

Good morning Chairwoman Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee. My name is Jason Wahl, Medical Marijuana Director within the Department of Health and Human Services (Department). I am here in favor of Senate Bill 2078 related to proposed additional language for appeals and a modification to referring credible criminal complaints to law enforcement.

The changes in the bill relate to two areas:

1. Sections 1, 3, and 4 propose language to add a time period for the appeals process when the Department denies an application for a registry identification card or revokes a registry identification card. While state law identifies such decisions may be appeals to the district court of Burleigh County, there is no time period set as to when an appeal is to be filed. Our Assistant Attorney General recommended the law have a specified time period and 30 days was determined to be a reasonable amount of time.
2. Section 2 would change the word 'shall' to 'may' for referring credible criminal complaints against a cardholder to law enforcement. Thus, the Department would not be required to contact law enforcement when minor issues arise and burden law enforcement personnel who are already facing resource challenges.

This concludes my testimony. I am happy to answer questions you may have.