

NATALIE M. LAPRADE

MMCC

MARYLAND
MEDICAL
CANNABIS
COMMISSION

Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission (MMCC)

Presentation to the House Health and Government Operations Committee

January 29, 2019



Briefing Outline

- **MMCC 2018 Accomplishments**
- **Patient, Caregiver, and Provider Data**
- **Licensed Medical Cannabis Growers, Processors, and Dispensaries**
 - Licensing
 - Sales
- **Implementation of House Bill 2 – Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission Reform Act**

MMCC

- **MMCC is an independent commission within the Department of Health**
- **16 Commissioners**
 - Chair and Vice Chair
 - Policy, Education, Research, Finance, and Executive Committees
 - Part-time; serve in 4-year staggered terms
- **FY 2018 Budget \$3.5 million; FY 2019 projected budget \$6.9 million**
 - MMCC 100% funded through special fund and medical cannabis license fees
- **38 full-time staff plus analytic and programming support from contractors**

Commission Composition

Chairman – Brian Lopez

Executive Director – Joy A. Strand, MHA

Deputy Director – Lori M. Dodson, M.S. MT(ASCP)

Commission Makeup

- Three licensed physicians
- Law enforcement rep.
- Medical cannabis scientist
- Registered nurse - hospice
- Licensed pharmacist
- MD NCADD
- Sec. of Health or Designee
- Licensed Attorney
- University of Maryland representative
- Maryland State's Attorneys' Association representative
- Horticulture expert
- Office of Comptroller

MMCC Accomplishments

- **METRC & Patient Verification Functionality Improved**
 - Maryland requires real-time verification
- **Regulatory Amendments to Improve Testing, Transport, and Patient Safety**
- **Patient ID Card Requirement** – aligns with statute
 - Beginning April 1, 2019 ID card required for all purchases
- **Ancillary Business Registration**
 - Secure Transportation Companies, Delivery Companies, Waste Removal
 - Application being finalized
- **Provider and Patient Education Materials**
 - Developed patient education materials on the program, how to register, methods of administration
 - Collaborated with national educational organization to develop continuing education curriculum for providers
- **Compliance Program Development**
 - Focus on Compliance for Quality and Safety
 - Inspection and reporting processes

Patients, Caregivers, and Providers

Patients and Caregivers

Registration Type	Number of Patients and Caregiver
Patients	54,939
Caregivers	4,947
Minor Patients	145
Hospice Patients	176
Note: MMCC receives on average 200+ applications per day	

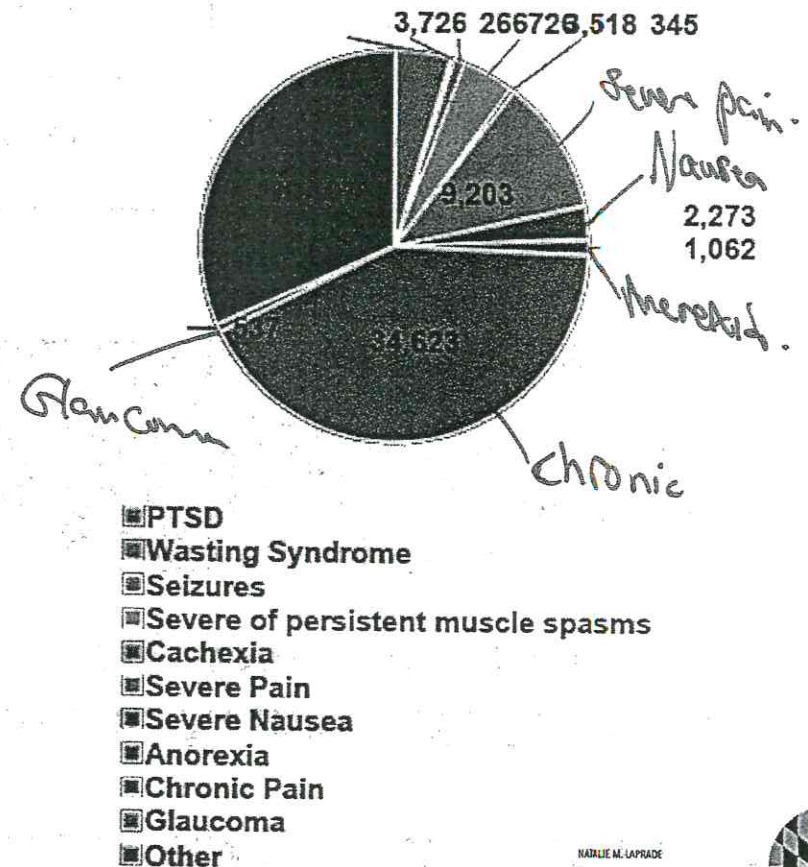
Certifying Providers

Provider Type	Number of Certifying Providers
Physicians	755
NP/CNM	406
Podiatrists	15
Dentists	77
Total	1,253

Qualifying Medical Conditions

(As of December 6, 2018)

Medical Condition	Number of Certified Patients
Depression	3,726
Chronic Pain Syndrome	266
Seizures	726
Severe or persistent muscle spasms	3,518
Cachexia	345
Severe Pain	9,203
Severe Nausea	2,273
Anorexia	1,062
Chronic Pain	34,623
Glaucoma	537
Other	26,167



Growers, Processors, and Dispensaries

License Restrictions

As of May 15, 2018

- 15 growers
- No statutory limit on processors
- No statutory limit on dispensaries

Effective May 15, 2018

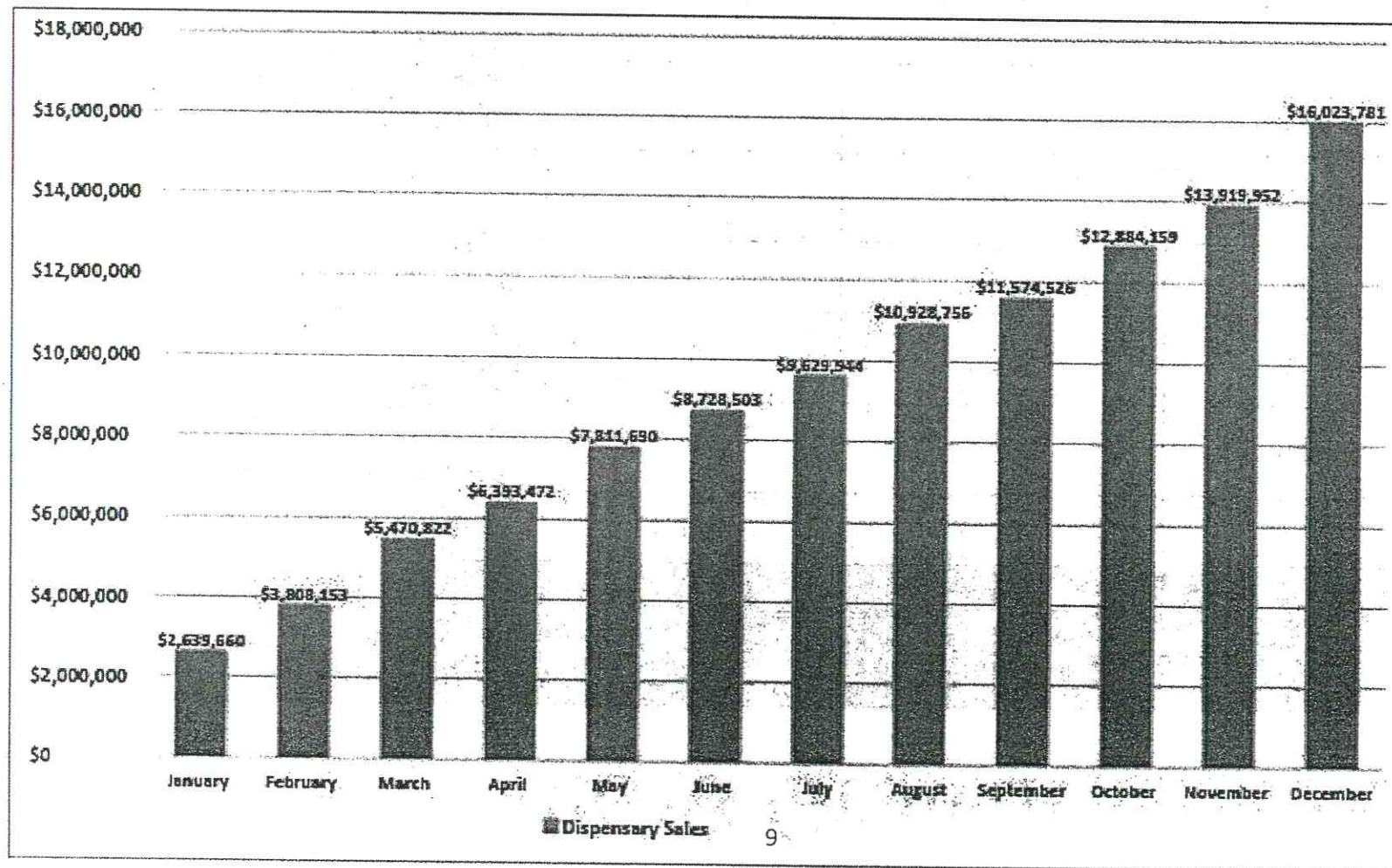
- 22 growers
- 28 Processors
- No statutory limit on dispensaries

Current Number of Licensed and Stage One Pre-Approvals

License Type	Licensed	Stage One Pre-Approval
Grower	15	3
Processor	16	2
Dispensary	71	31

Medical Cannabis Dispensary Sales

January 1 – December 31, 2018
2018 Total Retail Sales = \$ 109,503,418



2018 Growth

	As of December 31, 2017	As of December 31, 2018	Percent Increase
Certified Patients	11,489	54,643	375%
Certified Caregivers	806	4,866	504%
Certifying Providers	606	1,228	103%
Licensed Growers	14	15	7%
Licensed Processors	12	16	33%
Licensed Dispensaries	22	71	223%
Monthly Dispensary Sales (Total)	\$1,804,595	\$16,023,781	788%

MMCC 2019 Initiatives

- Expand IT Functionality – Continued System Improvements
- IT System Cohesiveness, including Record Management System
- Education and Training for Agents
- Standardization and Enhancement of Testing Program
- Expand Compliance Team Staff
 - Focus on streamlining inspections
 - Focus on Enforcement
- Edibles Program

Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission Reform Act

Statutory Requirements

Licensing

- Increase number of grower licenses from 15 to 22
- Establish limit on processor licenses at 28
- Grant Stage-One Pre-Approval to (1) next two numerical selections on the August 2016 RESI grower list; (2) any licensed grower with a top-30 processor ranking; and (3) any licensed processor with a top-30 grower ranking
- Promulgate emergency regulations to promote diversity among ownership in the medical cannabis industry
- Develop, solicit, and accept new grower and processor applications

Statutory Requirements

Outreach, Education, and Training

- Conduct education, outreach, and training to small, minority, and women businesses on employment and licensing opportunities
- Award grants to educational and business development organizations to assist small, minority and women business owners interested in the medical cannabis industry
- Provide information on potential federal law consequences of becoming a patient

Statutory Requirements

Legislative Reports

- Potential rules and regulations governing advertising and marketing of medical cannabis
- Treatment of opioid use disorder with medical cannabis
- Revenue necessary and potential funding mechanism for the Compassionate Use Fund
- Progress of emergency regulations – due every 30 days

HB 2 Implementation

Emergency Regulations to Promote Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Diversity among Licensees

- Submitted October 18, 2018 and Approved by AELR effective November 13, 2018

Award of Stage One Pre-Approvals

- Three grower and processor pre-approvals issued on May 25, 2018

Outreach and Education to Small, Minority, and Women Business Owners

- Co-hosted 12 events across the State with the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland

Education and Business Grant Awards

- 5 awards (\$45,000 each) to educational and business development organizations

Legislative Reports on Progress of Emergency Regulations, Opioid Use Disorder, Advertising, and Compassionate Use Fund

Draft Grower and Processor Applications Published on January 11, 2019