

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDICAL CANNABIS REGULATION AND SAFETY ACT

Bureau of  
Medical  
Cannabis  
Regulation

---

August 30, 2016

# BMCR IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW

Responsibilities

Staffing

Collaboration with Sister Agencies

Public Outreach

Timelines

IT Solutions

# MEDICAL CANNABIS IN CALIFORNIA

1996

- Proposition 215, Compassionate Use Act

2003

- Senate Bill 420, Medical Marijuana Program

2015

- Medical Marijuana Regulation & Safety Act

# MEDICAL CANNABIS REGULATION & SAFETY ACT 2015 (MMRSA)

---

- ✓ AB 243, AB 266, SB 643
- ✓ Created Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation (BMMR) within DCA
- ✓ Created first State licensing program for medical cannabis
- ✓ Protection of patient, public and environment
- ✓ Responsibility for State licensing split between 3 State entities
- ✓ Local Control
  - ✓ Local authorization required before applying for a State license
  - ✓ Businesses compliant with local ordinances may continue to operate until status of state application is final
- ✓ **Laws provide skeleton of regulatory framework; provides flexibility and leaves details to regulatory process**

# MEDICAL CANNABIS REGULATION & SAFETY ACT

## SB 837 HIGHLIGHTS

---

- ✓ Renamed MMRSA to Medical Cannabis Regulation & Safety Act
- ✓ Renamed BMMR to Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation (BMCR)
- ✓ Changed licensing authority for testing laboratories
- ✓ Ability for cultivators and manufacturers to hold transporter licenses.
- ✓ Water rights requirements
- ✓ Other technical changes

# LICENSING AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBILITIES



**BMCR**

- Distributors
- Transporters
- Dispensaries
- Testing Laboratories

**CDFA**

- Cultivators
- Track and Trace

**CDPH**

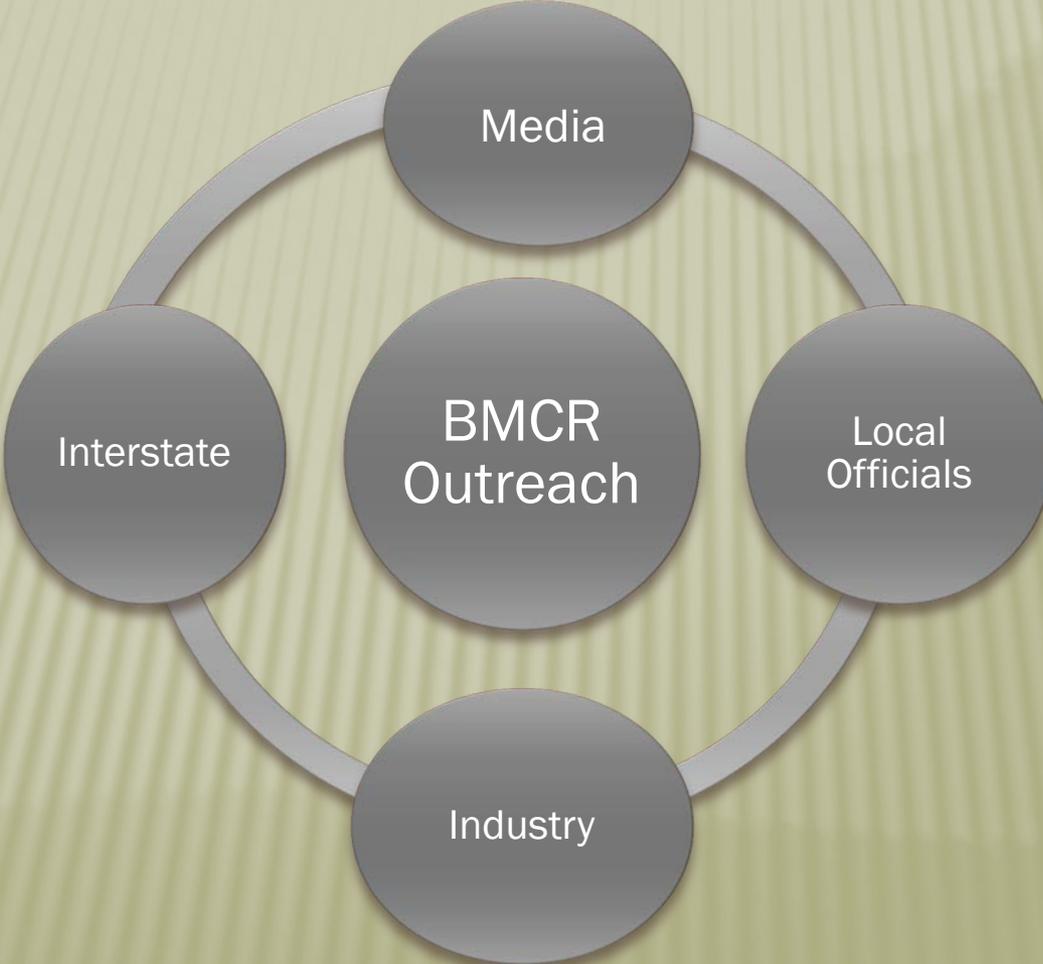
- Manufacturers

# TIMELINE

---

- ✓ Summer 2016– Complete informational sessions across the state
- ✓ Fall 2016 – Pre-regulatory stakeholder meetings
- ✓ All draft regulations noticed by early 2017
- ✓ Final regulations filed by end of 2017
- ✓ **Goal : Accepting applications for state licensure by January 1, 2018**

# BMCR OUTREACH



# BMCR PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

- Provided public with information about BMCR and MCRSA
- Introduced the public to California rulemaking process
- Listened and answered questions
- Encouraged participation in regulatory process



# PRE-REGULATORY MEETINGS

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.bmcr.ca.gov/meetings/index.shtml>. The website features a blue header with the text "Cannabis Regulation" and a navigation menu with links for "Applicants", "Consumers", "Licensees", and "Contact Us". Below the header, a section titled "Bureau Meetings" is highlighted with a blue arrow icon. The text in this section states: "The Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation has scheduled a series of pre-regulatory meetings at various locations across the state. All meetings will be held from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please check back for exact locations/addresses." Below this text is a list of six meetings, each preceded by a blue diamond icon:

- ♦ Redding – Monday, September 19
- ♦ Sacramento – Tuesday, September 20
- ♦ Santa Rosa – Thursday, September 22
- ♦ Oakland – Monday, September 26
- ♦ Fresno – Tuesday, September 27
- ♦ Los Angeles – Tuesday, October 4
- ♦ San Diego – Wednesday, October 5

At the bottom of the page, there is a link for "Previous Informational Sessions". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Windows logo, several application icons, and the system tray with the date and time "7:05 PM 8/29/2016".

# STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

---

## ✓ **Local Government/Law Enforcement:**

- ✓ Held In person sessions in locations of public information sessions
- ✓ Presentations/Webinars

## ✓ **Industry:**

- ✓ Attended Several Tours of Dispensaries, Testing Laboratories, and Cultivation Sites
- ✓ Speaking Engagements

## ✓ **Media:**

- ✓ Interviews with several major newspapers, magazines, and written submissions to variety of media outlets
- ✓ News releases, DCA blog, and List Serv email blasts

## ✓ **Other States:**

- ✓ Regular contact with officials from other states
- ✓ Attended Western States Cannabis meeting in April and hosted meeting in July

# BMCR MEDICAL CANNABIS' IMPACT ON MOTOR SKILLS STUDY

---

- ✓ MCRSA requires a study be conducted by UC San Diego's Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research (CMCR), including:
  - ✓ Precise effect of cannabis consumption on driving performance
  - ✓ Feasibility and validity of new methods for determining driving impairment and biomarkers in a roadside setting
- ✓ Contract Executed for Fiscal Years 2015/16 through 2019/20
- ✓ June 30 BMCR staff met with CMCR staff to tour the laboratory and discuss study design, simulation and cognitive assessments, and cannabis related fluid detection.

# BMCR CONTACT

Email : [\*bmcr@dca.ca.gov\*](mailto:bmcr@dca.ca.gov)

Website: [\*www.bmcr.ca.gov\*](http://www.bmcr.ca.gov)

Listserv:

[\*www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/bmcr/subscribe.php\*](http://www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/bmcr/subscribe.php)