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Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 6, 2015 Contact: Communications Office (850) 245-4111

The Florida Department of Health Announces Successful Negotiated Rulemaking Session

TALLAHASSEE — After two days of a marathon rulemaking workshop, the Office of Compassionate Use with the Florida Department of Health announced today the successful negotiation of a proposed rule to implement the Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act. This rulemaking negotiation is part of the department's commitment to working with all stakeholders to deliver this product to children with intractable epilepsy and people with advanced cancer as safely and quickly as possible.

"We came in with an unprecedented opportunity to collaborate and create a complete set of rules in just two days, and we did so successfully," said Patricia Nelson, director of the Office of Compassionate Use. "This rule brings us much closer to providing this product safely and efficiently to children and families dealing with intractable epilepsy and patients dealing with advanced cancer."

The 12 committee members who successfully negotiated the rule included nurseries, patient advocates, out-of-state experts and other interested parties. Highlights of the rule include a scorecard to guide the selection of applicants, timeline requirements for product development and application fees.

A copy of the rule is available at

https://www.flrules.org/Gateway/View_notice.asp?id=15645147. A public hearing, if requested, is scheduled for March 2, 2015, in Tallahassee.

The department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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