Legal marijuana celebrates its first year in Nevada

By Chris Kudialis, Las Vegas Sun

The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, which regulated medical marijuana when the first dispensary in Nevada opened in July 2015 to the end of 2016, is now only in charge of registering and issuing medical cards to patients.

Though recreational buyers are charged 10 percent more for the same product at dispensaries as registered medical patients, Nevada's medical cardholders decreased from a peak of 27,000 in May 2016 to less than 20,000 per most recent tallies.

State Sen. Tick Seger-blom, who championed state legalization of the plant as a state senator, said the drop in medical patients is likely spurred by the anonymity of buying the plant recreationally. Medical cardholders must be registered with state authorities, while recreational buyers are not required to submit any personal information to the state.

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