

# One Hundred Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2025

## Introducer's Statement of Intent

### LB677

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**Chairperson: Senator Rick Holdcroft**

**Committee: General Affairs**

**Date of Hearing: March 03, 2025**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 677 aims to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework for the cultivation, processing, distribution, and sale of medical cannabis in Nebraska following the passage of Initiative 437 & 438. The bill creates the framework for the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission which will oversee the licensing and regulation of various entities involved in the medical cannabis industry including cultivators, dispensaries, product manufacturers, testing facilities, and transporters.

The intent of the bill is to provide a legal and regulated pathway for patients to access medical cannabis while safeguarding public health and safety. It includes provisions to prevent misuse and diversion of cannabis, such as requiring child-resistant packaging and clear labeling of cannabis products as well as mandating rigorous testing for contaminants and potency to ensure product safety and efficacy. The bill allows for the establishment of a seed-to-sale tracking system to monitor the movement of cannabis products throughout the supply chain, thereby preventing illegal distribution and ensuring compliance with state regulations. Additionally, it imposes a special sales tax rate on medical cannabis sales and outlines the distribution of tax revenue to support property tax relief. By addressing these various aspects, LB677 aims to create a balanced approach that meets the medical needs of patients while maintaining strict regulatory oversight.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Ben Hansen**