An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL NO. 2837

By: Burns of the House

and

Coleman of the Senate

An Act relating to medical marijuana; amending Section 3, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 2022, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 415, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 427.14b), which relates to the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act; directing the Authority to issue credentials to employees who submit certain documentation; requiring medical marijuana business employees to submit proof of completion of educational training; requiring employees to annually complete educational training; mandating submission of proof of completion of educational training in order to receive credential; providing list of topics to be included in training; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Medical marijuana

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 2022, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 415, O.S.L. 2024 (63 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 427.14b), is amended to read as follows:

Section 427.14b. A. Beginning January 1, 2024, the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority shall require employees of a medical marijuana business licensee to apply for and receive a credential authorizing the employee to work in a licensed medical marijuana business.

B. The Authority may contract with one or more third-party vendors to provide the credentialing services necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

C. The Authority shall determine the services to be provided by such third-party vendor and shall establish costs and prices. If contracted for credentialing services, a third-party vendor shall on behalf of the Authority conduct the background checks and verify eligibility and suitability for any employees of a medical marijuana business license holder to obtain a credential.

D. Upon successful completion by the third-party vendor of the national fingerprint-based background check conducted by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation within thirty (30) days prior to the application, completion of the educational training required pursuant to the provisions of this section, and verification of eligibility and suitability for an employee, the third-party vendor <u>Authority</u> shall issue a credential to the employee. The <u>applicant shall submit proof of completion of the required educational training in the credential application, and the results of background checks and verifications shall be provided to the Authority by the third-party vendor.</u>

E. <u>Beginning January 1, 2027, in order to receive an employee</u> credential, all employees of a licensed medical marijuana business shall annually complete an educational training course provided by or approved by the Authority. The employee shall submit proof of completion of the required educational training in order to receive an employee credential. Such training may include an overview of state statutes and administrative rules, patient privacy requirements, and the safe handling and storage of medical marijuana.

 $\underline{F.}$ If the third-party vendor determines that an employee of a medical marijuana business holder does not meet the minimum statutory requirements for a credential, the applicant or employee shall have no recourse against the third-party vendor but may appeal such adverse determination to the Authority.

F. G. The third-party vendor shall not be civilly liable to an applicant, licensee, or employee of a licensee for any acts taken in good-faith compliance with the provisions of Section 420 et seq. of this title and the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act and the rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority.

G. H. 1. The Authority shall review the medical marijuana credential application; approve, reject, or deny the application;

and send the approval, rejection, or denial letter to the applicant by the same method in which the application was submitted to the Authority.

2. Each approved applicant shall be issued a credential, which shall act as proof of his or her approved status, to be worn or displayed during the <u>employee's</u> hours of work <u>of the employee</u>. Rejection and denial letters shall provide a reason for the rejection or denial. Applications may only be rejected or denied for failure to meet the standards set forth in the provisions of the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana and Patient Protection Act or rules promulgated by the Executive Director. If an application is rejected for failure to provide required information, the applicant shall have thirty (30) days to submit the required information for reconsideration. Unless the Authority determines otherwise, an application that has been resubmitted but is still incomplete or contains errors that are not clerical or typographical in nature shall be denied.

H. I. The Executive Director of the Authority may promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 5th day of May, 2025.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate