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HAWAII RECEIVES A GRADE OF “B” FOR ITS MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

HONOLULU – Hawaii Department of Health has received a “B” and ranked the fifth highest in the nation for its medical marijuana program, based on a recent report card of new, regulated medical marijuana distribution programs issued by Americans for Safe Access (ASA).

The national organization’s mission is to reduce barriers to medical cannabis by creating policies to improve access for patients and researchers, using legislation, education, litigation, research and other means.

According to the report card, “Hawaii is on track to become one of the best programs in the country if they continue with their timely implementation.”

The grades ranged from B+ to F-. Hawaii’s “B” grade was based on 430 points out of a total 500, earning a score of 86 percent. The highest grade of “B+” was awarded to Illinois, with 449 points and an overall score of 89.9 percent

The report used a point system to grade the medical marijuana programs in 44 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories Guam and Puerto Rico, based on five criteria:

- Patients' rights and protection from discrimination
- Access to medicine
- Ease of navigation
- Functionality
- Product safety protocols

The complete report can be viewed at:

http://www.safeaccessnow.org/medical_marijuana_access_in_the_usa

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