



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 1, 2019

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: Senate Bill No. 24 Medical Marijuana Use

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed Senate Bill No. 24 which will allow patients to qualify for a valid registry identification card to purchase and use medical marijuana for any condition that a physician certifies that medical marijuana would likely provide therapeutic or palliative benefit. The bill also removes the requirement that only certain specialists may certify the use of medical marijuana if the patient is younger than 18 years old. Council endorses this expansion of patient access to medical marijuana; however, we would like to share the following observations.

First, Council would recommend the establishment of a process for expediting certification for exceptional cases so that the patient would not have to endure pain and suffering for a substantial amount of time.

Second, Council would ask that the sponsor consider lifting restrictions on the method of delivery for exceptional cases under the age of 18. Other delivery options besides oil should be available for younger patients, particularly younger patients with terminal illnesses.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our endorsement and comments. Please feel free to contact me or Wendy Strauss at the GACEC office should you have any questions.