

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 253

AN ACT

To expand research on the cannabidiol and marihuana.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Cannabidiol and Marihuana Research Expansion Act”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—REGISTRATIONS FOR MARIHUANA RESEARCH

Sec. 101. Marihuana research applications.

Sec. 102. Research protocols.

Sec. 103. Applications to manufacture marihuana for research.

Sec. 104. Adequate and uninterrupted supply.

Sec. 105. Security requirements.

Sec. 106. Prohibition against reinstating interdisciplinary review process for
non-NIH-funded researchers.

TITLE II—DEVELOPMENT OF FDA-APPROVED DRUGS USING
CANNABIDIOL AND MARIHUANA

Sec. 201. Medical research on cannabidiol.

Sec. 202. Registration for the commercial production and distribution of Food
and Drug Administration-approved drugs.

Sec. 203. Importation of cannabidiol for research purposes.

TITLE III—DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

Sec. 301. Doctor-patient relationship.

TITLE IV—FEDERAL RESEARCH

Sec. 401. Federal research.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

8 (1) the term “appropriately registered” means
9 that an individual or entity is registered under the
10 Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.)
11 to engage in the type of activity that is carried out
12 by the individual or entity with respect to a con-

1 trolled substance on the schedule that is applicable
2 to cannabidiol or marihuana, as applicable;

3 (2) the term “cannabidiol” means—

4 (A) the substance, cannabidiol, as derived
5 from marihuana that has a delta-9-
6 tetrahydrocannabinol level that is greater than
7 0.3 percent; and

8 (B) the synthetic equivalent of the sub-
9 stance described in subparagraph (A);

10 (3) the terms “controlled substance”, “dis-
11 pense”, “distribute”, “manufacture”, “marihuana”,
12 and “practitioner” have the meanings given such
13 terms in section 102 of the Controlled Substances
14 Act (21 U.S.C. 802), as amended by this Act;

15 (4) the term “covered institution of higher edu-
16 cation” means an institution of higher education (as
17 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act
18 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that—

19 (A)(i) has highest or higher research activ-
20 ity, as defined by the Carnegie Classification of
21 Institutions of Higher Education; or

22 (ii) is an accredited medical school or an
23 accredited school of osteopathic medicine; and

1 (B) is appropriately registered under the
2 Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et
3 seq.);

4 (5) the term “drug” has the meaning given the
5 term in section 201(g)(1) of the Federal Food,
6 Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(g)(1));

7 (6) the term “medical research for drug devel-
8 opment” means medical research that is—

9 (A) a preclinical study or clinical investiga-
10 tion conducted in accordance with section
11 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-
12 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(i)) or otherwise per-
13 mitted by the Department of Health and
14 Human Services to determine the potential
15 medical benefits of marihuana or cannabidiol as
16 a drug; and

17 (B) conducted by a covered institution of
18 higher education, practitioner, or manufacturer
19 that is appropriately registered under the Con-
20 trolled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.);
21 and

22 (7) the term “State” means any State of the
23 United States, the District of Columbia, and any
24 territory of the United States.

1 **TITLE I—REGISTRATIONS FOR**
2 **MARIHUANA RESEARCH**

3 **SEC. 101. MARIHUANA RESEARCH APPLICATIONS.**

4 Section 303(f) of the Controlled Substances Act (21
5 U.S.C. 823(f)) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
7 (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively;

8 (2) by striking “(f) The Attorney General” and
9 inserting “(f)(1) The Attorney General”;

10 (3) by striking “Registration applications” and
11 inserting the following:

12 “(2)(A) Registration applications”;

13 (4) by striking “Article 7” and inserting the
14 following:

15 “(3) Article 7”; and

16 (5) by inserting after paragraph (2)(A), as so
17 designated, the following:

18 “(B)(i) The Attorney General shall register a practi-
19 tioner to conduct research with marihuana if—

20 “(I) the applicant’s research protocol—

21 “(aa) has been reviewed and allowed—

22 “(AA) by the Secretary of Health and
23 Human Services under section 505(i) of
24 the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
25 (21 U.S.C. 355(i));

1 “(BB) by the National Institutes of
2 Health or another Federal agency that
3 funds scientific research; or

4 “(CC) pursuant to sections 1301.18
5 and 1301.32 of title 21, Code of Federal
6 Regulations, or any successors thereto; and

7 “(II) the applicant has demonstrated to the At-
8 torney General that there are effective procedures in
9 place to adequately safeguard against diversion of
10 the controlled substance for legitimate medical or
11 scientific use pursuant to section 105 of the
12 Cannabidiol and Marihuana Research Expansion
13 Act, including demonstrating that the security meas-
14 ures are adequate for storing the quantity of mari-
15 huana the applicant would be authorized to possess.

16 “(ii) The Attorney General may deny an application
17 for registration under this subparagraph only if the Attor-
18 ney General determines that the issuance of the registra-
19 tion would be inconsistent with the public interest. In de-
20 termining the public interest, the Attorney General shall
21 consider the factors listed in—

22 “(I) subparagraphs (B) through (E) of para-
23 graph (1); and

24 “(II) subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), if the
25 applicable State requires practitioners conducting re-

1 search to register with a board or authority de-
2 scribed in such subparagraph (A).

3 “(iii)(I) Not later than 60 days after the date on
4 which the Attorney General receives a complete applica-
5 tion for registration under this subparagraph, the Attor-
6 ney General shall—

7 “(aa) approve the application; or

8 “(bb) request supplemental information.

9 “(II) For purposes of subclause (I), an application
10 shall be deemed complete when the applicant has sub-
11 mitted documentation showing that the requirements
12 under clause (i) are satisfied.

13 “(iv) Not later than 30 days after the date on which
14 the Attorney General receives supplemental information as
15 described in clause (iii)(I)(bb) in connection with an appli-
16 cation described in this subparagraph, the Attorney Gen-
17 eral shall approve or deny the application.

18 “(v) If an application described in this subparagraph
19 is denied, the Attorney General shall provide a written ex-
20 planation of the basis of denial to the applicant.”.

21 **SEC. 102. RESEARCH PROTOCOLS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2)(B) of section
23 303(f) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C.
24 823(f)), as amended by section 101 of this Act, is further
25 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(vi)(I) If the Attorney General grants an application
2 for registration under clause (i), the registrant may amend
3 or supplement the research protocol without reapplying if
4 the registrant does not change—

5 “(aa) the quantity or type of drug;

6 “(bb) the source of the drug; or

7 “(cc) the conditions under which the drug is
8 stored, tracked, or administered.

9 “(II)(aa) If a registrant under clause (i) seeks to
10 change the type of drug, the source of the drug, or condi-
11 tions under which the drug is stored, tracked, or adminis-
12 tered, the registrant shall notify the Attorney General via
13 registered mail, or an electronic means permitted by the
14 Attorney General, not later than 30 days before imple-
15 menting an amended or supplemental research protocol.

16 “(bb) A registrant may proceed with an amended or
17 supplemental research protocol described in item (aa) if
18 the Attorney General does not explicitly object during the
19 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney
20 General receives the notice under item (aa).

21 “(cc) The Attorney General may only object to an
22 amended or supplemental research protocol under this
23 subclause if additional security measures are needed to
24 safeguard against diversion or abuse.

1 “(dd) If a registrant under clause (i) seeks to address
2 additional security measures identified by the Attorney
3 General under item (cc), the registrant shall notify the At-
4 torney General via registered mail, or an electronic means
5 permitted by the Attorney General, not later than 30 days
6 before implementing an amended or supplemental research
7 protocol.

8 “(ee) A registrant may proceed with an amended or
9 supplemental research protocol described in item (dd) if
10 the Attorney General does not explicitly object during the
11 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney
12 General receives the notice under item (dd).

13 “(III)(aa) If a registrant under clause (i) seeks to
14 change the quantity of marihuana needed for research and
15 the change in quantity does not impact the factors de-
16 scribed in item (bb) or (cc) of subclause (I) of this clause,
17 the registrant shall notify the Attorney General via reg-
18 istered mail or using an electronic means permitted by the
19 Attorney General.

20 “(bb) A notification under item (aa) shall include—

21 “(AA) the Drug Enforcement Administration
22 registration number of the registrant;

23 “(BB) the quantity of marihuana already ob-
24 tained;

1 “(CC) the quantity of additional marihuana
2 needed to complete the research; and

3 “(DD) an attestation that the change in quan-
4 tity does not impact the source of the drug or the
5 conditions under which the drug is stored, tracked,
6 or administered.

7 “(cc) The Attorney General shall ensure that—

8 “(AA) any registered mail return receipt with
9 respect to a notification under item (aa) is sub-
10 mitted for delivery to the registrant providing the
11 notification not later than 3 days after receipt of the
12 notification by the Attorney General; and

13 “(BB) notice of receipt of a notification using
14 an electronic means permitted under item (aa) is
15 provided to the registrant providing the notification
16 not later than 3 days after receipt of the notification
17 by the Attorney General.

18 “(dd)(AA) On and after the date described in subitem
19 (BB), a registrant that submits a notification in accord-
20 ance with item (aa) may proceed with the research as if
21 the change in quantity has been approved on such date,
22 unless the Attorney General notifies the registrant of an
23 objection described in item (ee).

24 “(BB) The date described in this subitem is the date
25 on which a registrant submitting a notification under item

1 (aa) receives the registered mail return receipt with re-
2 spect to the notification or the date on which the reg-
3 istrant receives notice that the notification using an elec-
4 tronic means permitted under item (aa) was received by
5 the Attorney General, as the case may be.

6 “(ee) A notification submitted under item (aa) shall
7 be deemed to be approved unless the Attorney General,
8 not later than 10 days after receiving the notification, ex-
9 plicitly objects based on a finding that the change in quan-
10 tity—

11 “(AA) does impact the source of the drug or
12 the conditions under which the drug is stored,
13 tracked, or administered; or

14 “(BB) necessitates that the registrant imple-
15 ment additional security measures to safeguard
16 against diversion or abuse.

17 “(IV) Nothing in this clause shall limit the authority
18 of the Secretary of Health and Human Services over re-
19 quirements related to research protocols, including
20 changes in—

21 “(aa) the method of administration of mari-
22 huana;

23 “(bb) the dosing of marihuana; and

24 “(cc) the number of individuals or patients in-
25 volved in research.”.

1 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the
2 date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall
3 promulgate regulations to carry out the amendment made
4 by this section.

5 **SEC. 103. APPLICATIONS TO MANUFACTURE MARIHUANA**
6 **FOR RESEARCH.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 303 of the Controlled
8 Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (k)
10 as subsections (d) through (l), respectively;

11 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(c)(1)(A) As it relates to applications to manufac-
14 ture marihuana for research purposes, if the Attorney
15 General places a notice in the Federal Register to increase
16 the number of entities registered under this Act to manu-
17 facture marihuana to supply appropriately registered re-
18 searchers in the United States, the Attorney General shall,
19 not later than 60 days after the date on which the Attor-
20 ney General receives a completed application—

21 (i) approve the application; or

22 (ii) request supplemental information.

23 “(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), an applica-
24 tion shall be deemed complete when the applicant has sub-
25 mitted documentation showing each of the following:

1 “(i) The requirements designated in the notice
2 in the Federal Register are satisfied.

3 “(ii) The requirements under this Act are satis-
4 fied.

5 “(iii) The applicant will limit the transfer and
6 sale of any marihuana manufactured under this sub-
7 section—

8 “(I) to researchers who are registered
9 under this Act to conduct research with con-
10 trolled substances in schedule I; and

11 “(II) for purposes of use in preclinical re-
12 search or in a clinical investigation pursuant to
13 an investigational new drug exemption under
14 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-
15 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(i)).

16 “(iv) The applicant will transfer or sell any
17 marihuana manufactured under this subsection only
18 with prior, written consent for the transfer or sale
19 by the Attorney General.

20 “(v) The applicant has completed the applica-
21 tion and review process under subsection (a) for the
22 bulk manufacture of controlled substances in sched-
23 ule I.

24 “(vi) The applicant has established and begun
25 operation of a process for storage and handling of

1 controlled substances in schedule I, including for in-
2 ventory control and monitoring security in accord-
3 ance with section 105 of the Cannabidiol and Mari-
4 huana Research Expansion Act.

5 “(vii) The applicant is licensed by each State in
6 which the applicant will conduct operations under
7 this subsection, to manufacture marihuana, if that
8 State requires such a license.

9 “(C) Not later than 30 days after the date on which
10 the Attorney General receives supplemental information
11 requested under subparagraph (A)(ii) with respect to an
12 application, the Attorney General shall approve or deny
13 the application.

14 “(2) If an application described in this subsection is
15 denied, the Attorney General shall provide a written expla-
16 nation of the basis of denial to the applicant.”;

17 (3) in subsection (h)(2), as so redesignated, by
18 striking “subsection (f)” each place it appears and
19 inserting “subsection (g)”;

20 (4) in subsection (j)(1), as so redesignated, by
21 striking “subsection (d)” and inserting “subsection
22 (e)”;

23 (5) in subsection (k), as so redesignated, by
24 striking “subsection (f)” each place it appears and
25 inserting “subsection (g)”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

2 (1) The Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C.
3 801 et seq.) is amended—

4 (A) in section 102 (21 U.S.C. 802)—

5 (i) in paragraph (52)(B)—

6 (I) by striking “303(f)” each
7 place it appears and inserting
8 “303(g)”; and

9 (II) in clause (i), by striking
10 “(d), or (e)” and inserting “(e), or
11 (f)”; and

12 (ii) in paragraph (54), by striking
13 “303(f)” each place it appears and insert-
14 ing “303(g)”;

15 (B) in section 302(g)(5)(A)(iii)(I)(bb) (21
16 U.S.C. 822(g)(5)(A)(iii)(I)(bb)), by striking
17 “303(f)” and inserting “303(g)”;

18 (C) in section 304 (21 U.S.C. 824), by
19 striking “303(g)(1)” each place it appears and
20 inserting “303(h)(1)”;

21 (D) in section 307(d)(2) (21 U.S.C.
22 827(d)(2)), by striking “303(f)” and inserting
23 “303(g)”;

24 (E) in section 309A(a)(2) (21 U.S.C.
25 829a(a)(2)), in the matter preceding subpara-

1 graph (A), by striking “303(g)(2)” and insert-
2 ing “303(h)(2)”;

3 (F) in section 311(h) (21 U.S.C. 831(h)),
4 by striking “303(f)” each place it appears and
5 inserting “303(g)”;

6 (G) in section 401(h)(2) (21 U.S.C.
7 841(h)(2)), by striking “303(f)” each place it
8 appears and inserting “303(g)”;

9 (H) in section 403(c)(2)(B) (21 U.S.C.
10 843(c)(2)(B)), by striking “303(f)” and insert-
11 ing “303(g)”;

12 (I) in section 512(c)(1) (21 U.S.C.
13 882(c)(1)) by striking “303(f)” and inserting
14 “303(g)”.

15 (2) Section 1008(e) of the Controlled Sub-
16 stances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 958(e))
17 is amended—

18 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “303(d)”
19 and inserting “303(e)”;

20 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking
21 “303(h)” and inserting “303(i)”.

22 (3) Title V of the Public Health Service Act (42
23 U.S.C. 290aa et seq.) is amended—

1 (A) in section 520E-4(c) (42 U.S.C.
2 290bb-36d(c)), by striking “303(g)(2)(B)” and
3 inserting “303(h)(2)(B)”;

4 (B) in section 544(a)(3) (42 U.S.C.
5 290dd-3(a)(3)), by striking “303(g)” and in-
6 sserting “303(h)”.

7 (4) Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42
8 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) is amended—

9 (A) in section 1833(bb)(3)(B) (42 U.S.C.
10 1395l(bb)(3)(B)), by striking “303(g)” and in-
11 sserting “303(h)”;

12 (B) in section 1834(o)(3)(C)(ii) (42 U.S.C.
13 1395m(o)(3)(C)(ii)), by striking “303(g)” and
14 inserting “303(h)”;

15 (C) in section 1866F(e)(3)(C) (42 U.S.C.
16 1395cc-6(e)(3)(C)), by striking “303(g)” and
17 inserting “303(h)”.

18 (5) Section 1903(aa)(2)(C)(ii) of the Social Se-
19 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(aa)(2)(C)(ii)) is
20 amended by striking “303(g)” each place it appears
21 and inserting “303(h)”.

22 **SEC. 104. ADEQUATE AND UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY.**

23 On an annual basis, the Attorney General shall assess
24 whether there is an adequate and uninterrupted supply of

1 marihuana, including of specific strains, for research pur-
2 poses.

3 **SEC. 105. SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—An individual or entity engaged
5 in researching marihuana or its components shall store it
6 in a securely locked, substantially constructed cabinet.

7 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR OTHER MEASURES.—Any
8 other security measures required by the Attorney General
9 to safeguard against diversion shall be consistent with
10 those required for practitioners conducting research on
11 other controlled substances in schedules I and II in section
12 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C.
13 812(c)) that have a similar risk of diversion and abuse.

14 **SEC. 106. PROHIBITION AGAINST REINSTATING INTER-**
15 **DISCIPLINARY REVIEW PROCESS FOR NON-**
16 **NIH-FUNDED RESEARCHERS.**

17 The Secretary of Health and Human Services may
18 not—

19 (1) reinstate the Public Health Service inter-
20 disciplinary review process described in the guidance
21 entitled “Guidance on Procedures for the Provision
22 of Marijuana for Medical Research” (issued on May
23 21, 1999); or

1 (2) require another review of scientific protocols
2 that is applicable only to research on marihuana or
3 its components.

4 **TITLE II—DEVELOPMENT OF**
5 **FDA-APPROVED DRUGS**
6 **USING CANNABIDIOL AND**
7 **MARIHUANA**

8 **SEC. 201. MEDICAL RESEARCH ON CANNABIDIOL.**

9 Notwithstanding any provision of the Controlled Sub-
10 stances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Safe and Drug-
11 Free Schools and Communities Act (20 U.S.C. 7101 et
12 seq.), chapter 81 of title 41, United States Code, or any
13 other Federal law, an appropriately registered covered in-
14 stitution of higher education, a practitioner, or a manufac-
15 turer may manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess
16 marihuana or cannabidiol if the marihuana or cannabidiol
17 is manufactured, distributed, dispensed, or possessed, re-
18 spectively, for purposes of medical research for drug devel-
19 opment or subsequent commercial production in accord-
20 ance with section 202.

21 **SEC. 202. REGISTRATION FOR THE COMMERCIAL PRODUC-**
22 **TION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND**
23 **DRUG ADMINISTRATION-APPROVED DRUGS.**

24 The Attorney General shall register an applicant to
25 manufacture or distribute cannabidiol or marihuana for

1 the purpose of commercial production of a drug containing
2 or derived from marihuana that is approved by the Sec-
3 retary of Health and Human Services under section 505
4 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C.
5 355), in accordance with the applicable requirements
6 under subsection (a) or (b) of section 303 of the Con-
7 trolled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823).

8 **SEC. 203. IMPORTATION OF CANNABIDIOL FOR RESEARCH**
9 **PURPOSES.**

10 The Controlled Substances Import and Export Act
11 (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.) is amended—

12 (1) in section 1002(a) (21 U.S.C. 952(a))—

13 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
14 the end;

15 (B) in paragraph (2)(C), by inserting
16 “and” after “uses,”; and

17 (C) inserting before the undesignated mat-
18 ter following paragraph (2)(C) the following:

19 “(3) such amounts of marihuana or cannabidiol
20 (as defined in section 2 of the Cannabidiol and Mar-
21 ihuana Research Expansion Act) as are—

22 “(A) approved for medical research for
23 drug development (as such terms are defined in
24 section 2 of the Cannabidiol and Marihuana Re-
25 search Expansion Act), or

1 “(B) necessary for registered manufactur-
2 ers to manufacture drugs containing marihuana
3 or cannabidiol that have been approved for use
4 by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs under
5 the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21
6 U.S.C. 301 et seq.),”;

7 (2) in section 1007 (21 U.S.C. 957), by amend-
8 ing subsection (a) to read as follows:

9 “(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no per-
10 son may—

11 “(A) import into the customs territory of the
12 United States from any place outside thereof (but
13 within the United States), or import into the United
14 States from any place outside thereof, any controlled
15 substance or list I chemical, or

16 “(B) export from the United States any con-
17 trolled substance or list I chemical,

18 unless there is in effect with respect to such person a reg-
19 istration issued by the Attorney General under section
20 1008, or unless such person is exempt from registration
21 under subsection (b).

22 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the import or
23 export of marihuana or cannabidiol (as defined in section
24 2 of the Cannabidiol and Marihuana Research Expansion
25 Act) that has been approved for—

1 “(A) medical research for drug development au-
2 thorized under section 201 of the Cannabidiol and
3 Marihuana Research Expansion Act; or

4 “(B) use by registered manufacturers to manu-
5 facture drugs containing marihuana or cannabidiol
6 that have been approved for use by the Commis-
7 sioner of Food and Drugs under the Federal Food,
8 Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).”.

9 **TITLE III—DOCTOR-PATIENT**
10 **RELATIONSHIP**

11 **SEC. 301. DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP.**

12 It shall not be a violation of the Controlled Sub-
13 stances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) for a State-licensed
14 physician to discuss—

15 (1) the currently known potential harms and
16 benefits of marihuana derivatives, including
17 cannabidiol, as a treatment with the legal guardian
18 of the patient of the physician if the patient is a
19 child; or

20 (2) the currently known potential harms and
21 benefits of marihuana and marihuana derivatives,
22 including cannabidiol, as a treatment with the pa-
23 tient or the legal guardian of the patient of the phy-
24 sician if the patient is a legal adult.

1 **TITLE IV—FEDERAL RESEARCH**

2 **SEC. 401. FEDERAL RESEARCH.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
5 Human Services, in coordination with the Director of the
6 National Institutes of Health and the heads of other rel-
7 evant Federal agencies, shall submit to the Caucus on
8 International Narcotics Control, the Committee on the Ju-
9 diciary, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
10 and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy
11 and Commerce and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
12 House of Representatives a report on—

13 (1) the potential therapeutic effects of
14 cannabidiol or marihuana on serious medical condi-
15 tions, including intractable epilepsy;

16 (2) the potential effects of marihuana, includ-
17 ing—

18 (A) the effect of increasing delta-9-
19 tetrahydrocannabinol levels on the human body
20 and developing adolescent brains; and

21 (B) the effect of various delta-9-
22 tetrahydrocannabinol levels on cognitive abili-
23 ties, such as those that are required to operate
24 motor vehicles or other heavy equipment; and

1 (3) the barriers associated with researching
2 marihuana or cannabidiol in States that have legal-
3 ized the use of such substances, which shall in-
4 clude—

5 (A) recommendations as to how such bar-
6 riers might be overcome, including whether pub-
7 lic-private partnerships or Federal-State re-
8 search partnerships may or should be imple-
9 mented to provide researchers with access to
10 additional strains of marihuana and
11 cannabidiol; and

12 (B) recommendations as to what safe-
13 guards must be in place to verify—

14 (i) the levels of tetrahydrocannabinol,
15 cannabidiol, or other cannabinoids con-
16 tained in products obtained from such
17 States is accurate; and

18 (ii) that such products do not contain
19 harmful or toxic components.

20 (b) ACTIVITIES.—To the extent practicable, the Sec-
21 retary of Health and Human Services, either directly or
22 through awarding grants, contacts, or cooperative agree-
23 ments, shall expand and coordinate the activities of the
24 National Institutes of Health and other relevant Federal
25 agencies to better determine the effects of cannabidiol and

1 marihuana, as outlined in the report submitted under
2 paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).

Passed the Senate March 24, 2022.

Attest:

Secretary.

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 253

AN ACT

To expand research on the cannabidiol and
marihuana.