

Mississippi

2020 Election: Medical Cannabis Legalization

MISSISSIPPI FAST FACTS

POPULATION
3 million

TOTAL # OF
CANNABIS CONSUMERS
263,000

EST. ANNUAL SALES FROM
LEGAL MEDICAL CANNABIS

YEAR 1
\$6.0 million

YEAR 2
\$21.1 million

YEAR 3
\$41.1 million

YEAR 4
\$66.0 million



PROGRAM REGULATIONS: HIGHLIGHTS

Initiative 65 allows for medical marijuana to be recommended for patients with one of the 22 specified qualifying conditions including cancer, epilepsy or other seizures, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cachexia, post-traumatic stress disorder, positive status for human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, chronic or debilitating pain, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, glaucoma, agitation of dementias, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, sickle-cell anemia, autism with aggressive or self-injurious behaviors, pain refractory to appropriate opioid management, spinal cord disease or severe injury, intractable nausea, severe muscle spasticity, or another medical condition of the same kind or class to those herein enumerated and for which a physician believes the benefits of using medical marijuana would reasonably outweigh potential health risks.

Alternative 65A would have restricted access access to medical cannabis to terminally ill patients and leave all other regulation, including taxes and allowed quantities for possession, to be determined at a later date.



THINGS TO WATCH:

Mississippi marked its own unique path in adopting medical cannabis. There, where two competing bills for legalization were presented, voters overwhelmingly preferred a citizen-backed proposal (Initiative 65) versus a more restrictive, government-designed measure (Initiative 65A). In so doing, the Magnolia State joined Florida as the second among the Deep South to legalize cannabis.

ON THE BALLOT: Mississippi Initiative 65 & Alternative 65A

RESULTS



Mississippi Initiative 65 and Alternative 65A, Medical Marijuana Amendment. A majority of Mississippi voters (68%) supported the implementation of a medical cannabis initiative. **Voters chose to pass the less restrictive Initiative 65 (74%)** over the more limited Alternative 65A (32%).

Initiative 65 allows access to medical cannabis for more than 20 qualifying conditions, including conditions with associated high rates of patient participation such as PTSD and chronic pain.

With an estimated 263,000 cannabis consumers in the state, **New Frontier Data estimates that with the passage of Initiative 65, by year four of an operational market, annual sales of legal medical cannabis could reach \$66 million.**



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