

**Subject** Modifications to medical cannabis program

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## Overview

The medical cannabis program is administered by the commissioner of health. Under this program medical cannabis manufacturers grow and process medical cannabis into allowable forms and distribute medical cannabis to patients with qualifying medical conditions. This bill allows medical cannabis manufacturers to acquire hemp products from licensed hemp processors and process hemp products into allowable forms of medical cannabis. It also modifies requirements for pharmacist consultations with patients before distribution of medical cannabis, allows medical cannabis to be distributed to patients and caregivers who remain in motor vehicles at distribution facilities, modifies requirements for disposal of medical cannabis plant root balls, and allows data sharing to verify the licensure status of hemp processors.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<b>Hemp processor.</b> Adds subd. 5c to § 152.22. Adds a definition of hemp processor to the medical cannabis statutes.
2	<b>Manufacturer; requirements.</b> Amends § 152.29, subd. 1. Allows a medical cannabis manufacturer to acquire hemp products produced by a hemp processor licensed by the commissioner of agriculture under chapter 18K. (Under current law a manufacturer is only authorized to acquire hemp from a hemp grower.) Allows a manufacturer to manufacture or process hemp products into an allowable form of medical cannabis, and makes hemp products subject to the quality control, security, testing, and other requirements that apply to medical cannabis. Requires a manufacturer's operating documents to include procedures for the delivery and transportation of hemp products between hemp processors and manufacturers, and requires a manufacturer to verify that a hemp

Section	Description
	processor is licensed under chapter 18K before acquiring hemp products from the processor.
3	<p><b>Manufacturer; distribution.</b></p> <p>Amends § 152.29, subd. 3. Modifies requirements for pharmacist consultations with patients before distribution of medical cannabis, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ allow consultations to occur by telephone or other remote means, in addition to by videoconference as permitted under current law (consultations by telephone or other remote means are currently permitted by executive order during the peacetime emergency);</li><li>▪ eliminate a requirement that the consultation takes place when the patient is at the distribution facility; and</li><li>▪ provide that a pharmacist consultation is not required when the manufacturer is distributing medical cannabis according to a patient-specific dosage plan and is not modifying the dosage or product.</li></ul>
4	<p><b>Distribution to recipient in a motor vehicle.</b></p> <p>Adds subd. 3b to § 152.29. Allows a manufacturer to distribute medical cannabis to a patient, registered designated caregiver, or other caregiver who is at the distribution facility but remains in a motor vehicle, provided the requirements in the subdivision are met regarding the distribution of medical cannabis and payment. (Dispensing medical cannabis to patients and caregivers who remain in their vehicles is currently permitted by executive order during the peacetime emergency.)</p>
5	<p><b>Disposal of medical cannabis plant root balls.</b></p> <p>Adds subd. 3c to § 152.29. An administrative rule currently requires medical cannabis manufacturers to render plant material waste unusable and unrecognizable by grinding the waste and incorporating it with other solid waste. This section exempts manufacturers from being required to grind medical cannabis plant root balls or to incorporate the root balls with other solid waste.</p>
6	<p><b>Data practices.</b></p> <p>Amends § 152.31. Allows the commissioner of health to execute data sharing arrangements with the commissioner of agriculture to verify licensing, inspection, and compliance information related to hemp processors (in addition to hemp growers as permitted under current law).</p>



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