NAC 453A Sec. 35. 1. A medical marijuana establishment must surrender its medical marijuana registration certificate and reapply for a medical marijuana establishment registration certificate during the annual 10 business day application period during which the Division is accepting applications to operate medical marijuana establishment registration certificates:
(a) Before an additional person gains an ownership interest in the medical marijuana establishment; and

As a 14 year Nevada small business owner/operator, this provision could potentially cripple the growth of or the business itself. I do not ever see surrendering a certificate, only to re-apply.
Having the ability to grow any business through outside financial investment is essential to the survival and overall success. The requirement to cease operations only to re-apply to the State for a new license adds an unnecessary risk to interested investors. The lost revenue, disruption to patient care and lost employee wages create a high degree of uncertainty. I am hard pressed to name any Nevada licensed business that requires the business to shut down and re-apply in order to grow through outside investments. I feel that this provision is a hindrance to the success of NRS 453A. What is the sate attempting to accomplish and what is an alternative? Does this also mean a five thousand dollar nonrefundable application fee per application plus an additional cost of the license. $30,000 for a dispensary license for example. These costs quickly add up for a seed to sale business model.
Would existing MME businesses receive priority to new applicants? Please clarify.
In addition, any new owner will need to qualify for a medical marijuana establishment agent card and vetting process through the application process. If the prospective owner does not qualify for a MMEA card then ownership of a MME will not be possible. Doesn't this process provide the stop-gap measures the State is looking for without the burden of closing and re-applying?
I recommend that (a) of Sec. 35. 1(a) be removed.

(b) Any time there is a change in the location of the medical marijuana establishment if:
(1) It is a material change that requires the establishment to go through an approval process by a local governmental entity; or
(2) The new location is more than 5 miles from its original approved location.

Rather than surrender the registration certificate, wouldn't an approval letter regarding the new location from the local government be sufficient.

5 miles is not a significant distance to relocate, especially cultivation facilities which may be located within industrial and/or agriculturally zoned areas.
I recommend replacing (b) with an approval letter requirement from the local government.

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