HB 486 -- MEDICAL MARIJUANA LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

SPONSOR: Hicks

This bill establishes the "Reduction of Illegal Public Consumption by Allowing for the Compassionate Access to Medical Marijuana Act". The bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish a statewide medical marijuana lodging establishment system to license hotels, AirBNBs, or other lodging establishments that wish to allow medical marijuana patients to consume medical marijuana within the establishment.

The establishment or rental must:

- (1) Confirm that a guest who desires to consume medical marijuana has a medical marijuana card from any state;
- (2) Post a notice that medical marijuana may be consumed on the premises; and
- (3) Ensure that medical marijuana consumption areas are at least 20 feet from areas that do not allow consumption, or ensure that consumption areas are restricted to a specially designated floor of the building.

The license fee is \$50 and the license is valid for two years.

If an establishment or rental does not get the required license but knowingly allows guests to consume medical marijuana, they will be fined:

- (1) First offense: \$1000;
- (2) Second offense: \$2000;
- (3) Third and subsequent offense: \$5000; and
- (4) The fourth offense: suspension of the establishment's general lodging license or the rental's business license for one week.

If an establishment or rental does not post the notice required, they will be fined:

- (1) First offense: \$100;
- (2) Second offense: \$200;
- (3) Third offense: \$500; and

(4) The fourth offense: loss of the medical marijuana lodging establishment license for one year.

If an establishment or rental does not ensure consumption areas are at least 20 feet from non-consumption areas, they will be fined:

- (1) First offense: \$100;
- (2) Second offense: \$200;
- (3) Third offense: \$300; and
- (4) The fourth offense: loss of the medical marijuana lodging establishment license for one year.

Money's collected under this section shall be deposited into the newly created "Medical Marijuana Lodging Establishment Fund" for the costs of administration of this section.

This bill is similar to HB 2411 (2020).