there's limited evidence, but to go back 5, 7, 10 years makes it really difficult as a board member to approve some of those diagnoses.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So adding onto the evidence base. Because the research on medical cannabis for medical conditions and not for drug abuse reasons is very restricted, I want to qualify Michael's statement that there were tons of -- you know, there's tons of research for a certain condition. I wish I could say that about all of these conditions. There will not be tons of research. What myself as an evidence-based clinician was raised to look for randomized controlled trials and in humans, I want to see that, but we're just not going to see that at this stage. So it's compassion that's going to be guiding a lot, as well as clinical experience regarding our votes for yay or nay for this particular condition.

So I want to also make a note that if we looked purely at the research and just said, "Okay. This is a research-based, evidence-based treatment,"

They don't just get their card and run forever and 1

never see you again. They really have to come back

3 and see you in a year or they don't get it. So I

4 think that's a very good safety that was built into

this system. Onerous as it can be, it's very important.

So let's put the motion out to the vote for the condition of osteoarthritis.

VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.

MEMBER PARIKH: Same.

MS. MOODY: And, Madam Chair, while the Board is taking its time to deliberate and will tally votes, I would like to introduce to the Board a member of our team, our statewide medical cannabis program coordinator Joseph Wright has joined us, and he works with the entire medical cannabis program across all of the agencies that are responsible for implementation of the program.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for coming. And so I wanted to share this statement, waiting for Mr. Wright -- Mr. Wright to come. You probably hear a lot of that.

I just wanted to publicly thank our wonderful staff at the IDPH for their relentless

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many of the conditions may not really meet the muster of other conditions we might say, yeah, we've got gold standard evidence for that treatment, why don't you try that.

So that's known. And until we get more -the bottleneck released on medical cannabis research, we are going to be in this same position over and over getting evidence base from smaller studies, or animal-based, or lab studies. I've had to recognize that as a board member am I going to be satisfied with that.

What satisfies me is the safety data is pretty good. From a clinician "do no harm" perspective or "do least harm," this is where I put rubber to the road. Because in the practice where I have patients going to acupuncture, trying some herbal therapies, or nutritional therapies, I don't have a lot of evidence base for that, either. But if it's overall safer than the alternative or there is no alternative, then we go with it with monitoring and supervision.

And that patient-physician relationship is very important in knowing that these patients when they come back -- they have to come back once a year. commitment, passion, just can-do attitude and openness for putting all of these proceedings together, vetting the patient applications, all the phone calls, all of our inquiries. I think we need to publicly acknowledge them over and over again for the work that they do. So thank you, Conny and team, Mallory -- I know I'm missing somebody, so I'll just say those two names. I know I'm going to forget somebody.

Also, thank you to the Board for your expertise and passion, and to the audience for bringing your testimonies and witness to these proceedings.

I wanted to go over while we're on this break to talk about the official veto message from the governor, which I want to state so we're all clear on what happened, which rejected all of the Board's recommendations from the May 2015 meeting to set a proper stage and dispel any myths about it, and I'm going to read the quote.

The veto message for SB33 to the Illinois Senate, 99th General Assembly is as follows, and I quote, "The pilot program is moving forward but remains in its early stage. Cultivation centers are just beginning to grow their crops, and the first

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1 dispensary was licensed at the end of August. No 2 patients have yet been served, and consequently the 3 State has not had the opportunity to evaluate the 4 benefit and cost of the pilot program, or determine 5 areas for improvement, or even whether to extend the 6 program beyond its pilot period. It is therefore 7 premature to expand the pilot program before any 8 patient has been served and before we have had the 9 chance to evaluate it. Therefore, pursuant Section 10 9(b) of Article 4 of the Illinois Constitution of 11 1970, I hereby return Senate Bill 33 entitled 'An Act 12 Concerning Health' with the foregoing objections: 13 Vetoed in its entirety. Sincerely, Bruce Rauner, 14 Governor."

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So I wanted to clarify some things that as a board we are doing what we can to help this pilot act in a balanced, scientific, compassionate manner. I think we have to put our politics and social agenda aside and boil it down to what matters most, which is easing human suffering with appropriately vetted, stringently cultivated, strictly monitored dispensing and properly dosed medical marijuana from our state sanctioned growing centers and dispensaries.

As we did in May this year, we will evaluate

being helped, the bugs are worked out. I would like to know when we're going to hear about our May recommendations, as well as the ones we make today, and to get some guidance on how to go about that.

Do we need to repetition everything all over again from May like we are for some of the conditions today, or do we have to -- are they just going to be looked at again three months into the pilot when people are getting cannabis at the dispensaries.

So that is an open question. I'm speaking for myself but I do think that these are issues pertinent to the Board.

So I thank you for letting me take that opportunity, but these are questions that have come up because of the blanket veto of our petition recommendations in May.

So that being said, we still have to read the results of the vote for osteoarthritis.

MS. MOODY: So there was a problem with one of the ballots that Tina and I could not decipher it properly. So we would like to ask dispensation of the Board to take another paper vote if that would be all right. We have another set of ballots that we will pass out.

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all these conditions as we have been using the evidence base but also using our common sense and our clinical experience, taking to heart our petitioners' presentations and combine that all with compassion.

This is a volunteer board composed of physicians, of pharmacists, an ethicist, nurses, patients, and patient caregivers. We bring a high level of education to this table, and we ask that our recommendations be taken seriously as the pilot act moves very soon into its implementation stage, which is the request of that letter that we see cannabis start getting into the hands of patients.

So now that we are vetting and making recommendations, I'm hoping to receive feedback from the Governor, we are hoping to get feedback regarding our recommendations today, as well as what we recommended in May. Because the deadline for our recommendations today should hopefully fall within the cracks of dispensaries opening and having product available to patients.

And I'd love to know a timeline for when we are going to get some feedback regarding the petitions in May because that's what we're waiting for. We want to see that the pilot act is working, patients are

MEMBER WEATHERS: Given that there's two check boxes, I'm not sure how we screwed that up --I'm sure we did. Can we clarify?

MS. MOODY: So there is a yay -- a yes, that "I agree with the motion being made" and on the right side of the ballot a nay or no and there was a -- one of the ballots confused, or scratched out, or rewrote those, and Tina and I had difficulty deciphering what the voter actually intended.

So I'm sorry for that, but we want to make sure that we do it correctly.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for ensuring that process.

Following the announcement of the vote we'll take a short break, a restroom break, and then convene. We have a petitioner who is on her way, and I think we're going to move autism to the end to give her a chance to settle in. So our first condition following the break will be irritable bowel syndrome.

So it's 11:00. So would you say 10, 15 minutes?

MS. MOODY: That would be fine. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So let's say at 11:15 we come back to the room after we announce

Page 87 Page 85 1 our vote. hearing are no longer valid for consideration by the 1 2 2 So I'm going to also look at who has signed Department. 3 in. Has there been anyone who has not signed in yet 3 So what does that mean? That means that 4 that is slated to be a speaker? 4 under both the Act and under the rules, petitioners 5 5 (No response.) can submit petitions for those same conditions to the 6 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. We have 6 Board again during one of the open petition periods, 7 two closed sessions, of which one I know is not here --7 and there's one every July for 30 days and one in 8 actually, both closed session petitioners are not 8 January of every year for 30 days. 9 9 So those -- and that's why, for example, 10 10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I am here. osteoarthritis, that petition, although it was 11 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: You are here, 11 considered at the May 4th petition hearing, it was 12 okay. So we're actually going to close the first 12 submitted again during the July petition period, open petition period. We reviewed that petition for 13 session and then we'll -- after the break and the 13 14 announcement. Is Liana Bran here and Kalee Hooghkirk, 14 whether or not it met all of the criteria and the 15 15 as well as Jared Taylor? Okay. rules. Those did and they were submitted then to the 16 The condition of osteoarthritis passed with 16 Board for consideration again at this petition hearing. 17 a vote of 8 yes, 2 no. Thank you. 17 MEMBER WEATHERS: Can I ask a clarifying 18 Okay. So we take a break and we convene at 18 point? I guess -- and it depends on how you interpret 19 11:15. Thank you. 19 what you just read -- that I understand those are off 20 (Recess taken, 11:01 a.m. to 11:31 a.m.) 20 the table. As a Board, are we forced to only wait and 21 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So if we could 21 respond to petitions, or as a Board can we in addition 22 get the proceeding in order, we're going to start 22 to what we say today also say we additionally approve 23 again reopening our session. 23 or we additionally recommend to the director of public 24 24 So based on my comments earlier, I wanted to health and provide a list based on those conditions Page 88 Page 86 ask for a clarification and -- regarding what happens that we've approved previously? Can we reiterate that 1 1 2 2 with the May petitions that were made and rejected in at each meeting without necessarily having somebody 3 3 total. And Conny is going to go over how that works. come to us first? 4 MS. MOODY: All right. So thank you for 4 MS. MOODY: So the way that the rules are 5 that question, Leslie. 5 written, it requires a petition to be submitted to the 6 6 So the -- again, the Department's Department, reviewed for whether or not it meets the 7 7 administrative rules on the petition process and on criteria and the Act and rules, and then pass it along 8 adding debilitating conditions -- and this is in the 8 to the Board for consideration. 9 9 Illinois Administrative Code. It's Part 946 and So we must -- you must as a board act upon 10 10 Section 30 deals with the addition of debilitating those petitions for those conditions that are 11 11 medical conditions, and it spells out the process that submitted to you for consideration. Does that answer 12 we're following here today for petitioners to submit 12 your question? 13 petitions to the Department twice a year for the 13 MEMBER RAMIREZ: So there is no automatic 14 14 Medical Cannabis Advisory Board to consider those resubmission? 15 15 petitions, for the Advisory Board to make a MS. MOODY: Correct. There is no automatic 16 recommendation to the Department, and then, also, for 16 resubmission. It must be -- your action, your 17 17 the director of public health to render a final consideration during the petition hearings must be 18 18 decision regarding the acceptance or denial of the triggered by a petition for a specific condition which 19 proposed debilitating medical conditions or diseases. 19 results in your review, your consideration, and your 20 20 And I'm reading straight from the administrative code. recommendation.

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MEMBER WEATHERS: Follow-up question. Are

we being, then, very clear on the website about which

condition -- did people understand that and understand

which conditions would need to be resubmitted? I

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So once that final decision is made, and the

director did not approve any of the recommendations

made by the Medical Cannabis Advisory Board, those

petitions from -- that were heard at the May 4th

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Page 91 Page 89 1 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Can we post it on the 1 know, obviously, osteoarthritis was done today, 2 website? 2 posttraumatic stress disorder, but in the future, just 3 so people aren't under the impression that they did 3 MEMBER WEATHERS: Or spread the word among 4 the work -- that people would know specifically they 4 your colleagues. Are they able to save it as a PDF 5 5 need to resubmit that? and resubmit that exact same thing, or do they need to 6 6 MS. MOODY: So the directors' denial of the update the dates and incorporate that? 7 7 MS. MOODY: So the petition documents do petition recommendations was posted on both the 8 Department's website and also the general medical 8 require signature and dates on them, but certainly, as 9 9 cannabis statewide website, the mcpp.Illinois.gov with any sort of public comment document. The -- it 10 10 website, which is where all of the departments post is a writable PDF form. So if a petitioner were to 11 information, updates, and announcements. This was 11 retain their research, the verbiage that they have put 12 posted in both of those places. 12 together, they would be able to fill those forms When we opened the July one, the 30-day 13 13 in again. 14 14 MEMBER WEATHERS: And the letter of medical petition period, we did not specifically call out any 15 15 specific conditions. We simply opened up the petition support, is there a date on that where we would expect 16 period and provided the appropriate forms for 16 to see a new letter, or is it as long as there's one 17 17 submission. on file at some point? 18 18 Now, we talk to a lot of people who call us MS. MOODY: Well, it would have to be a 19 and ask questions, and we do respond and clarify. But 19 letter that is submitted with the submission 20 if you remember, the decision by the director was not 20 documents. So we do not keep those on file and say, 21 21 made until after the petition period was actually oh, look we still have it. We don't do that. So it 22 closed, after June 30th. 22 must be a full petition package. 23 23 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Is there a way that we As we move on into future petition periods, 24 24 I think that we would be remiss if we didn't look at a can amend that? Because right now then everybody is Page 92 Page 90 kind of hostage to whether the director makes a 1 1 letter and say, oh, this is dated two years ago, 2 something like that. So current is good. 2 decision in a time frame that is necessary for them to 3 3 file a petition. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: The definition 4 4 of current will be -- because then these petitioners So is there a way that we can make that date 5 fluid so people don't have to go through the trouble 5 will be, "Well, I did it three months ago." 6 of reapplying for the same exact thing they did before 6 MS. MOODY: And three months is different 7 7 because the director didn't decide in the time frame than three years. 8 that -- could we make it coincide to whenever that 8 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. 9 9 date is, or is there a way to tie those together to MEMBER RAMIREZ: Did the Department strive 10 save people the aggravation of going through this an 10 in any way to notify the individual petitioners who 11 11 additional time for no reason? had been approved or disapproved in May of the fact of 12 MS. MOODY: So what that would require would 12 the veto? Individually were they notified or it was 13 13 be for the Department to seek an administrative change just a collective thing on the website? 14 14 through the State's policies or rules. MS. MOODY: So the -- I do want to correct 15 15 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: JCAR? that it wasn't a veto. It was just for 16 MS. MOODY: The JCAR process. 16 technicalities -- you and I both like words, Nestor. 17 17 So it wasn't a veto; it was just the recommendations VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Okay. Forget it. 18 MEMBER WEATHERS: Is there any advice that 18 were not approved. 19 we can -- because to serve the members, and the 19 MEMBER RAMIREZ: The nonapproval. 20 patients, and the public, is there advice we can give 20 MS. MOODY: And the Department is working on 21 people from a purely technical standpoint, you know, 21 that notification of those individuals. 22 save your work as a PDF or a Word file so it can be 22 We do notify individuals who submit 23 transposed --23 petitions that do not meet the criteria in the Act and 24 MS. MOODY: I think you're doing that now. rules that their petition did not meet, and we also

	Page 93		Page 95
1	_	1	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So we actually
	give them some background information about why it did	2	have two closed sessions. Do we call them back in and
2	not meet the requirements for submission to the Board.	3	then send them back out?
4	So we're working on improving all of those	4	
5	processes. Because, as you are aware, we are learning this, also.	5	MS. MOODY: Mallory and Tina are going to work with the speakers to ensure that they each have
6	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I also want to	6	an opportunity for closed session.
7	call attention to the many inquiries that IDPH gets.	7	MEMBER WEATHERS: But procedurally do we
8	They do much more than what she's saying. They're	8	need to reopen and reclose?
9	probably kind of a therapy session group, as well. So	9	MS. MOODY: No. We will just move from one
10	they are to be very highly commended about the many	10	closed session to the next, and Paula is going to also
11	calls I'm sure you got some pretty upset calls, as	11	capture the audio because according to the Open
12	well, and handling them professionally and with grace	12	Meetings Act for closed session we do need to have an
13	is really that is so important to the success of	13	audio transcript, also. So while the general session
14	this pilot. So I thank you for that. It's not an	14	under the Open Meetings Act does not need to be
15	easy job, I'm sure.	15	verbatim, for a closed session, for closed proceedings
16	MS. MOODY: Well, on behalf of my very	16	we do need a verbatim transcript. So she is going to
17	dedicated staff, I thank you for those comments.	17	set up the audio, and she's going to let us know when
18	MEMBER RAMIREZ: Who would be upset?	18	she's ready to proceed.
19	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: We're not	19	MEMBER CHAMPION: Is that then available on
20	upset. We're fine.	20	the Freedom of Information Act, the closed session?
21	Okay. So we have a slight change in the	21	MS. MOODY: No.
22	order because of one of the speakers who had to	22	MEMBER CHAMPION: So anyone
23	arrange some childcare, and we were going to put	23	MS. MOODY: Closed means actually closed.
24	we're going to put autism at the end, and I hope that	24	However, we do have to have that transcript on file in
	Page 94		Page 96
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1	that works. Is our petition here for autism? Is	1	case there was a legal proceeding.  MEMBER CHAMPION: Someone asked me about
3	Patricia here yet?	2	that because they said they were worried about giving
4	(No response.)  CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Perfect. So	4	testimony because of their job, and I told them I
5	it's good to put her at the end. So I apologize for	5	thought they should request a closed meeting.
6	any inconvenience this causes in the reordering of our	6	MS. MOODY: Yes. That would be accurate. I
7	agenda.	7	do and, again, I'm not a lawyer so I cannot speak
8	So we'll start with irritable bowel	8	specifically. I believe that there are some court
9	syndrome, and we have two closed petitioners.	9	actions whereby a closed session testimony could
10	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Pursuant to 5 ILCS	10	potentially be released, but they're highly specific.
11	120/2 back/2(c)(4), I hereby motion to close this	11	MR. WRIGHT: And if someone is worried,
12	hearing for closed session.	12	those can be sealed for lawyer's eyes only.
13	MEMBER LESKOVEC: Second.	13	MEMBER CHAMPION: It can't be used against
14	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: All in favor.	14	the person?
15	(Ayes heard.)	15	MR. WRIGHT: Right.
16	MS. MOODY: So I would ask everyone to exit	16	MS. MOODY: Now, the transcript, the general
17	the room, and Mallory and Tina will indicate to the	17	transcript so when we work with our court reporter,
18	first speaker for closed session to remain in the	18	we have a general transcript of the open portion of
19	room, please. If everyone else will exit, and then we	19	the meeting and then the closed session transcript,
20	will request that you return to session.	20	and audio is sent to the Department in a separate file
21	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Actually, we	21	so that those two pieces are never together.
22	have two closed sessions.	22	MEMBER RAMIREZ: Now, does the public get
23	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Joe, you can stay.	23	access to the general transcript before it gets
24	MS. MOODY: Staff, absolutely.	24	approved by the Board as official minutes?
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MS. MOODY: No. We do not post that because you need to as a board take action on the minutes, which would be the transcript or general minutes of the hearing or the meeting that we have with you. So I will work with our legal counsel to ensure that when we do post -- now that you have approved the minutes for the May 4th hearing with corrections and with a statement from -- I believe Jim was the only individual who actually made a statement. I'll work with our legal counsel on how to properly showcase that when we move to post those minutes officially.

(Whereupon, at 11:46 a.m., the Board adjourned into executive session, after which the following proceedings were had in public session commencing at 12:12 p.m.)

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: If we could take our seats, we're going to proceed with the open session of irritable bowel syndrome. I think we've got almost everyone in the room, if you could take your seats, and we heard two closed sessions, now we're going to open it up to the next scheduled petitioners.

Am I missing anything?

MS. MOODY: And Paula is ready.

your full name and spell it for the court reporter, please.

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MS. BRAN: My name is Liana Bran. That's L-i-a-n-a, B-r-a-n.

So I do want to thank the Board for allowing me to submit testimony today. To address the proposal that irritable bowel syndrome should be added to the current list of conditions, I must begin by saying that, unfortunately, like many of the conditions presented today, the causes and exact mechanism of irritable bowel syndrome, or IBS, are not well understood.

While, again, there may, of course, be a possibility for future application of specific cannabinoids in the marijuana plant to treat this condition, I provided an article in Practical Gastroenterology, which is a peer-reviewed professional clinical medical journal which maintains that studies on the effect of smoked cannabis on IBS are lacking, as I'm sure you know, and they also add that the overall effects of THC on GI motility in IBS are veritable, and its effect on abdominal pain and visceral sensation is not promising.

Another thing I wanted to point out is that

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 $\label{thm:chair-person} \mbox{ CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Sorry, I didn't ask if you were ready.}$ 

THE COURT REPORTER: It's okay.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So we are going to hear from -- so if everyone would kindly take their seats, I promise lunch is after this. Liana Bran please come up.

MS. MOODY: Just as a reminder to the speakers, I am going to hold up timing signs. So when the one-minute sign goes up, that means you have one minute left to present testimony, 30 seconds at the last 30 seconds.

MS. BRAN: I just wanted to share some of the references I provided so you have it in front of you. Is that okay?

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Yes. We'll add it to our paperwork for this petition. And, again, this is for irritable bowel syndrome.

And thank you to the audience for your patience in waiting for us through the closed session.

MS. BRAN: Good afternoon -- I guess we're

22 there.

23 So I also want to thank the members of the --24 MS. MOODY: Would you please first state the effects of marijuana on the GI system overall are not well understood, and that's evidenced by one of the paradoxical outcomes of hyperemesis that has emerged in some chronic marijuana users, which is cannabis-induced cyclical vomiting syndrome.

I think what most troubles me here is the fact that IBS in practice requires a diagnosis of exclusion. In other words, diagnostic criteria has not been standardized over time, and so there is a potential for a margin of error in their application. As such, there lies the potential for diversion of what is intended to be medical marijuana for personal use.

IBS also ranges in severity and is much too broad to be included as is into the list of chronic conditions. While most people currently are accessing medical marijuana cards for genuine medical purposes, that may quickly change if a fairly common ailment is introduced that lacks robust diagnostic criteria.

And, of course -- I think I have a little bit more time. The intent, of course, of this initiative is around compassion, but I think an important part of the implementation of the program in order to maintain the integrity of the purpose here is

Page 101 Page 103 to make sure it's going to who it's intended to go to. 1 According to ibs.org the cost to society in 1 2 2 terms of direct medical expenses due to the costs And I think it can be problematic in circumstances 3 such as these where -- and other ones where there are 3 associated with loss of productivity is considerable, 4 more broad conditions or it's more subjective and it's 4 and estimates range to \$21 billion or more annually. 5 5 harder for the physician to be able to determine if I've tried many medications and fad diets over the 6 6 there is a cause, and, unfortunately, that's been the years, and while some provide relief over time, there 7 7 is absolutely nothing that is able to give me case in some other states. 8 So, again, for the integrity of the program 8 immediate relief from my symptoms. 9 9 I think that's very important. I think of the 3,000 There's extensive evidence from patients 10 10 cards that have been distributed, one note, I believe with IBS and Crohn's disease and other painful GI 11 about 1,000 of those were given out by one doctor, and 11 disorders that cannabis eases cramping and helps to 12 I question whether he could maintain a relationship 12 modulate diarrhea, constipation, and acid reflux. 13 with all those patients and make sure they're all Recent laboratory research on the endogenous 13 14 14 using it appropriately. cannabinoid system in humans has identified that there 15 15 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for are many cannabinoid receptors located both in the 16 your testimony. 16 large and small intensities. 17 We have next on the list -- I'm sorry if I 17 Cannabis and new cannabinoid drugs are ideal 18 18 mispronounce your name -- Kalee Hooghkirk. for GI treatments because they can address a number of 19 MS. HOOGHKIRK: Hi. My name is Kalee 19 symptoms almost immediately with no side-effects. 20 Hooghkirk; K-e-l-e-e, last name H-o-o-g-h-k-i-r-k. 20 Cannabinoids alter how the gut feels and affects 21 I want to thank the Advisory Board for 21 signals to the brain, send back and forth a gut 22 allowing me to speak on behalf of the irritable bowel 22 modulating action that sends information to the GI 23 23 syndrome. I've suffered with IBS and IBD since birth. tract itself. 24 24 As you may know IBS is a chronic inflammatory disease I'm currently taking four separate Page 102 Page 104 which can cause unpredictable and debilitating medications to treat my variety of systems, and while 1 1 2 2 there are little to no side-effects from cannabis, symptoms. The cause is IBS is unknown and can 3 3 oftentimes be difficult to treat due to a wide range some of the medications I've been prescribed cause 4 4 of uncomfortable and overlapping symptoms that it various musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, and 5 shares with IBD, such as colitis and the already 5 neurological and endocrine disrupting side-effects, 6 approved condition of Crohn's disease. 6 including loss of muscle, appetite, osteoporosis, 7 7 Not only can IBS be difficult to pinpoint peptic ulcers, pancreatitis, and convulsions, and even 8 due to the shared symptoms, but treatments are 8 glaucoma, which is an already approved condition. 9 9 I've been prescribed Bentyl, which causes my extremely unreliable and do not work equally for each 10 10 individual. heart to race and for some can cause seizures and 11 Due to its debilitating nature, I've 11 confusion, vomiting, and blurred vision. Others cause 12 suffered in school and in my work life. Bouts of 12 ulcers, vomiting, and stomach pain, which are all 13 13 nausea and severe acid reflux make eating unbearable symptoms people with my condition already face. We 14 14 and extreme weight fluctuations inevitable. deserve a safer alternative, and we need another 15 15 Spontaneous and rapid cramping of my colon often option. I urge you to continue your support for IBS 16 leaves me paralyzed in pain. Random and painful, 16 and continue recognizing this condition. 17 17 Thank you. itchy rashes plagued my body and have caused permanent 18 18 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for scarring. Frequent and sometimes uncontrollable urges 19 to use the bathroom has caused me to miss so many days 19 your testimony. 20 20 Okay. Mr. Taylor, Jared Taylor. from school that my attendance was once reported to 21 21 the district officials. And even as an adult with MR. TAYLOR: Please, Jared. 22 proper treatments and recommendations from my GI, it 22 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. We know 23 23 still causes me to force cancellations with my clients you now.

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MR. TAYLOR: I don't have a watch on, but

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on a regular basis and even once a visit to the ER.

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good afternoon everyone. My name is Jared Taylor. I come before you to urge your recommendation of the irritable bowel syndrome, IBS, as a qualifying condition to the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

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According to the Mayo Clinic, IBS is a common disorder that affects the large intestine. IBS commonly causes cramping, abdominal pain, bloating, gas, diarrhea, and constipation. It affects between 25 and 45 million Americans, and it's estimated to affect 1 in 10 people worldwide. IBS is a chronic condition that will require long-term management.

There's no known cause of IBS. In a normal functioning adult an individual's intestines contract and relax in coordinated rhythm as food is moved from the stomach, through the intestinal tract, to the rectum. With IBS the contractions may be stronger and last longer, causing gas, bloating, and diarrhea. It is also possible that the contractions may be weaker, which will slow food passage.

These poorly coordinated signals between the brain and the intestines can make the body over react to normal changes in the digestive process. The overreaction can cause pain, diarrhea, or constipation.

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study titled "Cannabinoids and Intestinal Motility: Welcome to CB2 Receptors." This study found that cannabinoids which are found in cannabis inhibit gastric and intestinal motility through the activation of enteric CB1 receptors. In plain English, the use of cannabis slows down the digestion process for those with IBS by activating receptors in the intestine.

IBS has no cure and modern medicine does not have an explanation for its occurrence. The symptoms that this disease causes are painful and inconvenient for those afflicted with IBS. Cannabis is a proven medicine that can help to better regulate the digestive process for those with IBS, and it is effective in managing the pain IBS causes.

I must add, however, that there is no such thing as marijuana, only the cannabis sativa plant exists, and there are other ways to ingest cannabis other than smoking, such as edibles, tinctures, and oils.

While I myself do not have irritable bowel syndrome, I urge the Illinois Medical Cannabis Advisory Board to recommend IBS for addition to the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program. This is truly a debilitating and should be a qualifying condition.

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While many people have signs and symptoms of IBS, there are four distinct groups that have a higher risk of IBS, those under the age of 45, females who are twice as likely to have the condition, those with a family history of IBS, and those who have a mental health problem such as anxiety, depression, or personality disorders.

While it's not clear as to what causes IBS, treatment options focus on the relief of symptoms. Dietary changes that alleviated symptoms of individuals with IBS include eliminating high-gas foods such as broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower, and eliminating gluten. There are few medications that are currently approved for IBS: Alosetron and Amitiza. Alosetron relaxes the colon to slow the movement of waste. It can only be prescribed by doctors enrolled in a special program, and it is not approved for use by men. Amitiza works by increasing fluid secretion in the small intestine to help with the passage of stool. Its effectiveness in men is not proven, and its side-effects include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal pain (which are the symptoms of IBS that this medication is trying to prevent).

In 2004 the University of Naples conducted a

Thank you for your time. And God bless the State of Illinois.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you, Mr. Taylor, and thank you to all of you who have had the courage to come tell us your personal stories. We appreciate that and take that to heart.

So we open up the comments from the Board regarding IBS.

MEMBER WEATHERS: I would like to make a comment about Ms. Brown's testimony. I recognize her concerns that it is a difficult diagnosis to make; it is a diagnosis of exclusion. However, just to point out that most of the time what is in the differential is IBD, irritable bowel disorders --

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Inflammatory. MEMBER WEATHERS: Inflammatory. Thank you -which are already approved conditions. So either way the diagnostic dilemma would be between IBS, which is under discussion, versus something that is already approved.

MEMBER MC CURDY: I would like to raise some questions about the sources that we were given just because --

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Could you turn

Page 109 Page 111 is a very hard-to-treat condition. As people have 1 your mic on? 1 2 MEMBER MC CURDY: Is it on now? 2 spoken to, there are very limited treatments which can 3 The first article we had, as I'm recalling 3 be quite debilitating, meaning sometimes more 4 it, was about inflammatory bowel disease. But, also, 4 frustrating for people because there isn't a way to 5 5 all of the articles seemed to be either about studies diagnostically confirm it. So I still feel there's 6 6 done on mice on studies done that looked at the significant value. 7 7 I know we're concerned about the lack of physiological or pharmacological mechanisms within 8 people but no trials on humans that I saw. 8 evidence, but, again, it goes back to the fact of this 9 So I guess I would wonder if any of you has 9 being a Category I. It's a little bit we kind of get 10 10 other sources or if I misread some of the sources that into a spiral where we know that there's not going to 11 we have. 11 be sufficient evidence. For all of us in what we do, 12 MEMBER MILLER: I just want to raise some 12 we believe very strongly, the clinicians on the Board, 13 concerns, as well. The disease process on the table 13 about the need for evidence that's based in studies. 14 14 is irritable bowel syndrome, and there's a difference Kind of what comes first, until this is approved, 15 15 between irritable bowel syndrome and the inflammatory we're not going to be able to have the data that 16 processes that Allison has already mentioned were 16 we want. 17 17 So I think at some point we're saying it's already approved. 18 18 Irritable bowel syndrome does not usually compassionate use and we still feel that there could 19 occur with the inflammatory process that Crohn's and 19 be significant benefit, and I do think there could be 20 ulcerative colitis, and IBD has, and that is defined 20 absolutely with this drug. 21 21 by Mayo Clinic and several other clinical resources MEMBER LESKOVEC: Yes, I have a question 22 that are based on evidence. 22 about the material that was provided by the speaker. 23 23 The other issue I have is with the articles I'm unable to find the citation for this document, 24 that we were provided. The articles -- the first 24 Practical Gastroenterology. Page 112 Page 110 article, "Beneficial Effect of the Nonpsychotropic 1 MS. BRAN: Yes. I apologize. I provided 1 2 the link on the original statement of intent, but this 2 Plant Cannabinoid," that study was placed on IBD, not 3 3 IBS. So it was looking at Crohn's and ulcerative was produced I think in 2014. 4 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Anything else, 4 colitis, that disease process that has the inflammatory 5 process, which is not IBS. 5 Jacqueline? 6 MEMBER LESKOVEC: No. 6 That also then leads to my other question or 7 7 concern is the other study was on rats, animals and CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Jim? 8 8 MEMBER CHAMPION: I was just going to say 9 9 that I know firsthand how cannabis can help stomach MEMBER WEATHERS: Can I clarify my point? I 10 10 problems, as I have a multitude of them. As a matter guess the point that I was making is to address that 11 one of the concerns that the speaker brought up was 11 of fact, I'm dealing with a very serious stomach 12 that this could be misdiagnosed. 12 ailment right now. 13 13 My point is if it's -- the only other really Cannabis allows me to maintain -- cannabis 14 14 big diagnostic category is IBD. So I'm not as relaxes my digestive tract and allows me to maintain a 15 15 concerned as a physician even if I misdiagnose IBS as healthy diet. Often I know this to be true when I'm 16 IBD that's still approved. I actually feel that this 16 in the hospital at Hines, and I'm there a week or 17 17 two without my cannabis, I actually lose weight on a should be approved. I guess my point is by just 18 18 regular basis. I don't know if it's spinal cord saying, okay it's IBS are you missing something more

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injury or disease or what it is, but food is just not

And like I said, I have a multitude of

gives me unparalleled relief that I've yet to find in

a medication that comes near to relaxing the digestive

stomach problems, and I'm having one now, but cannabis

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appetizing for me.

anvwav.

serious. Well, if I'm missing something more serious,

and voted for it. I agree this is a very -- although,

we don't see inflammatory changes, we know that this

that's on me, and that's something that we've approved

I know we discussed this at length last time

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1 tract as cannabis does.

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CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I appreciate that. And I know, Jim, I know you're not feeling well. So I acknowledge he's going through a challenging time. And let us know you if you need anything, and thank you for being here.

I, also, hear Ms. Bran's concerns, and from my evidence-based mind, and my compassionate mind, my common sense clinician, what's going to work and make my patient happy, and I have to balance all of that out.

I did want to point to, ves, there is a cannabis -- the hyperemesis syndrome where people throw up because of cannabis, and I want to point out this is not some freebie medicine that doesn't have side-effects. It does have a lower risk of addiction but it's there; it's not zero. We recognize that.

I think we have to call out that there are risks to everything we do, but you put that scale of risk and compare it to the other alternatives. Then I turn to this medicine for a select group of patients I see with IBS, and the fact that there is CBD, Cannabidiol available, which is primarily focused on your CB2 receptors, should not affect the brain.

1 evidence base for the symptoms that do lead to

- irritable bowel syndrome, but no, we probably don't
- 3 have a ton of -- I didn't see human studies on IBS.
- 4 So, well, then how come fibromyalgia is on the list,
- 5 too? There are 39 other conditions that if we were to 6 put a microscope on them and reevaluate everything,

7 there's going to be some stuff on there we're going to 8 cross off, and I don't think that's a good idea at

9 all. So we're putting a microscope on these new 10 conditions because they weren't there before.

> So I wanted to see if there are any other comments.

MEMBER WEATHERS: Can I make one more -- I don't know what got me on this one. But just to add on, one of the other concerns that was raised was about the incidence of this condition compared to some of the others, and the volume of people, and now the clinicians. And I think as a Board we still need to be very clear in the work we're doing that -- and we said this last time, but just reiterate that we still expect -- this is still a medical decision between the patient and their provider, and we expect each case to be carefully evaluated on its own merits.

24 Every patient is different. We're just

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There are actually no or maybe a minimal amount of cannabinoid receptors in the brain stem which causes respiratory depression. That's why people can die of not breathing anymore from opioids. Cannabis doesn't have that.

So when I start looking at the microbiology of all of this, I did see in one of the articles provided from a symptoms perspective, there is good evidence base on nausea and vomiting, which was one of the features of one of our speakers up here that it works on your 5-HT3 receptor antagonists.

So do I call that, well, that's good for cancer-related anorexia and vomiting due to chemotherapy and just say it's only good for that? How come it can't be useful for nausea from other causes, i.e., ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome.

So we have to also take a broader view of all of these conditions. Yes, they are difficult to prove. Like I said before, you're not going to get the kind of research that I want to see as an astute academic clinician. I have learned to accept that -do you want to close the doors -- it's okay.

So I want to point out that there is an

giving people the potential to have that conversation. I know -- and I have the same concern about some of the names, physicians names, but I don't think the Board is here to make a decision based on the concern about some individual physicians not practicing appropriately. I think that's a really dangerous path to go down. I mean, we're giving tools and we expect people to practice responsibly and ethically and on the merits of what they feel each patient is appropriate for.

MEMBER RAMIREZ: I have a comment on the lack of evidence. Part of the fact that we don't have evidence is it's very hard to obtain legitimately. There's a lot of FDA problems and paperwork. So part of the lack of evidence is not because there's no patients or no marijuana; it's the fact that we cannot obtain it legally for research purposes.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: David. MEMBER MC CURDY: I think all these points are well taken. And I want to make a distinction related to something that Dr. Mendoza Temple said. I am inclined to take the word of my

clinical colleague who knows a lot more about this stuff than I do in terms of practice that there are

Page 119 Page 117 1 reasons why physicians should be able to recommend --1 MS. MOODY: So the time period is indeed 2 I guess you can't prescribe but to recommend this for 2 stated and that's actually -- what the Act says is the 3 their patients. 3 Department will approve or deny a petition within 4 So I'd be inclined to vote for the condition 4 180 days after its submission, and then what we've 5 5 on that basis. But I do think that it's a little added as part of the rule is during the biannual touchy to be making -- the criteria that, well, you 6 6 petition period. 7 7 know, other conditions are in the law for which there And we strive to meet those deadlines, but 8 may not be a lot of evidence either, but the statute 8 as you all know, we move in the real world. 9 9 has already anointed them as acceptable conditions. MEMBER WEATHERS: I still -- going back to 10 I don't know that that means that we should 10 the earlier discussion, and I defer to Dr. Wright, but 11 lower the standard that we apply because the law 11 given the fact that it wasn't on the merits of each --12 includes some conditions that we might actually 12 the decision made on each condition but under the 13 question more than some of these. I think we still 13 overall directive of the veto, does that allow for 14 need to try to keep to a standard that we establish 14 kind of interpretation or room for saying that once 15 15 that may be apart from what we think might have been that decision is changed, the previous recommendations 16 in the drafters of the statute. 16 of the committee will be reconsidered given that it 17 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Other comments? 17 wasn't that, you know -- I think it was an unusual 18 (No response.) 18 situation in the way that it was denied because of the CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I suggest we 19 19 veto rather than the individual merits of each one. 20 make a motion. 20 MS. MOODY: And the Act itself states -- and 21 21 MEMBER RAMIREZ: I move that we vote. I'm going to quote from Section 45 within the Act. So 22 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second. 22 that's statutory language, not the Department's 23 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Conny, did you 23 procedural rules but statutory language. Section 45, 24 24 want to go over some of the discussion that we had, or "Addition of Debilitating Medical Conditions" states Page 120 Page 118 do you want to wait until lunch? that, "The approval or denial of any petition is a 1 1 2 MS. MOODY: That would be fine. Whatever 2 final decision of the Department." 3 3 your preference would be. So that does lead us then to look at our CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Why don't we do 4 4 administrative rules as the submission of a new 5 it while most people are here. 5 petition during an open petition period is required 6 6 MS. MOODY: Okay. So one of the issues that even if -- there is no limitation in our rules to how 7 7 was brought up was the need for an explicit and many times a petition can be submitted for a specific 8 detailed justification for the decision made by the 8 medical condition. 9 9 Department for the fact that the director did not Does that answer your question? 10 approve the May 4th -- the petitions recommended by 10 MEMBER WEATHERS: It does. Thank you. 11 the Board at the May 4th petition hearing. 11 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: So, Conny, do you think 12 And I wanted to point out for the Board --12 it's a good time now to tell people that if this same 13 because that was one of your questions -- and I wanted 13 thing happens again that everybody filing a petition 14 14 to point out that both the rules and the Act simply should maintain copies of their petitions? They are 15 state that the director will render a final decision 15 going to need to be refiled, but if it's not decided 16 regarding the acceptance or denial of the proposed 16 by the time that the deadline arises for the petition 17 17 debilitating medical conditions or diseases, and to be refiled, it would make sense to submit it. And 18 that's both in statute and also in our rules. 18 then if the condition approved, it will be disregarded. 19 So I believe a comment was made that there 19 But if the condition is denied, it will be back in 20 was a requirement, a statutory requirement for 20 line again to be approved. 21 21 justification, but neither in the Act or in the Unfortunately, you'll probably have to come 22 administrative rules is that found to be true. 22 back and testify again, and we'll all have to sit here 23 MEMBER WEATHERS: Is the time period, 23 and say the same thing again. But the point is, that's 24 though, stated? 24 the only way to maintain the integrity of this process

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and to keep your space in line for it to keep being heard again. And hopefully at some point somebody will hear us, and we can go forward from there.

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MS. MOODY: What's very important, though, for petitioners to note is that we would be looking for a petition to be filed during that 30-day open petition period.

So if a petition is filed with the Department, submitted to the Department during, for example, the July 1 to July 30th time frame, and it is dated 2014, for example -- and I'm using that as an example only -- we would have to deny that petition outright because it was not submitted --

VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: So it needs to be current dated at that point. So, in other words, you don't have to start from scratch. It's simply whiting out the date, putting in a new date, and signing it, and that would bring it to the place it needs to be.

MS. MOODY: No whiting out, no crossing out. We would like a clean, new petition to be submitted.

21 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: So clean, new petition 22 to be resubmitted.

MEMBER WEATHERS: And one more point of clarification. If the conditions are approved, they

those who have not been approved or those which have been approved, you've got a second chance.

MEMBER MC CURDY: So petitioners or would-be petitioners should please note that we've become an advisory board in a second sense, advising petitioners as well as the Director. So I think it will work.

MEMBER CHAMPION: I think the petitioners have done a very good job themselves.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I have a question, too, after you tally the votes, Conny.

What would be the process as we are collecting patient's stories and we want to make a great case that the pilot act is working and everyone is getting what they need? How would they direct that information? Is it a letter written to IDPH? And I know she's tallying.

MEMBER WEATHERS: Sorry. We can repeat that in a minute.

MS. MOODY: If you'll let me do my math first. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Do your math first, but maybe for the group, the more stories and testimonies you can provide, that's what's going to help propel this project forward. Because if nobody says it's great, or they only hear bad things, then

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don't need to -- the condition is already -- we don't need to rehear it.

MS. MOODY: So what we would do is we would discuss that with the Board, and we would indicate we have received these valid petitions, and we are going to recommend that since they are already approved, if that were the case, that they not be added to our agenda. And we would notify the petitioner of that.

VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Fabulous. Thank you. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Jacqueline. MEMBER LESKOVEC: We don't see the petitions that have been rejected. So, basically, they don't meet the criteria that's been set forth by the Department. But for those of you who have been with us since the last time we met, what I've seen here is quite an improved documentation provided with the

diseases and disorders. And although I haven't done a formal study, I would suspect that we're seeing a lot more research being done in the area.

So even if your condition has been approved by -- has been recommended by the Board to move forward, you also have the opportunity to increase your support for your disease or disorder and to improve your documentation, and, therefore, either for

the evaluation for the success of the pilot act is 1 2 really going to hinge on what's the feedback.

MEMBER WEATHERS: To form it another way -and I know that's not what we're tasked with -- what are the metrics for the program?

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I can announce the vote first, and then we'll go to that subject.

So for the condition of the irritable bowel syndrome, the vote was 8 yes and 2 no. So it passes.

VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Again.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Again. So we should probably give Conny a chance to hear the questions.

We were talking about collecting the patient's -- what's the best way for the public to give their feedback that, "This is working now; the pilot act is working; I went to my dispensary; I had a great experience; my pain is better," et cetera, et cetera?

MS. MOODY: So I think that that is a very good guestion.

As you know, the data that the Department is collecting is primarily their data on the number of patients, the types of conditions, the locations where

	Page 125		Perc 127
	Page 125		Page 127
1	those patients reside in the State of Illinois. There	1	MEMBER PARIKH: Six.
2	is not a true mechanism to collect effectiveness data.	2	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: The names I
3	So I think that we would encourage patients	3	have for this condition are Jonathan Byrne, Zach
4	to continue to tell their stories at hearings such as	4	Cutrara is Jonathan here?
5	this, to reach out to our department, to reach out to	5	MR. BYRNE: That's me right here.
6	their legislators, to reach out to the policy and	6	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: And Zach, okay.
7	decision makers, the advocacy groups here in the state	7	Joel Erickson, Jared Taylor, Liana Bran.
8	to tell their stories about the benefits that they feel	8	Am I missing anyone else?
9	they are receiving from medical cannabis as the program	9	MEMBER WEATHERS: Christopher Amos?
10	continues to move forward with its implementation.	10	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Did I get
11	But I mean, telling the story. I mean, that's	11	everyone who is signed in? Because I have another
12	something that we do in public health all the time	12	speaker who wishes to come forward.
13	because a lot of the programs that we implement, at	13	MEMBER WEATHERS: I don't think they can
14	the very beginning they're just a kernel of an idea in	14	do that.
15	somebody's mind that it might be effective. We rely	15	MS. MOODY: So it would be at the discretion
16	on the evidence base, and building that evidence base	16	of the chairpersons if they wish to allow public
17	is predicated on hearing those stories, learning that.	17	comment at the end of the hearing. But for the
18	And, also, professionals, clinicians like	18	conditions for the petitions we're hearing we can
19	yourselves and it's not just the State of Illinois,	19	only accept those who submitted a request to provide
20	but the Federal government needs to hear these	20	technical evidence.
21	stories, also. You have talked a lot today about the	21	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay.
22	need for more research, and as you know, in order for	22	MS. MOODY: So at the very end.
23	us in the United States to obtain an opportunity to	23	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. At the
24	research medical cannabis, we will require changes in	24	very end of the hearing, after we hear autism, we will
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1	Federal law, also. So it's really not just here at	1	open up time for additional public comments because I
2	the State of Illinois but also at the Federal level	2	know there are some people who would like to present.
3	that the voices need to be heard.	3	Why don't we go ahead and start with
4	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. So thank	4	Jonathan Byrne.
5	you for your patience. I hope you're not getting too	5	MS. MOODY: And, Jonathan, while you're
6	hypoglycemic.	6	setting up, you remember the drill that I'll hold up
7	MEMBER WEATHERS: Make a motion we adjourn	7	one minute after you have one minute left to speak
8	for lunch.	8	and at 30 seconds left.
9	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.	9	MR. BYRNE: Okay. Good afternoon. My name
10	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: All right.	10	is Jonathan Byrne. I did two combat tours in Iraq. I
11	Let's adjourn for lunch. We're going to try to power	11	conducted operations out of Djibouti, Africa, for the
12	through it and come back in 30 minutes, which I know	12	Marine Corps. I conducted training and humanitarian
13	means different things for different people, but at	13	missions in a dozen other countries.
14	1:30 we'll come back here with posttraumatic stress	14	I'm not here to discuss what you guys can
15	disorder and then autism.	15	do. I think that would be insulting. I'm here to
16	(Recess taken, 12:51 p.m. to 1:35 p.m.)	16	tell you what I have to offer you in experience and
17	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: If we could	17	what I've seen.
18	kindly take our seats. We have two more conditions to	18	I have 33 pages worth of medications that
19	discuss, so we'll take a moment while we settle in.	19	the VA has prescribed to me in the last six years
20	We're going to talk about posttraumatic	20	since I've been in Chicago. It's had a lot of
21	stress disorder, a condition we discussed in May. We	21	detrimental illnesses and things to my health, you
22	have four signed-in speakers is that correct	22	know. I've had four ultrasounds done on my liver due
23	five. They're all open; correct?	23	to being overdosed on Tylenol-based medications or
24	MS. MOODY: Yes.	24	aspirin-based medications, mostly hydrocodone 10/325.

Page 129 Page 131 1 for your service, by the way. 1 I was up to eight a day for almost eight years. 2 2 During that time I constantly cut myself off Anyway, I'm Zach Cutrara. I'm an 3 and supplemented most of the time illegally with 3 entrepreneur trying to get into the industry. 4 marijuana, and I found a lot of relief from the pain 4 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Can you spell 5 5 symptoms. But a lot of this ties together with -- I your name for the reporter? 6 6 have multiple symptoms for PTSD, IBS, chronic pain. MR. CUTRARA: Yeah. Sorry. Zach, Z-a-c-h, 7 7 So a lot of this is going to overlap, and I hope that and Cutrara, C-u-t-r-a-r-a. 8 that's okay with you guys. Do you want me to 8 So I've been getting my foot in the door and 9 9 specifically focus on PTSD, or can I kind of run more often been trying to pursue my passion as much as 10 10 everything together? I can, so that's why I'm here today. And it's all 11 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: However it 11 about the patients and all about the health and to 12 works for you. 12 really help them as much as you can with any kinds of 13 13 MR. BYRNE: All right. Because there's a alternative medication, especially, obviously, 14 14 whole slew. I could go specifically with PTSD, but medicinal marijuana. 15 15 all the medications kind of blend together in this one. Anyway, so I found some medical journals and 16 Due to one of my PTSD medications, the VA 16 articles online that have been conducted by certain 17 17 prescribed me a 10 milligram pill when I was supposed types of like investigations and trials and stuff. So 18 to be taking a 1 milligram pill. I was taking two of 18 I found one online that was a study for oil THC for 19 those a day, and due to the overdose, I had aseptic 19 PTSD. So the method to do it was they had 10 patients 20 meningitis. I spent three days on the couch face 20 with chronic PTSD. You know, the things that they've 21 21 down; all I could do was lay on my stomach with my seen are severe and they needed -- they needed to have 22 hands to my side, felt like I had a vice grip on the 22 some kind of alternative medication. And as the 23 23 back of my neck. I actually figured that out. person said before me, you know, pills have severely 24 24 I've had stomach ulcers. This is six years taken an effect on him. So the possibility is there. Page 132 Page 130 worth of my treatment records. You know, I got 1 So anyway, the method for that was they had 1 2 alcohol abuse mixed in with my medications. So it 2 10 patients take 5 milligrams of THC twice a day as an 3 3 burned my stomach up, caused a lot of erratic behavior add-on treatment. So the results for that were -- had 4 three -- there were mild adverse effects to three 4 and got me in a lot of trouble. It's had a lot of 5 effect on my family. I've had to explain to my 5- and 5 patients. So 70 percent were affected, but none of 6 6 7-year-old kids why Daddy's got to go and take his this led to treatment discontinuation and has not had 7 7 walkabouts and go out with his friends and get away a severe impact on them. 8 8 from the family sometimes because I can't control my So it says on here the intervention caused 9 9 symptoms based off the medications that the VA significant improvement in global symptom severity, 10 10 prescribes me. sleep quality, frequency of nightmares, and PTSD-type 11 11 symptoms. So if this can improve pain, and if this So, in turn, what it comes down to is 12 medicinal marijuana alleviates a lot of these symptoms 12 can have the possibility of reducing nightmares that 13 13 and a lot of the things that these medications do to these people have -- you know, the things that they've 14 14 your body, and I think that that should be offered to seen affects them for their whole life. So if they 15 15 the veterans. Because all the VA medications do is can prevent, you know, the pain and suffering through 16 they break down your body even further and shorten 16 sleep quality or lack of nightmares, that'd be great. 17 17 And the conclusion was just, once again, it your life span. 18 18 was safe and it helped. So I appreciate the time and thank you guys. 19 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. 19 I got another journal on here and --20 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Thanks for your service. 20 MS. MOODY: I'm sorry. But that's the end 21 21

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of your three-minute time frame.

your testimony.

MR. CUTRARA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for

Zach Cutrara.

your service.

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CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for

MR. CUTRARA: Hello everybody. Thank you

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1 Joel Erickson.

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MR. ERICKSON: Good afternoon. It's Joel Erickson; J-o-e-l, E-r-i-c-k-s-o-n.

Good afternoon. I'm Joel Erickson. I'm an 80 percent disabled Air Force veteran with serviceconnected PTSD due to a TBI with postconcussion syndrome.

I have tried prescription treatments for my symptoms. I spent a week in the hospital to deal with suicidal ideation I did not have prior to taking Zoloft and have not had since I stopped taking it, and I continue to refuse taking it each time it is offered to me, along with other SSRIs I have had significant adverse side-effects to.

Let me be clear. PTSD affects civilians as well as members of the military. But for veterans who could benefit from cannabis and who rely on the VA for their healthcare, the Federal interference that keeps doctors from having honest and open conversations with their patients continues.

I'm thankful that the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program delivers on Illinois' promise of "State Sovereignty, National Union" when it comes to taking care of its veterans when Federal policies fail,

endocannabinoid deficiency. Please consider the study entitled "PTSD Symptom Reports of Patients Evaluated for the New Mexico Cannabis Program" which states that patients reported over a 75 percent reduction in three areas of PTSD symptoms, which were reexperiencing, avoidance, and arousal while using cannabis. The symptoms covered by these three categories include

available science is that PTSD is caused due to an

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8 9 anxiety, difficulty obtaining restorative sleep due to 10 nightmares, persistent avoidance of reminders of 11 trauma, and an exaggerated startle response.

A 75 percent reduction in all of these areas isn't a 75 percent increase in quality of life, but it would go a long way to helping treat the invisible wounds of PTSD and reducing the number of Illinois

Thank you.

veterans who take their lives.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Jared. VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: There's a sandwich back there with your name on it.

MR. TAYLOR: Good afternoon. My named is Jared Taylor. I'm here to urge the Medical Cannabis Advisory Board to recommend posttraumatic stress disorder, PTSD, as a qualifying condition for the

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Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

about the event.

The Mayo Clinic defines PTSD as a mental health condition that is triggered by a terrifying event, either experiencing it or witnessing it. Symptoms of PTSD may include flashbacks, nightmares, and severe anxiety, as well as uncontrollable thoughts

PTSD is not limited to members of the military, although, this topic gets heavy exposure in the media. PTSD can affect anyone, and according to the US Department of Veterans' Affairs, about 7 or 8 out of every 100 people will have PTSD at some point in the their lives. Also, according to the VA, about 8 million adults have PTSD during a given year, and about 1 out of every 100 women develop PTSD sometime during life their lifetime in comparison to roughly 4 out of every 100 men.

According to the VA, 11 to 20 out of every 100 veterans served in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Endurance Freedom have PTSD, as well as approximately 12 percent of Gulf War and 15 percent of Vietnam War veterans experience PTSD during their lifetime. The VA currently reports that 721,575 veterans reside in the state of Illinois out of a population of

especially when conservative estimates are that 22 veterans take their lives each day. Giving vets the ability to legally choose cannabis instead of pills for relief is commendable, and I see other states looking at Illinois' example for veterans when crafting their medical cannabis programs. If I can ask you for a moment to imagine a

Venn diagram. Over in this circle is TBI with postconcussion syndrome. Over in the circle is PTSD. There is a frequent but not quite understood connection between the two, and it's not uncommon for some overlap in terms of symptoms.

In my case, as far as the VA is concerned, there's almost complete overlap between the two. Meaning it's difficult to tell the difference between the two based on symptoms, so it's possible to have PTSD without a TBI. This is important because PTSD is not a condition that only affects military members. It also affects civilians who have never stepped foot into combat, but their struggles are the result of the most personal kinds of terrorism that include rape, domestic violence, and other forms of abuse, and the outcomes in terms of symptoms are the same.

A very concise overview of the currently

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12.8 million residents. That's approximately 5 percent of the population of the state of Illinois.

Now, Dr. Raphael Mechoulam is an Israeli scientist who first discovered THC as the active psychoactive compound in cannabis. Decades later Dr. Mechoulam discovered the human brain's endocannabinoid system and the endogenous neurotransmitter anandamide. Dr. Mechoulam believed that the cannabinoid system is integrally related to memory, including memory distinction, which is the normal, healthy process of removing associations from stimuli. Cannabis can therefore help to aid memory extinction by reducing association with an individual's association with stimuli such as loud noises or PTSD.

I just want to let everyone know that all today's petitioners, whether PTSD or not, were received by the Department of Public Health on August 5th, 2015. The Department of Public Health, according to the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act 410 ILCS 130, under Subsection 40, "The Department shall approve or deny a petition within 180 days of its submission."

The Illinois Department of Public Health failed to meet this deadline earlier this year, and

as substance abuse professionals. So my goal today is to share with you some perspectives on medical marijuana and some of these conditions that I feel represent a pretty wide consensus in this field.

So a lot of the testimony I've been providing is based on what I feel are reliable sources of informational studies, but I also want to pause for a moment to give some personal experience, as well, related to mental illness and the use of medical marijuana.

So a close family member of mine does have schizophrenia. He started using marijuana at a very young age, and while no one can say for sure that was the cause of his mental illness, there is very good evidence that would suggest that schizophrenia and marijuana use, as well as some other mental illness are linked.

Even after he was diagnosed, he continued like so many others to self-medicate, and it wasn't until his mental health provider found out and told him to stop that he really did better. At that time, when he was abusing marijuana is when he was hearing the most voices, and since then he has progressed significantly. So for me it really makes no sense

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this is both frustrating and disrespectful to patients, especially Illinois veterans. While PTSD can affect anyone who has experienced a traumatic event, PTSD disproportionately affects our veterans.

Because of the debilitating conditions that PTSD causes, I urge the Advisory Aboard to affirm its May 4th recommendation of PTSD as a qualifying condition to the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program. The State of Illinois and its administration should recognize, respect, and honor the service that Illinois veterans have given to our nation with regard to their personal safety.

Thank you for your time. God bless the State of Illinois.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. And we have Liana Bran.

MS. BRAN: Hello again. I am Liana Bran; L-i-a-n-a, B-r-a-n. Forgive me. I last time forgot to properly introduce myself. I just want to give a bit more background.

21 While not a medical expert, I have the 22 benefit of directing a substance through workplace 23 program which has given me the benefit of working with 24 a lot of substance abuse treatment providers, as well that we should be recommending that people experiencing mental illness should be relying upon this treatment that has been shown to produce shortand long-term effects on mental health outcomes.

I have to return again to PTSD and echo what the American Psychological Association and numerous mental health professionals are saying, which is that there is insufficient research to support the use of medical marijuana for PTSD. Other studies have also since produced evidence that actually suggests potential for harm, finding that the initiation of marijuana use after treatment was actually associated with worse PTSD systems, more violent behavior, and more alcohol use. Marijuana may actually worsen PTSD symptoms or nullify the benefits of proven specialized intensive treatment. So we're not just talking about whether it's effective; we're actually coming to the point where we're seeing that it has the potential to cause harm.

Department of Veteran Affairs also acknowledges that PTSD -- I'm sorry -- that they also back this position that there's insufficient evidence to support using medical marijuana to treat PTSD and also demonstrate a greater risks for individuals with

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Page 141 1 PTSD to abuse marijuana and also have difficulty 1 2 recovering from addiction. And I provided some 2 3 statistics about the increasing number of individuals 3 4 with PTSD and cannabis use -- symptoms related to use 4 5 5 of cannabis. 6 6 Unfortunately, the state of science means 7 7 that a lot of the medical applications are not yet 8 ready, but we really have no concept of the long-term 8 9 9 effects of this even if it may alleviate some 10 10 short-term effects, and I don't feel we should be 11 experimenting with some of our most vulnerable and 11

respected members of society to see the outcomes. MS. MOODY: Thank you for your testimony. CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you for everyone's testimony on PTSD. So we open up comments to the Board.

MEMBER CHAMPION: If the military can give a person a discharge for PTSD, I feel it should be recognized and covered by our program. The evidence in support of cannabis as an effective treatment for PTSD is overwhelming, as stated by some of our witness veterans who assign suicide rates due to PTSD as high as 22 per day or 8,000 per year. That's more people than we lost in the war itself.

We'll vote.

For our last topic, the last condition to evaluate is autism and we have three -- no, we have three speakers present for that. Just one last call for Mark Brouwer.

(No response.)

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. So there are open petitions from Liana Bran and Patricia Ihm.

So we'll wait for the vote.

MEMBER CHAMPION: I'm pleased to once again announce that PTSD has once again passed by a unanimous vote of 10 to nothing. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay. With that, we are switching gears to a condition that we have not entertained before, autism, and we will start with Ms. Liana Bran.

MS. BRAN: Thank you for letting me present my testimony today. As concerns the proposal of adding autism to the list of debilitating conditions, I again want to begin by reminding the Board that the American Psychiatric Association does not support the use of marijuana for the treatment of any psychiatric disorder. In fact, in an official statement from the

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PTSD affects -- my data shows over 30 percent of all Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan veterans. PTSD in all forms should be approved, but we especially owe it to our veterans.

Also, I'd like to attest that, as Jonathan was speaking to the over- and under-prescribing medications from the Hines VA, the Federal government. I have more than a handful of horror stories myself where they have messed up the medications. I've actually overdosed on methadone twice not by my own fault.

So I can certainly attest to the overprescribing of opiates and the reckless way they do it. In fact, sometimes when they should be giving you one dose, they give you another dose, and they don't find it until, you know, you're all crimped up in a corner. So I have more than a handful of stories, so I can attest to that, Jonathan.

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20 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. 21 Other comments from the Board?

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MEMBER WEATHERS: Motion to vote.

23 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Okay.

1 APA they assert that current evidence supports at 2 minimum a strong association of cannabis use with the 3 onset of psychiatric disorders, and adolescents are 4 particularly vulnerable to harm, given the effects on 5 neurological development. And I think that that is 6 the most important part of that because I'm assuming 7 the addition of this particular condition is going to 8 include a lot of young folks whose minds, whose brains 9 have not had the opportunity to develop.

A recent study I provided in the Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics also reviewed the available research and concluded given the scarcity of data cannabis cannot be safely recommended for the treatment of developmental or behavioral disorders at this time. It cites, also, a growing body of research that points to the role of marijuana use contributing to abnormal brain development.

Again, this is coming -- this initiative is coming from a point of compassion, but there's also that kind of landmark study that showed that young people who were chronic marijuana users actually had a significant increase in -- significant and irreversible decrease in IQ actually. So, again, as a complex developmental disorder, does it make sense that with

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so little evidence we should incorporate a treatment that has been shown to actually produce altered brain development?

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Furthermore, autism spectrum disorder is now defined by the American Psychiatric Association DSM-V as a single disorder that includes disorders that were previously considered separate. So it's therefore characterized by a wide range of symptoms and severity that should be considered separately.

Again, I want to conclude that by suggesting that potential applications for medical use of marijuana do exist, and according to clinicaltrials.gov, which is a resource provided by the NIH, there are over 197 studies being conducted on THC alone, many of which are examining the benefits. So the answers are being researched, and the practice of safe, responsible medicine requires that we do wait for some more results.

In the meantime, given the further implications for brain development that marijuana entails and the fact that the causes of autism are not well understood, there's just too great a risk of actually exacerbating the conditions for individuals with autism.

single day.

We know that people with autism are often in a state of sensory overload. Experiences are more intense, louder, scarier, more painful, often intolerable. I've seen anecdotal studies of children close in age to my son with similar behaviors who seem to get better almost overnight when allowed the chance to have medical cannabis.

With Ethan, there are extraordinary swings of angst, fear, and aggression, and in the other direction flashes of brilliance and uncanny cleverness to outsmart a university scholar on a good day. The days where the brilliance outweighs the angst, those are the days we relish. We adore him. We're exhausted on all the days, but he's brought to us intangible things that we didn't even know we needed.

Ethan at 7 has been through two psychiatric hospitalizations when the behaviors became too overwhelming. His therapeutic day school has now brought on a behavioral analyst to help with his programming. I learned yesterday at his IP meeting that my son had more restraints, physical restraints during the last calendar year than anyone else at the school.

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Last point. No other state has included this in their list of debilitating conditions. So we would be the first.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. Ms. Patricia Ihm.

MS. IHM: Good afternoon. My name is Patricia Ihm. The last name is I-h-m. I'm a mom to nine, and one of my children has autism. This is Ethan right here.

I'm learning more on this parenting journey than I ever expected to learn. Honestly I really don't want to learn all this stuff. I don't want to know the side-effects of Risperdal. I don't want to have a reason to need to know that.

I don't want others to treat my sweet boy with any less dignity than he deserves. The grip of autism is not selective. This child is only trying to make sense of his world and his emotional kaleidoscope. I want him to eat lemon knots. I want him to be able to be able to walk across the train tracks without being gripped by fear. I want him to enjoy the Christmas lights with the rest of us. I want him to

know that he's a treasure and a great blessing every

I'm sorry for everything. I'm sorry for the railroad tracks, the thunder, the bees, the wind, and for all the other things that invade your head and stir your fears. We don't want him to have go back to where he's not understood, where nobody sits with him as he falls asleep, and where he's presented with trays of brown things with gravy. We don't want him to go back to a place where the outcome will be no different than the last time.

Then the moments come and there's knowing we can do. My little boy at 7 has been on at least 15 different medications. We've never been sure if any medications have had any positive effects, though the negative side-effects have certainly presented themselves. Many children in states with the more sensible laws have recovered the ability to function in everyday life by using edible cannabis.

I will never give up trying to help my son. I feel that it is our ethical responsibility to offer the same opportunity to children in Illinois, the chance at a childhood that's governed by states of calm and joy. Please offer this chance to my son and to countless others with autism who may not have words to express but feel so very deeply every day.

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(Applause.) 3 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you very

much. So now we open up to comments from the Board.

MEMBER WEATHERS: So my comment back and in response to Ms. Bran's testimony, I think there was emphasis on the point that cannabis could impair normal brain development during adolescents. While we certainly are seeing studies with that, I think it's important for the Board to note, although we're still learning exactly how, we know that these children's brain development is not normal. So I don't think that we can necessarily use that as a reason to not approve this condition.

I think, again, the thought of having a 7-year-old on Risperdal is horrifying to me. I don't like using it on my 67-year-olds, much less a 7-year-old, and if there's an alternative, given the urgency of these symptoms and the concern for how severe, I think that needs to be weighed against potential future risk. You obviously would never think of giving cannabis to a 7-year-old with normal brain development. So I just think it should be considered.

disorders, the basis we used to approve PTSD. I think 1 2

there's a lot of similar pathophysiology at play and

3 given, again, that -- you know, I keep going back to,

you're right, I don't know. But if there's -- if we 4

5 feel like it's unlikely that the adverse effects will

6 be significantly harmful in the short-term, at least

7 if there's something we could closely monitor, see the 8 impact, stop if needed but that the potential -- given

9 that the significant potential is there with somewhat

of a -- as a clinician what I feel would be a tolerable risk, that's what I'm basing it on.

And I think we -- it kind of goes back to some of the other things we've heard about. We certainly understand that this is not -- there's nothing that we do in medicine that is without risk. I mean, people -- we joke about it -- if you drink too much water, that could kill you. There's nothing we do in medicine that does not have a potential for adverse effects.

I keep emphasizing that's why the critical relationship is no key, that this isn't in a vacuum. It's not like people are going to be getting access to this -- it is a medication. People are not going to be getting access to this medication and going off on

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MEMBER CHAMPION: In my opinion, autism should have been added along with the other conditions for children. The medicines they are forced to take are not only debilitating but the side-effects are horrific. I think it's time for Illinois to once again set an example for other states and approve autism.

MEMBER MC CURDY: I have to ask on the basis of the research materials that we were provided with the petition -- and I haven't look at anything else or found anything else I must say -- so far -- I mean. I'd like to hear from others what evidence for effectiveness with humans we actually have here. The only thing I actually saw was one case study of an individual child. So I'd like to hear more about what makes us think that there's a good chance even that this -- well, maybe more than a good chance, but do we have some basis in evidence to approve this?

MEMBER WEATHERS: I think we're going to be back in that same circle of the studies have never been done in children with a substance, let alone drug. So I just don't think we're ever going to get it, just how we know it works, the potential for calming, the way we see efficacy in other mood

their own without significant close follow-ups, surveillance, and monitoring.

Even for the conditions we just approved. If things are clearly worsening, just like any medication, people have spoken to multiple times today, not every medication is tolerated by every person. It's assessed and then it would be stopped. and alternative therapy would be tried.

So our approval is not the same as us saying that we think this is going to work for everybody or that people won't experience some adverse effects; it's just that this needs to be an option.

MEMBER MC CURDY: Let me just add on that to the question I asked earlier, and that would be, is it possible that there may be some parallel maybe remote with the fact that people have begun to have some success apparently with seizure disorder with children?

MEMBER WEATHERS: I think there could be. I know it is in the DSM-V, but we were discussing earlier it is also considered -- it's a neurologic disorder; it's diagnosed and managed by pediatric neurologists. A lot of children with autism do also suffer from epilepsy, and we are starting to see

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studies because people are doing studies in children with epilepsy, but we are starting to see increase anecdotal evidence of efficacy.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: As a family physician I see -- we say cradle to grave. We deliver babies; we see kids; we take care of adults; we see people at the end of life. So in my pediatric experience, when I look for research on pediatric trials, in general you can pretty much count on there not being as much as you'd like to see. Because, first of all, from an ethical standpoint how are you going to get a child signed up? You've got to get parental consent. This is big time experimental, risky stuff.

So in terms of trying to do trials that I would like to see even on just standard medications, you're just not going to see it. Just like we have with the bottleneck regarding medical cannabis and all the regulation, really I'd like to do research, but there's so much paperwork and so much money involved, I don't want to do it. I have a lot of other things I need to do.

So until we get that, at this point I go back to the argument of compassion and the fact that

recklessly.

The other thing, too, to Dr. Weathers' point and to address Ms. Bran's concern about long-term cognitive loss of IQ, that is true. When a person before their brain is fully formed going into adolescence becomes a chronic recreational user or just a chronic user for whatever reason, you can lose IQ points. That goes back to my argument that yes, this is not a drug with no side-effects, no addiction. I think this room is smarter than that.

But we have to also look at the fact that people who have seizures or children who have autism, they're not in that category where I'm worried about them losing a few IQ points when they become 17. I want them to stop hitting themselves in the face; I want them to stop thrashing themselves, hurting themselves, and causing very visible damage to their physical bodies, the damage that it creates to their families trying to care for and just wait out a tantrum or wait out a rage.

I mean, that's damage, too. We have to weight out what's theoretical, what could happen -- yes, that's good; that's bad -- and what's happening right in front of us right now on the floor and we've

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the medications that you had described, that this mother has described are -- I'd like to study the effects of brain damage on that from a long-term use.

So let us not forget and take the microscope off of the convention medications that we use for patients that cause damage as well, well-documented damage. Yet we're handing it out like candy I guess you would say -- not really. I would say that a good physician is not going to hand out anything like candy.

And with respect to the way the pilot act was set up, which I think was smart, with the pediatric patients, whether they have autism, seizures, Crohn's disease, and they are eligible for all of the conditions listed forth, you have to have two physicians sign off on their certification letter. So -- which I also think makes it challenging, but at the same time there is going to be even more oversight and protection for the children who are going to be signed up.

And as far as I know from the recent report there were maybe -- I forgot how many -- 10 children were granted licenses. So this isn't -- I'm not too worried about people slipping through the cracks and having two attending physicians just sign something

got nothing. So I really think that we need to offer this option knowing that it's not going to be irresponsibly handled.

So anyway, that is my view.

MEMBER WEATHERS: Can I have one more? I know I've had the floor a lot.

Adding onto what you said, I mean, I think even anecdotally, if we can by making this available as an option keeps one child in their home and not have to be placed, I think that alone justifies it.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: One more point I wanted to add. There are strains that are most likely child friendly, with THC -- CBD, like I said before, does not have affect on the cognitive -- doesn't affect the brain as much. It affects primarily the gut, the muscles, there's receptors there, but predominantly not affecting the brain, and there is a lot of evidence documenting the lack of psychoactivity.

MEMBER CHAMPION: I believe a lot of those are taken from hemp, as well.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So products derived from hemp are what I believe are legal to obtain because they are from industrial hemp from

	Page 157		Page 159
1	people who grow this and have licenses to do this.	1	limited. Because as has been said, these are
2	So the THC is where I want to call out a	2	children, and ethically we would not subject children
3	little more sophisticated knowledge about what is	3	to this type of study.
4	cannabis; what's marijuana; we're just giving it to	4	However, I can speak from a parental side.
5	our kids; it's going to make a nation of stoners and	5	I do have a little bit of passion for this topic.
6	people who are dropping out of schools. Hey, you know	6	Both in what Ms. Bran has said from an adolescent
7	what? Yes, that could happen. It has happened to	7	view, I do have a family member who has as an
8	people, but we're talking about a different category	8	adolescent used cannabis since the age of 13 and does
9	here. We're talking about a debilitating condition,	9	have cognitive impairment.
10	as well as the other debilitating conditions for which	10	However, I also have a daughter who has
11	there are not a whole lot of great treatments for.	11	epilepsy sorry. I'm very passionate about this
12	Dr. Ramirez.	12	because one is my child. And my daughter has
13	MEMBER RAMIREZ: I hate to sound	13	epilepsy. She does not qualify for this but I have
14	uncompassionate, inconsiderate, whatever you want to	14	seen it work in children with epilepsy, and I am glad
15	call it, but it seems to me like sometimes we talk out	15	that that opportunity is there for parents who need it.
16	of both sides of our mouths. A couple hours ago we	16	With that being said, I know a family member
17	were talking about scientific evidence, science-based,	17	who has been on Risperdal as a 12-year-old. That
18	and evidence-based. Now we're talking about anecdotal	18	medication is not recommended for children. That is
19	evidence and giving it the same weight and same value.	19	an adult antipsychotic that many of the adult
20	There must be some reason why the American	20	physicians have trouble prescribing to adults.
21	Academy of Psychiatry and the American Academy of	21	So while I know there isn't a lot of
22	Neurology both have recommended not using cannabis in	22	clinical evidence, I do have to think about what I
23	children. So there must be some reason for those	23	know from an epilepsy standpoint and some of the
24	two big bodies of knowledge and science to pronounce	24	neurological development that occurs. My daughter has
	Page 158		Page 160
1	themselves that way.	1	had six grand mal seizures in her life. She's 24.
2	If we're going to go for this anecdotal	2	And with each grand mal seizure they lose cognitive
3	evidence, then let's go, but then let's not demand	3	development. She's fortunately not in that category,
4	evidence-based for other conditions.	4	but there are other children that do.
5	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I think I	5	The other family member with the marijuana
6	made maybe I'll clarify a point that yes, I want	6	use, that was a choice that he made, and he will have
7	medical evidence. We do want that research base, but	7	to live with the consequences of that. Some of these
8	where it doesn't exist, we have to combine it with	8	children do not have the ability to make that decision,
9	other factors, clinical experience, common sense, how	9	so as adults we have to make that decision to
10	many other options do you have.	10	help them.
11	So I think it's impossible to say we're	11	So that's all I'll say.
12	going to hold everything to the exact same scientific	12	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you.
13	standard. Like I said, we can go back and look at all	13	MEMBER MILLER: Sorry. I just get very
14	of the approved conditions, the 39 that exist and	14	passionate when it's my child.
15	dissect those away, and several of the conditions that	15	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Any other
16	we discussed today, we're going to have a hard time	16	comments?
17	having a consistent level of scientific evidence.	17	(No response.)
18	So I do respect what you say. There are	18	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: I recommend
19	reasons but we're also faced with these patients who	19	somebody make a motion.
20	are they have nothing. So I bring in the	20	MEMBER MILLER: I'll make a motion.
21	compassion hat to this discussion with some evidence	21	MEMBER LESKOVEC: Second.
22	but not much.	22	CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: So we will vote.
23	MEMBER MILLER: I don't know that I can add	23	VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: The condition of autism
24	to the clinical evidence of it because it certainly is	24	has passed, 8 yes, 2 no.

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So this has been a long day, and I really appreciate the passion everyone has brought forth. The discussion has been excellent and excellent points raised. I think everyone has the same goal of doing right by people and to help the state of our health as -- Illinois and the country.

So I appreciate the passion you've brought. We now have time for public comments, and we'll again limit it to a three-minute session for that person.

Please raise your hand if you'd like to make public comments.

Okay. I would point to the gentleman in the back with his service animal because he asked early on, and if you would kindly spell your name.

MR. BLEESINGHODGE: Lonnie Bleesinghodge; L-o-n-n-i-e, B-l-e-e-s-i-n-g-h-o-d-g-e, and this is Gander.

I'm a 100 percent disabled veteran, Vietnam. I was -- prior to developing PTSD I was a professor for University of Maryland, and I was an adjunct graduate professor in the specialty program on alcohol and drug abuse at Western Michigan University. I was also clinical director of Amethyst Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina, which at the time was the

In reaction to the thing about the Veterans'

Administration, the Veterans' Administration, of course, doesn't find it to be efficacious. They haven't done any research on it; they're just beginning to do that. They also don't think service dogs are efficacious, but I can tell you that this dog saved my life.

I can tell you that marijuana used in high-CBD, low-THC dosages in Colorado, in the 100 interviews
I've done with veterans there and the 30 people who have inputted information to me over the course of the last three years tell me that symptomology has been reduced by almost 50 percent in those people that have used it for PTSD correctly and under some sort of supervision. So I applaud you for what you've done.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Sandy Champion.

MS. CHAMPION: I am Sandy Champion. I'm a patient advocate for the medical cannabis program, and I am Jim's wife. So because most of you know I shoot from the hip, and I only have three minutes, I will be reading notes.

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second largest drug and alcohol hospital in America. I was a senior trainer of trainers for the alcohol and drug abuse division in the state of Colorado.

I wasn't able to leave my house. I was having panic attacks -- when PTSD had its onset, panic attacks would last from 5 minutes up to 20 minutes, and I'd have up to five or six of those per day.

The military in their infinite wisdom put me on benzodiazepines and a number of other drugs that the iatrogenic problems associated with those were far worse than the disease itself sometimes. I carried suicide in my pocket like a can of Valium. I was a National Endowment for the Arts fellow in literature, and after taking those medications, I ended up in a creative lobotomy for a decade. One decade and I didn't write, or teach, or do anything because of the medications.

For the last 2 1/2 years, I've made frequent trips to Colorado where I've experimented with different strains of marijuana and different edibles. The early strains caused great dysfunction sometimes. The THC contents were too high. There were a lot of things that caused me to know exactly what real psychosis may well feel like. That's changed.

First of all, I want to say thank you to Conny and everyone on the staff. I know we've given you quite the runaround, and we've been tense, stressful, and you guys have probably had many conversations about us behind our backs. With that said, thank you.

Earlier it was noted that the director does not have to give any information as to why he denied the conditions. With that said, I also think if we're going to follow the rules, he must, absolutely must follow the 180-day rule, as well. There is no excuse. It's a double standard and I think if he reads this, he needs to know that we expect him to do his job if he expects us to do ours.

Secondly, Conny, you and I have spoken about this, and I have a real huge concern about patients and dispensaries. At startup we're only going to have four or five dispensaries at a time. So that means when you guys send out the forms and the cards, they're going to have to choose a dispensary. Are you guys going to provide information to them so they know which dispensaries are open? Because it we don't, we're going to have an onslaught of calls to IDPH when they change, and we know they're going to change.

Page 165 Page 167 1 I've been told by our sponsor and a former 1 but took so long to reject them. 2 IDPH employee who will go unnamed that there is a 2 To be honest with you, I can determine what 3 software program that's supposed to be implemented, 3 I'm going to eat for the day earlier in the day, but 4 and it has not been implemented, that would allow 4 there are other times where it takes longer where I 5 5 realtime dispensary changes on the spot at a will have to form an opinion over a much longer period 6 dispensary. I know quite a few dispensary owners who 6 of time. I do not honestly see how the Department of 7 are unaware of this, as well, but it's in our rules 7 Public Health could take six months -- that is 8 and in our law. And I've been told you guys are going 8 180 days -- six months at 24 hours a day to determine 9 9 to implement this in a couple months. whether or not these conditions will be approved. 10 10 MS. MOODY: I'll let you finish your In addition, for conditions that were 11 comments first. 11 petitioned and rejected back in January, in the hope 12 MS. CHAMPION: With that I would encourage 12 that say, for example, osteoarthritis is approved at you guys to get that implemented ASAP because no this moment, there is no guarantee as to when we will 13 13 14 patient should have to wait any longer to get their 14 actually be able to apply to the medical cannabis 15 15 medicine. program. We are hoping and the deadline basically 16 Thank you. 16 states February 1st, 2016, for the 180-day time frame. 17 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. And 17 However, the JCAR process is very lengthy. 18 18 I think Mr. Taylor had -- Jared had a public comment. I've talked to JCAR; they said it's six to eight 19 MR. TAYLOR: So by now you all know me. My 19 months. So I'm looking at right now, if we do get 20 name is Jared Taylor. 20 approved by February 1st, that we may not even be able 21 As I mentioned earlier, I only have 21 to apply as osteoarthritis patients or any of these 22 osteoarthritis out of the five conditions that I've 22 other approved conditions until August of next year. 23 23 petitioned for. However, I do believe that all of So I really wish and hope that the 24 these conditions, they are debilitating; they're not 24 Department of Public Health takes true consideration Page 166 Page 168 fun diseases to have. 1 of the valuable testimony not only of patients but 1 2 2 I heard a comment from one individual to also all these medical professionals. I myself am a 3 another of, "Oh, I didn't like what this person had to 3 very, I wouldn't said an uneducated person, but I have 4 say during their speech, and I wish they had this 4 a bachelor's degree in science and history, and I'm 5 condition so they would know the effects of this." I 5 not a medical professional. However, I rely on the 6 vehemently disagree with that because none of these 6 testimony, the recommendations of these medical 7 conditions are fun to have. I will have osteoarthritis 7 professionals, and I hope the Department of Public 8 8 until I die, and that's not a very fun thing to know Health does, as well. 9 9 at age 26. As Leslie had mentioned, the incidence of At this point we have 3100 patients out of 10 10 osteoarthritis greatly increases as you get old, and 12.8 million citizens in the state of Illinois. So in 11 11 I'm sure that there are certain people in the state of order for this program to be successful, we need to 12 Illinois that are approaching a certain age where that 12 add more conditions; there needs to be accountability 13 incidence of osteoarthritis is very likely to happen 13 in terms of why these conditions were rejected, and we 14 14 upon them, and it's not a very fun disease to have. need to get this up and going. Because, otherwise, my 15 15 None of these are pleasurable or enjoyable diseases fear is that we will either have limited time to 16 to have. 16 utilize this medicine, or we will not be able to 17 17 I am, however, concerned about the state of utilize this medicine at all. 18 18 which -- the forward future making process of this Thank you for your time. 19 whole medical cannabis program. As you all know, the 19 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you. 20 20 osteoarthritis, as well as other conditions, were Any other last housekeeping comments or 21 21 petitioned back in January, and, unfortunately, they clarification? 22 were rejected. These were rejected after that 180-day 22 Conny, I think you wanted to share something 23 23 time frame. It is very unfortunate that the that Sandy had brought up.

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MS. MOODY: So I'm actually -- one of the

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Department of Public Health not only rejected these

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questions that Sandy raised was with regard to the notification of a patient about the dispensaries that are currently licensed by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and once product is available will be open to patients for selection.

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There are four dispensaries at this point in time that have been licensed by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, which we call FPR, and those are posted on the DFPR website, and, also, that listing of dispensaries is available through the statewide medical website, which is the mppp.illinois.gov website.

So what we are getting ready to do now as a department, we're on two tracks and we are -- first of all, we are preparing to issue registry identification cards to those patients that have been approved for participation in the program. And we are -- we still remain hopeful that we will be able to start mailing the first cards at the end of this month, the month of October. That is the goal of the department, and that's what we are pushing for.

At the same time we are going to be reaching out to all of the patients who have been approved to provide them with information about which dispensaries

1 dispensary that you wish to work with right now, take

- the time to wait. The Department of Professional
- 2 3 Regulation is licensing dispensaries on a rolling
- 4 basis, and you may want to wait. Now, of course
- 5 that's the patient's choice if they wish to do that 6 or not.

That process of changing -- once a patient has selected their initial selection of a dispensary and they wish to make a change in that dispensary selection, that is going to be -- that is the department's responsibility to put that into our database, and then we will push that information out to the dispensaries on a nightly basis.

So if I'm a patient, and I call the Department of Public Health or e-mail them at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow on Thursday and indicate I wish to change my dispensary, that information will be -- once we have our system in place, and are still working on programming for this; this is a gigantic IT infrastructure that we are working on here -- once that is in place -- and, again, we're hopeful -- the goal is for the end of this month for all this to come together, all these moving parts, that information by the patient shall be pushed out to the dispensary

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are open, how they can go about selecting a dispensary. They will be able to do that to the Department either through an e-mail to us, and we're in the process of establishing a special mailbox that will be accessible to those patients who have been approved for the program to submit their dispensary request to us.

We're also going to be urging patients to take their time in making those selections because, as I stated, only four dispensaries are going to be open at this point in time. And because patients have a one-to-one relationship with a dispensary and must select a dispensary, and that information must be input into our system -- patients can change their dispensary selection, and what we would not like to see is 3100 patients select Dispensary A and then in a few weeks when another dispensary opens we get 3,000 patients who decide to select Dispensary B, and then other one opens --

MS. CHAMPION: That's exactly my point. MS. MOODY: -- because that is very cumbersome both for the limited staff that we have on board right now and the patients themselves. So what we are going to urge folks in the

communication to them is, if you do not see a

overnight in our nightly upload to that system.

One of the reasons for that is our system, our patient registry system is highly confidential. It is protected by law as a confidential system. We cannot have anyone reach into that system to extract data. We can only push data out to those entities that are statutorily allowed to receive data from us.

So it will be a nightly upload. So although it will not be real time, it will be fast as the State of Illinois can possibly manage to get that information, that change information into the hands of dispensaries.

MS. CHAMPION: Okay. And so I understand that at the startup, but what about the software program that was supposed to be implemented that was in real time so a patient could walk into any dispensary and change on the spot? They would not be identified by their name, address, or anything except for a number, and it was supposed to be real time.

MS. MOODY: So, again --

MS. CHAMPION: And this has been verified by one of our legislators, which happens to be a sponsor of the bill and someone who used to work for you guys.

So it's not like I'm pulling this out of my hat. I'm actually giving you factual information

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given to me, and many of the dispensaries are not even aware that this was supposed to happen.

So I think we need to push for this because the patients, you know, they shouldn't have to go through that many steps just to change a dispensary in the future. I understand at the startup it's not ready and all that, but when is the software going to be implemented so that they have real time?

MS. MOODY: Well, not at this point in time.

MS. CHAMPION: So the three to four months is incorrect, what I was given? I was told that it should be up and running in three or four months.

MS. MOODY: I'm not sure where that information was coming from, and perhaps we can talk later.

MS. CHAMPION: I'm not making it up. I'm just telling you -- you know I've been in this for a long time, and I was there when this stuff was written into the bill, and this was information that was given to me, and I inquired months ago about it.

MS. MOODY: Right. The information that I'm giving today is what I told you several months ago, in that our system is protected; there's no entity out there, dispensaries, anyone who can reach into our

have -- we want to make sure that patients are getting good access and good service --

MS. CHAMPION: Right. That's our goal, too.
MS. MOODY: -- wherever they see that they
need to get their product. I think we're going to
learn a lot over time about what types of products are
available at different dispensaries.

So right now we have -- we have huge programming efforts. We have -- we're trying to get something as simple -- it may seem as simple as getting photographs right for our patients that is taking us hours, and hours, and hours of time because of the limitations of our system.

Quite frankly, I'm in a situation where the State of Illinois has told me that I must rebid my IT system through the State of Illinois procurement system, which takes months. We've been so focused on getting registry cards out and ensuring that patients are -- that their applications are processed in a timely manner and that we answer phone calls that I don't even have time to write that procurement.

MS. CHAMPION: Hey, listen, I totally understand. But with all due respect, this was signed and put into law in 2013. So here we are at the end

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system.

opinion.

MS. CHAMPION: Exactly. And the software that was supposed to be implemented would be able to do that. That's my point I'm making.

So can you talk to the powers that be, the IT department or something? Because somebody needs to get into the language of the bill and see that it did say that they're supposed to be able to do real time.

MS. MOODY: Well, and that has not been my understanding from the Department's program implementation. So I will definitely take that up.

MS. CHAMPION: Yeah. Let's do that.

MS. MOODY: But I think that there is -- you know, one of the important things here is that to make a dispensary change should be something that is a -- should be -- and these are my words, this is my

18 MS. CHAMPION: I understand.

MS. MOODY: It should not be something where I decide, oh, you know at 9:00 a.m. I want to drive down to southern Illinois and appear at a dispensary at 5:00 that evening. I think what we were trying to do is, again, preserve this program as a model for other states in terms of how we approach this. We

of 2015, and so we've had a lot of time.

I'm not telling you -- I don't know what goes on internally, but you know I've been involved internally. So I just think that we need to focus on the patients and make sure that they're able to make this as easy as possible for them.

MS. MOODY: And that's why, Sandy, we have tried to put an enormously simple process in place. You can fill out a form, send it to us; you can call us and my staff will pick up the phone and talk to you as a patient and input that information directly into the system right away. So we are trying to --

MS. CHAMPION: So are you guaranteeing the 24 hours?

MS. MOODY: It will be a nightly upload, yes. If somebody contacts us between the hours of 8:30 and 5:00, the State's normal operating time frame, and because you've given us a call, we input that information, it will be part of that nightly upload when the system does that. We do the same thing with the Secretary of State's records.

MS. CHAMPION: And we can talk about the other software program that I've been talking about later, but as long as we make sure the patient is a

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1 24-hour -- because we were hearing it can be more than 2 24 hours. Especially in an onslaught. Because like 3 you said, a lot of patients may not heed your warning, 4 and they go and sign up for four dispensaries, and 5 you've got 3,000 or 3100 patients in four dispensaries, 6 and the next thing you know your phones are going to 7 be slammed. So I have a hard time believing that the 8 24-hour turnaround is going to happen if that happens.

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MS. MOODY: And like I said, my -- the caveat that I provided is those folks that we actually talk to before 5:00 p.m. Because if you fax something -- you know, if we do get slammed with 3,000 faxes or 3,000 e-mails, then there's no way humanly possible that -- even if I had every single program staff in our department be able to upload that kind of information, we couldn't humanly do that. So there is that human factor, also.

MS. CHAMPION: Thank you for clearing that up, and we'll talk after about the other stuff. Thank you.

21 MS. HOOGHKIRK: I do have one more concern 22 along the lines of dispensary designation.

So you said it wouldn't be humanly possible to do that in that amount of time, but you are planning

on sending the cards at the end of the month. So

first, how do you expect to deal with the influx of

dispensaries who are planning on opening November 1st,

patients who will be designating those dispensaries at

this time, and what do you suggest to those patients

But this is enormous. I mean, the type of IT system that we are building here, the processes and

2 3 procedures that we are all putting into play. 4 So those are our goals that I have

presented, and we have our staff working tremendous amounts of hours to make this all happen. But in the end all I can say is, you know, we are still human. And it's like a domino that if something doesn't work on the IT system that helps us take patient applications, and that system can't speak to the new system that dispensaries and cultivation systems are using, it just takes one glitch in the system to shift those timelines. Not because we're trying to be disrespectful, not because we're not trying to do our jobs, but because these things happen when we're depending on other vendors, on other contractors, and on multiple agencies to do their jobs. So we are doing the best that we can.

And the one other thing that I would add to this, also, is that right now the -- we still are working on a budget in the State of Illinois, and that -- I'm sure you've heard the news -- and that impacts all of the work and all of the efforts that are ongoing. So our vendors continue to work without

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1 having bills paid; our staff continue to work. 2 We're doing all of these things -- and I'm 3 not saying these things to complain or anything, but I 4 just want you to understand the enormity of this effort 5 and the way that I truly believe that the folks that

we have working on this project are collaborating, are working together, and are doing their best, their darn best to make this all happen. But in the end

we're all human, and it's real life that we're talking about here.

So not to be disrespectful and not to -- I mean, my first order of the day, every day my staff and I say, you know, our biggest goal is to be compassionate. So not to discount that but this really is something that is unprecedented in anything that I've ever worked on in the State of Illinois.

MS. HOOGHKIRK: Sure. I understand you have all these technicalities and moving parts, but as far as going forward, if we are opening and have product November 1st, are patients going to be able to access it, yes or no plain and simple, if they do not have their cards?

MS. MOODY: So my understanding from the DFPR rules, the administrative rules for dispensaries is

6 if you do not send those cards out in that timely 7 manner; what are going to be their options for 8 purchasing product if the dispensaries are opened 9 before that information is sent to them? 10 MS. MOODY: That's a very good question, and 11 we are doing our best humanly possible to have all of 12 these things come together. 13 This is an enormous effort by the State of 14 Illinois for multiple agencies to work together across 15 not only their different responsibilities -- because 16 while IDPH is responsible for the patient program, 17

agricultural for cultivation centers, they're working on their parts of the program; DFPR working on the licensure of dispensaries; we have the State police who have a role; we have the Secretary of State; we have revenue. So it really is -- and I've been in State government for more than 20 years, and to me it's a very unprecedented level of cooperation across agency lines.

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Page 181 that in order for a patient to enter into a dispensary, they must have a card, a registry identification card,

states who are going through this. Also, I think it's hard to expect some

and that's why that is our first and foremost goal The card is going to allow them access to those dispensaries. So that's really our first and foremost goal.

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physicians to kind of except the onus of all this responsibility. Again, I hope that they're doing their best to execute this responsibility responsibly, but I think that there is a lot of education that is still needed for even physicians. This is not something I would assume you learn in medical school how to prescribe marijuana. That's not something at this point that's being done, so I should hope that there's also some kind of education around that piece, as well.

MS. HOOGHKIRK: So, technically, we could be sitting open for months and months or even a few months with product on the shelves and no patients? That's a possibility?

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: We have until

And I again have to reference that point, it may not be the intention, but of the 3,000 cards that are out there, a third of those, 1,000 of those came from one physician. So that troubles me, again, in the implementation piece, as well as the fact that I think the State is doing its best to regulate this, I think all states are doing their best to regulate this, but THC levels, implementation, all of these things, I don't know how well monitored they will be.

MS. MOODY: We have been told that we have to focus on this effort so that cards will be mailed by the end of this month.

3:00, so we do have time for another public comment,

MS. BRAN: Sure. I thank you all again for

I have to reference that point of PTSD. If there are effective treatments that have low THC levels, higher CBD, yes, let's use that. But is that being offered, or are patients just going in there and

not having access to that knowledge, or is it possible

for them to be getting the wrong product, especially

may not have all the training required.

when the individuals who are staffing these businesses

MS. HOOGHKIRK: Thank you. MS. MOODY: You're welcome.

and we will limit the time, as well.

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your patience in letting me contribute my comments. 22 Please be clear, I'm not trying to seem cold 23 or callus. I think that this sort of thing demands compassion, and there are certainly some conditions

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that will require that. I think my main concern -and I know this may not be your role or your responsibility, but I would hope that you could also make recommendations about the implementation.

Because as the State of Illinois, we do have the most debilitating conditions on our list, and I think that's honestly because of an effort to be specific about the conditions so as not to make a lot of catch-all conditions. Because there are states that -- we're not the first who are going through this, and in a lot of ways it's not theoretical

My last point is research I think is promising, but to be safe and responsible I think that we have to look at these exciting new studies and all this research, but I think if we are going to hold it to the standards that normally they should be or they would be, we also have to look at those studies that maybe they are also finding negative outcomes and hold those as seriously as much as you want them to work.

anymore. They're seeing some negative outcomes. So my fear is that it would become some sort of de facto recreational marijuana law. And that is not the intention. I can very clearly see that, but, again, I think it is a slippery slope, especially on some of these more broad conditions and especially the fact that people can access 2 1/2 ounces every two weeks, that's 150 in two weeks. That is a lot of product to be able to access plenty for people, frankly, to share with others. And, again, that would be an unintended consequence, and I think most people are not accessing it for that reason, but I think it

is possible, and this is being seen in some other

MS. MOODY: Thank you very much. MS. BRAN: Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: This one is the last comment and we'll be right at 3:00.

MR. REDIGER: My name is Ben Rediger. I'm the CEO of CBD Education Services. I want to thank all of you for the work that you've done. I was at the hearing in May and again am here today, and I know that it's time out of your day to do this. I appreciate the due diligence in which you've done it.

I would like to talk a little bit about what we need to do from our end as an industry representing

Page 187 Page 185 1 the patients to show the governor what he needs to see 1 person in this room, every person at the Tribune, 2 2 in order move these conditions forward. every person in the governor's office has a relative 3 We all know that this is not about whether 3 with one of these conditions. And the reason these 4 or not the governor and the director think it is 4 conditions were added is that there is information out 5 5 medicine. It is about what's going on behind the there that proves that it helps. It may not be 6 6 scenes. And in order for us to have the program taken American scientific clinical information because we're 7 7 not allowed to study it, but that's in Israel, it's in seriously, we need to show progress. 8 My organization does mass-infused education 8 Europe, and now we have access to it. So we need to 9 9 for dispensaries and cultivators here in Illinois and, utilize that while we can to deliver the amount of 10 10 specifically, in Rolling Meadows area of Chicago. In patients using it to give you guys the information you 11 our net there's 750,000 people that we touch when we 11 need to request research. 12 12 talk up there. 50,000 of them have an existing So please keep an eye on us, keep an eye on condition that is not on these new conditions on 13 13 our district. We're informing the governor's office 14 14 of every move we make when we talk to the public. We the list. 15 15 will give him the progress and the proof that needs to There are people in Illinois that qualify for 16 this medication, and until we can prove that we are 16 approve these conditions. Thank you. 17 touching all of them, and that we are not just having 17 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Thank you very 18 18 one doctor who is recommending 1,000 patients, but we much everyone and for your time spent today. 19 19 have 1,000 doctors recommending to every one of their MEMBER PARIKH: Move to adjourn. 20 patients, we're not going to see a lot of progress. 20 VICE CHAIRMAN FINE: Second. 21 21 CHAIRPERSON MENDOZA TEMPLE: Yes. All those So it's on us to be able to mass-infuse the 22 market to allow you guys to see the corollary studies 22 in favor. 23 23 you're discussing. Because we can't do clinical (Ayes heard.) 24 information -- or we can't do clinical studies right 24 (Off the record at 2:59 p.m.) Page 188 Page 186 CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER now -- right? -- but corollary information would 1 1 2 2 certainly help that. 3 So it is on the onus of my organization and 3 I, Paula M. Quetsch, Certified Shorthand the people that we work closely with to deliver that 4 4 Reporter No. 084-003733, CSR, and a Notary Public in 5 for you so you can stand behind the governor and say, 5 and for the County of Kane, State of Illinois, the 6 look, we have taken this program seriously, and to 6 officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were 7 this point we have thousands of veterans who have 7 taken, do certify that the foregoing transcript is a 8 8 Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, epilepsy that are true and correct record of the proceedings, that said 9 9 participating, and they are seeing progress with these proceedings were taken by me stenographically and 10 10 different medications. thereafter reduced to typewriting under my 11 And we are missing the point when we're not 11 supervision, and that I am neither counsel for, 12 discussing dosage and injection method when we talk, 12 related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this 13 and I think that highlighting publically will help 13 case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in 14 14 change this. Because you are all more interested in its outcome. 15 15 the dosage of cannabis, THC, CBD, CBG, and how it 16 might affect an autistic child, as opposed to just 16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my 17 17 having cannabis recommended. hand and affixed my notarial seal this 14th day of 18 18 And I believe if we take that approach that October, 2015. 19 we will get what we need from the governor in the long 19 20 20 run, but until we've shown progress, nothing is going My commission expires: October 16, 2017 21 21 to happen. So it is on us as part of the industry to 22 deliver all of that for you so you've got the 22 23 23 information that you need. Notary Public in and for the 24 24 And I know it hits close to home. Every State of Illinois

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