A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING THE CONDITIONS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE FOR

DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION

THEREWITH, ADDING A CONDITION FOR WHICH A PHYSICIAN

COULD PRESCRIBE AN OPIATE TO THE LIST OF DISABLING

MEDICAL CONDITIONS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill adds a condition for which a physician could prescribe an opiate to the list of disabling medical conditions that authorize a person
to use medical marijuana for his or her condition. Under current law, a child under 18 years of age who wants to be added to the medical marijuana registry for a disabling medical condition must be diagnosed as having a disabling medical condition by 2 physicians, one of whom must be a board-certified pediatrician, a board-certified family physician, or a board-certified child and adolescent psychiatrist who attests that he or she is part of the patient's primary care provider team. The bill removes the additional requirements on specific physicians to align with the constitutional provisions for a debilitating medical condition.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-106, amend (2)(a.7) and (2.5)(i)(I); and add (2.5)(j) as follows:

25-1.5-106. Medical marijuana program - powers and duties of state health agency - rules - medical review board - medical marijuana program cash fund - subaccount - created - repeal.

(2) Definitions. In addition to the definitions set forth in section 14 (1) of article XVIII of the state constitution, as used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a.7) "Disabling medical condition" means:

(I) Post-traumatic stress disorder as diagnosed by a licensed mental health provider or physician; AND

(II) A CONDITION FOR WHICH A PHYSICIAN COULD PRESCRIBE AN OPIATE.

(2.5) (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection (2.5), no patient with a disabling medical condition who is under eighteen years of age shall engage in the medical use of marijuana unless:

(I) Two physicians one of whom must be a board-certified pediatrician, a board-certified family physician, or a board-certified child and adolescent psychiatrist and attest that he or she is part of the patient's
primary care provider team, have diagnosed the patient as having a disabling medical condition.

HAVE DIAGNOSED THE PATIENT AS HAVING A DISABLING MEDICAL CONDITION. IF THE RECOMMENDING PHYSICIAN IS NOT THE PATIENT'S PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN, THE RECOMMENDING PHYSICIAN SHALL REVIEW THE RECORDS OF A DIAGNOSING PHYSICIAN OR A LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER ACTING WITHIN THEIR SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

(j) A patient with a disabling medical condition who is under eighteen years of age shall use medical marijuana only in a nonsmokeable form when using medical marijuana upon the grounds of the preschool or primary or secondary school in which the student is enrolled, or upon a school bus or at a school-sponsored event.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.