

Section 13-700.39, General Requirements for Land Uses, Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries

Section 1. Authority. This Ordinance is adopted under authority granted by M.R.S. Title 22, Chapter 558-C, Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act, § 2429-D.

Section 2: Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide for and regulate the operation of Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries within the City of Caribou. This ordinance establishes clear guidelines for the operation of two (2) Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries in the City of Caribou, in accordance with M.R.S. Title 22, Chapter 558-C Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act.

Section 3: No Caregiver Retail Stores Permitted. No business or individual shall operate or seek to establish a “Caregiver Retail Store” in the City of Caribou, as defined by M.R.S. Title 22 Ch. 558-C § 2421-A (12). However, this ordinance does not prohibit or limit the operation of “Caregivers,” as defined in M.R.S. Title 22, Ch. 558-C, § 2421-A (11).

Section 4: No Adult Use Stores Permitted. No business or individual shall operate or seek to establish an “Adult Use Retail Store” under M.R.S. Title 28-B, Chapter 1 Cannabis Legalization Act.

Section 5. Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensary. A Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensary, as defined in M.R.S. Title 22, Ch. 558-C, § 2421-A (41), may operate in the City of Caribou, subject to the requirements and restrictions of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Definitions.

Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensary: Consistent with M.R.S. Title 22, Ch. 558-C §2421-A(41), an entity registered in accordance with this chapter that acquires, possesses, cultivates, manufactures, delivers, transfers, transports, sells, supplies or dispenses cannabis paraphernalia, cannabis plants, harvested cannabis, related supplies or educational materials to qualifying patients and the caregivers of those patients.

Medical use: Consistent with M.R.S. Title 22, Ch. 558-C §2421-A (31), the acquisition, possession, cultivation, manufacture, use, delivery, transfer or transportation of cannabis or cannabis paraphernalia relating to the administration of cannabis to treat or alleviate a qualifying patient's medical diagnosis or symptoms for which a medical provider has provided the qualifying patient a written certification under this chapter.

Section 7. Standards for Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries.

- 1. Permit Required.** Upon approval and direction of the City Council, the City Clerk is authorized to issue two (2) City of Caribou Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensary Permits. Applicants for a Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensary permit must complete an initial permit application and annual renewal applications, submitted on the appropriate form

provided by the City, in accordance with City of Caribou Code, Chapter 7, Article XI.

2. Zoning.

- a) Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries are allowed in Zones R3 and RC2 only.
- b) Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries may not be located:
 - i) Within 300 feet of an existing residential dwelling
 - ii) Within 300 feet of an adjoining Zone boundary line
 - iii) Within a Drug Free Safe Zone, or within 500 feet of a pre-existing Private School, Day Care Facility, or House of Public Worship.

- 3. Security.** Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries must comply with the security requirements outlined in the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule, 18-691 C.M.R., Ch. 2, § 3 (B) and any revisions, amendments, or updates thereto.

Section 8. Inspections and Compliance.

- 1. Local Inspections.** All Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries must remain in compliance with applicable building, safety, fire, and health codes and shall be subject to inspection by the Code Enforcement Officer, Fire Department, Police Department, and any other designated municipal authority, as may be required.
- 2. State Compliance.** All Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries must comply with the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act and must remain in good standing with the Maine Office of Cannabis Policy. On an annual basis, permitted Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensaries shall provide the Caribou Code Enforcement Officer proof of an active license issued by the Maine Office of Cannabis Policy.

Section 9. Enforcement. Any violation of this ordinance may result in enforcement actions, including fines, suspension or revocation of permit, and imposition of special conditions or constraints regarding operations, in accordance with applicable municipal procedures.

Section 10. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect 30 days after enactment by the Caribou City Council, and shall remain in effect until it is amended or repealed.

Section 11. Fees. A Registered Medical Cannabis Dispensary shall be subject to annual permitting fees, initial or renewal site inspection fees, and any additional compliance inspections fees that may be required, as outlined in City of Caribou Code, Chapter 7 § 1102(7).

Section 12. Penalty Any person violating the provisions of this ordinance may be liable for the penalties set forth in City of Caribou Code, Chapter 7 §1105.