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Citizens for a Safe and Healthy Texas

# Marijuana Bills Advancing to the Senate in Texas.

<u>HB 441</u> <u>HB 1535</u>

Dear CSHT Supporters,

Advancing marijuana bills in Texas is a big step toward full legalization and normalizes marijuana use. In the last legislative session, <u>CSHT</u> did not oppose decimalization for simple possession bills. After seeing the deception of the Hemp Industry (wanting smokable hemp, marketing Delta 8-THC to Texas youth), and corrupt lobbyists in other states bulldoze their way to full legalization with limited regulations, we are recommending that Texas should <u>HOLD THE LINE</u> and oppose every marijuana-related bill that comes up.

#### **Keep Marijuana Messes from expanding in Texas!**

We need your voice. We are providing two short letters for you to copy and paste and send to your Texas State Senators today. You can find their contact information at this link.

Please follow these instructions.

- 1. Click "Who Represents Me?"
- 2. Fill in your information
- 3. Click on the name that says Texas Senate. (on the contact page you will find a way to email or send a letter to them)
- 4. Please also send this letter to Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick at this link.

### Sample Letter for Marijuana Possession

Name

address

phone

email address

Bill H.B. No 441

Dear Texas State Senator,

Please opposed bill HB 441 to stop the expansion of marijuana in Texas, and decrease the burdens on taxpayers, families, and children for the following reason:

- \*Marijuana is the main drug used by preparators in childhood deaths from neglect and abuse in the state of Texas. The resource is at this <u>link</u> on page 21.
- \*Small amounts of marijuana flowers and products can contain high potency THC in deceptive forms like toothpicks, pills/mints, oils and vapes, candies, powder, suppositories, and inhalers. Determining how much THC each product contains will cost the taxpayers time and money and increase the addiction/mental health crisis. THC, the addictive chemical in marijuana is a hard dangerous drug that isn't proven safe to use at any age. Even small amounts of THC can cause the disease of addiction and psychosis. Once a person has a drug-induced psychotic episode, the THC in marijuana compared to all the other drugs, has the highest conversion rate to schizophrenia (chronic psychosis).
- \*Currently, the Texas Hemp industry is working closely with the Colorado Hemp industry and finding loopholes in the laws, as explained in this New York Times article. They are now producing the chemical Delta-8 THC (similar to Delt-9 THC) to sell in smoke shops and promote to our children. Please listen to Will, an 18-year-old in recovery, who lives in Houston describe how he got just as high and just as paranoid from Delta-8 THC as he did from Delta-9 THC (the addictive chemical from the marijuana/cannabis plant). Will's video listen at 9:30 to 16:55.
- \* A 28-year-old mother and her 3 young children were killed by a driver who was stopped 20 minutes prior to the crash with marijuana in his car. He (the driver) is currently being charged with three counts of Intoxication Manslaughter and one count of Intoxication Assualt. If marijuana wasn't decriminalized in Harris county, this mother and 3 children may still be alive. With more marijuana users in Texas, there will be more fatalities on our roads. Here's the data from other states.

Loosening laws on marijuana is a slippery slope and opens a pathway to full legalization of marijuana and other drugs. This is a clear danger to public health and safety, which will increase costs to taxpayers, and most importantly, puts public health and safety at a greater risk.

Please **Hold The Line** and keep marijuana messes from expanding in Texas. Testing for THC levels will cost the taxpayers greatly and grow our government.

Thank you for your service and time,

## **Sample Letter for Medical Cannabis**

Name address phone email address Bill #

Dear Texas State Senator,

Please opposed bill HB 1535.

States fail to regulate CBD and other marijuana products. Medicine is approved by the FDA, not by public opinion or anecdotal claims. Medicine doesn't contain contaminants like heavy metals and pesticides. It has animal and human trials, known harms and risks, proper dosages, and frequency of use. Please allow the FDA to use science to determine what is and isn't medicine like they did with <a href="Epidiolex">Epidiolex</a> (CBD) and <a href="Mariol.">Mariol.</a>. These medications come with warnings and known side effects.

\*Former Surgeon General, VADM Jerome Adams states, "There Is No Such Thing As Medical Marijuana." Please listen to this <u>2-minute video</u>

\*Opioid overdoses have increased in medical marijuana states. Marijuana proponents like to cite a study that looked at trends up to 2014, but when you expand the data to 2017, you see that opioid overdose has increased by 22% even prior to the Covid crisis.

\*Science shows <u>marijuana worsens PTSD symptoms</u>. Please do not promote the use of marijuana to treat our Veterans; it may likely harm them. Marijuana contains a chemical called THC that can cause <u>psychosis</u> and increase the risk for <u>suicide</u> up to 7 fold.

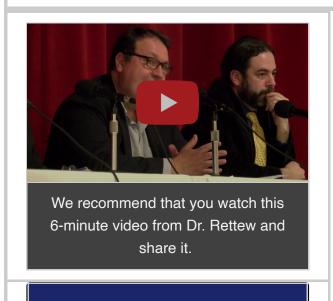
Calling marijuana medicine is a dangerous message. All medications should be determined by science, not public opinion. There is no need to expand marijuana laws for medical purposes because there are already FDA-approved medications, like Epidiolex and Marinol, that can be prescribed by a medical professional.

Thank you for your service and time, sign your name

Thank you for taking the time to read through this entire email. That shows your dedication and commitment to the health and safety of the awesome state of Texas! If you have any questions, please contact us at

info@safehealthytexas.org

Aubree Adams Bronwen Skinner Jesse LaBlanc



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