



IDPH News Release

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Iowa Board of Pharmacy Issues Recommendation

Board endorses marijuana as Schedule II drug for medical uses

The Iowa Board of Pharmacy today issued a recommendation that the Iowa Legislature reclassify marijuana from Schedule I of the Iowa Controlled Substances Act into Schedule II of the Act. A Schedule II drug includes narcotic drugs with a high potential for abuse but with currently accepted medical use in treatment.

In addition, the Board of Pharmacy is recommending the Legislature convene a task force or study committee for the purpose of making recommendations back to the Legislature regarding the administration of a medical marijuana program. The Board recommends the task force or committee be comprised of various disciplines including but not limited to the following: a representative of a seriously ill patient; a representative of law enforcement; a representative of the Iowa Attorney General; a representative of an HIV organization or a physician caring for an AIDS patient; a substance abuse treatment representative; a person living with a serious illness; a hospice or palliative care representative; a representative of the Iowa Board of Nursing; a representative of the Iowa Board of Medicine; and a representative of the Iowa Board of Pharmacy.

Rescheduling of marijuana is the first step of a process that could ultimately result in legalization for medical purposes. The Board of Pharmacy's recommendation to the Iowa Legislature does not impact current Iowa law.

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