



NEWS FROM
Assembly Health Committee Chair
Richard N. Gottfried

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For Immediate Release

Monday, December 16, 2013

PRESS ADVISORY

ALLOWING MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA
Assembly Holds Public Hearing on Long Island

On Wednesday, December 18, Assembly Health Committee Chair Richard N. Gottfried will hold a hearing in Mineola regarding medical use of marijuana. Currently, 20 states and the District of Columbia have medical marijuana laws. Assembly bill A.6357 (Gottfried)/S.4406 (Savino) would set up a tightly regulated and controlled medical marijuana system. This legislation passed the Assembly in 2013 with strong bi-partisan support.

Under A. 6357, practitioners licensed to prescribe controlled substances could certify patient need, and certified patients would register with the Health Department. Both the certification process and dispensing of medical marijuana would be included in the I-STOP prescription monitoring system for controlled substances enacted in 2012. The Health Department would license and regulate "registered organizations" to produce and dispense medical marijuana for certified patients.

This hearing is the second of two on the subject. The first was held in Buffalo on December 5. For more information, please see: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/comm/Health/20131125/> The hearing will also be webcast live at: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/av/>

What:

Public Hearing on medical marijuana

Who:

- Assembly Health Committee Chair Richard N. Gottfried
- Medical professionals, caregivers, advocates, and researchers
- Patients and parents including Paige Figi, whose daughter's story was covered by CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta
- Small business owners
- Policy advocates

Where:

Nassau County Legislative Chambers
Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building
1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

When:

Wednesday, December 18, 10:00 AM