

MINUTES

Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee

Representative Josephine Garcia, Chair
Senator John Carley, Vice Chair



First Meeting, 2025 Interim
Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Room 413 – State Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota

The first interim meeting of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee was called to order by Senator John Carley at 10:00 a.m. (CT) on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, in Room 413 of the State Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota.

A quorum was determined with the following members answering roll call: Representatives Bobbi Andera, and Josephine Garcia; and Senators John Carley, and Lauren Nelson; and Non-Legislators Francine Arneson (remote), Julie Bostic (remote), Kasey Entwistle, Kristi Palmer, Andrew Schock (remote), Jon Thum (remote), and Pat West.

Staff members present included Anita Thomas, Chief Research and Legal Analyst; Bill Douglas, Fiscal Analyst; Dilyn Tramp, IT Support Specialist; and DeLaney Lewis, Administrative Specialist.

NOTE: For the purpose of continuity, the following minutes are not necessarily in chronological order. All referenced documents distributed at the meeting are hyperlinked to the document on the Legislative Research Council website. This meeting was live streamed. Each section contains a hyperlink to the time stamp pertaining to that item in the archived live stream available at sdlegislature.gov.

Election of Officers

Senator Carley asked for nominations for the position of Chair of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee. [\(01:56.540\)](#)

Senator Nelson moved, seconded by Ms. Palmer, that Representative Josephine Garcia be appointed Chair of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee. [\(02:02.700\)](#)

Ms. Entwistle moved, seconded by Mr. Schock, that Representative Bobbi Andera be appointed Chair of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee. [\(03:13.360\)](#)

The motion to appoint Representative Josphine Garcia as Chair of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee prevailed on a ballot vote with 6 AYES. [\(09:07.720\)](#)

Representative Garcia asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee. [\(09:31.140\)](#)

Senator Nelson moved, seconded by Representative Andera, that Senator John Carley be appointed Vice Chair of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee. The motion prevailed on a roll call vote with 10 AYES and 1 EXCUSED. Voting AYE: Andera, Nelson, Arneson, Bostic, Entwistle, Palmer, West, Schock, Carley, and Garcia. EXCUSED: Thum. [\(10:59.580\)](#)

South Dakota Department of Health Office of Medical Cannabis

Ms. Whitney Brunner, Administrator, Office of Medical Cannabis, presented an overview of the Medical Cannabis Program and responded to questions from the committee regarding registry identification cards, establishments, inspections, and software systems used within the program ([Document 1](#)) ([Document 2](#)). [\(16:30.060\)](#)

Medical Cannabis Industry

Mr. Jeremiah Murphy, Lobbyist, Cannabis Industry Association of South Dakota, Rapid City, provided statistics regarding product sources, addressed controls on medical marijuana, and responded to questions from the committee ([Document 3](#)). ([01:18:19.940](#))

Mr. Emmett Reistroffer, Director of Government Relations, Genesis Farms, Rapid City, discussed patient participation in the program and regulation of the industry, and responded to questions from the committee. ([01:54:03.920](#))

Mr. Kittrick Jeffries, Dakota Cannabis Consulting, Rapid City, discussed the medical cannabis industry and responded to questions from the committee. ([02:37:51.400](#))

Law Enforcement

Mr. Jon Thum, Chief, Sioux Falls Police Department, Sioux Falls, discussed medical marijuana from a law enforcement perspective, and responded to questions from the committee. ([02:58:33.000](#))

Mr. Pat West, Sheriff, Meade County, Sturgis, discussed issues faced by law enforcement, offered suggestions to resolve those issues, and responded to questions from the committee. ([03:13:11.960](#))

Public Comments

Ms. Char Gamble, Self, Rapid City, discussed her research findings regarding efficacy, qualifying conditions, and U.S. reciprocity ([Document 4](#)) ([Document 5](#)) ([Document 6](#)) ([Document 7](#)). ([03:25:21.840](#))

Representative Travis Ismay, Self, Newell, discussed his concerns for the health of South Dakotans and responded to questions from the committee. ([03:41:38.200](#))

Mr. Fred Deutsch, Self, Florence, discussed his experience obtaining a registry identification card and responded to questions from the committee. ([03:50:50.340](#))

Ms. Liz Tiger, Self, Spearfish, discussed her experience with medical cannabis treatments for people with disabilities. ([04:03:48.760](#))

Mr. Tyler Koehne, Crushmore, Self, Rapid City, discussed the manufacturing of medical cannabis within his company and responded to questions from the committee. ([04:12:00.960](#))

Ms. Rhonda Milstead, Self, Hartford, discussed the health and safety of South Dakota children. ([04:20:08.020](#))

Mr. Bob Coolidge, Pharmacist, Self, Pierre, discussed concerns that pharmacists have regarding medicinal marijuana. ([04:27:15.360](#))

Adjournment

Senator Carley moved, seconded by Representative Andera, that the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee be adjourned. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. ([04:41:43.100](#))

The Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee adjourned at 4:06 p.m. (CT).