

Hawai'i was the very first state to pass a medical marijuana law through the state legislature. As such, there are some weaknesses and compromises that need to be addressed. One of them is that there are no civil protections for medical marijuana patients in the state.

Most modern state medical marijuana laws have protections against discrimination for medical marijuana patients.

Q: Will these changes hurt landlords?

A: No. None of the other states that have these protections have had problems. In fact, this law may **help** landlords, because they may be unwittingly exposing themselves to lawsuits under the fair-housing law if they do not make "reasonable accommodations" for medical cannabis.

Q: Will this stop landlords from evicting patients for other reasons?

A: No. This only prevents landlords from evicting patients on the grounds of their legal cannabis use.

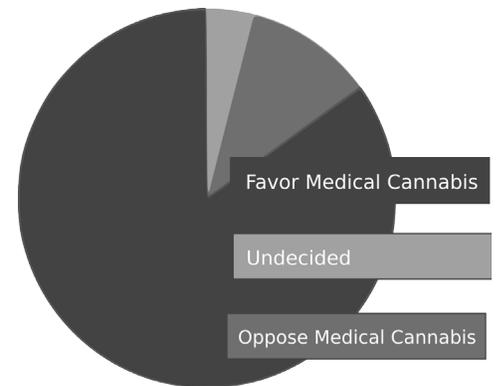
Q: Didn't we fix this problem in 2014?

A: In 2014 we took a big step with Act 060, but that law was narrow and didn't include properties where condo agreements or house rules etc. prohibit medical marijuana use. The law needs to be expanded!

Q: Does this mean people can smoke marijuana where they can't smoke tobacco?

A: No. Smoking cannabis will still be banned where tobacco smoke is banned. Patients have other ways to use their medicine.

2014 Survey Results



This is an urgent issue right now because there is momentum for change in Hawai'i.

In 2014, Act 060 was passed. It read:

"A provision in a rental agreement allowing for eviction of a tenant who has a valid certificate for the medical use of marijuana as provided in section 329-123 in any form is void, unless the rental agreement allows for eviction for smoking tobacco and the medical marijuana is used by means of smoking; provided that this section shall not apply where the articles of incorporation, declaration, bylaws, administrative rules, house rules, association documents, or a similar document of a condominium property regime or planned community association prohibits the medical use of marijuana."

Now that we have made these limited changes, its time to go further and support upcoming legislation that will expand these protections to more of our patients! There's no reason that legal medical marijuana use should make a person fear eviction or homelessness, especially if we can ensure that landlords have their rights protected as well!