



Medical Marijuana Identification Card Project (MMICP)

February 2007



MMICP Milestones

- 1996, Proposition 215 (also known as the Compassionate Use Act)
 - The Act allows for the recommendation by a physician for the medical use of marijuana by a patient, and the cultivation, transportation and use of marijuana for medical purposes by patients and caregivers.
 - Exempts patients, caregivers and physicians who recommend the use of marijuana for medical purposes from criminal laws, punishment, or the denial of any rights or privileges.



MMICP Milestones

- 2003, Senate Bill (SB) 420 (Chapter 875, Statutes of 2003)
 - Addresses uncertainties and clarifies the scope of the Act for patients, caregivers, law enforcement and others.
- 2004, Calif Dept Human Services established the MMP (Medical Marijuana Project).
 - Created to facilitate the registration of qualified patients and their caregivers, through a statewide identification system.



MMICP Milestones

- May 2005, MMICP pilot programs implemented in four counties:
 - Amador
 - Del Norte
 - Mendocino
 - Trinity
- July 8, 2005, pilot programs suspended pending litigation.



MMICP Milestones

- July 19, 2005, MMICP pilot programs resumed implementation.

“The CDHS has received legal advice from the State Attorney General that said operating the Program would not aid and abet marijuana users in committing a federal crime. It also affirmed that information received from applicants for information cards may be obtained by federal officials to identify them for prosecution.”

letter from G. Franklin, Deputy Director, CDHS, dated 7/19/05



MMICP

As of 12/06, the following counties have programs in place:

- Alameda
- Amador
- Calaveras
- Contra Costa
- Del Norte
- Humboldt
- Imperial
- Kern
- Marin
- Mendocino
- Napa
- Riverside
- San Benito
- San Francisco
- San Luis Obispo
- San Mateo
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Clara
- Shasta
- Sierra
- Sonoma
- Tehama
- Trinity
- Tulare



Overview of MMICP Process

1. State provides online database with standardized process and forms.
2. State trains County personnel on database.
3. County creates, implements and manages ID card process.
4. County determines fee structure and collects fees from applicant. "The costs of the Program are fee supported. Both the state and counties have authority to cover their expenses through application fees."¹
5. County pays \$142 of applicant fee to State.
6. Data is available online to law enforcement for validation of ID card.

¹www.dhs.ca.gov-California Medical Marijuana Program



Primary Options Considered To-Date for EDC

- Implement program administered by County Department (e.g. Public Health)
- Outsource program implementation
- Defer implementation; reevaluate periodically based on actions of State and other counties



Potential program if administered by El Dorado County (e.g. Public Health)

Process performed by County:

1. Accept application, with required documentation and fee (County and State).
2. Input applicant photo and data into State online system.
3. Verify physician recommendation (via fax).
4. Receive card from State via UPS and verify accuracy.
5. Notify applicant card is available for pick up.
6. Document disposition of card when retrieved by applicant.
7. Process revenue and monthly remittance to State.



Outsourcing Options

- Collaborate with a nearby county already implementing MMICP to process El Dorado County residents. (Locally only Amador has implemented MMICP and they are not interested)
- Locate a vendor to administer the program (None identified, would need to do a RFP. Cannot be a medicinal marijuana distributor.)



Next steps in MMICP Implementation

1. Complete plan and develop documentation; establish fee.
2. Identify local administrator (County Department or outside vendor)
3. Submit plan to State for approval
4. Once approved, obtain necessary supplies/equipment and train personnel (or establish contract for outsourcing).
5. Notify community and physicians of implementation date and process.
6. Implement program.



Requested Board Action

Provide direction to staff relative to:

- Implementation of MMICP
 - If to implement, selection of local administrator, either internal or through RFP
- or
- Other information or action desired.