



Oregon Board of Pharmacy
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 150
Portland, Oregon
97232

May 18, 2010

Dear Board Members,

I am writing today to express my concerns over the potential of a "conflict of interest" by the involvement of LEO in both legislation as well as the rules making process.

LEO relies upon the continuation of drug prohibition, governed from the most conservative position, in order to maintain their current levels of FTE. The levels of "crime" associated with all drug violations either increases or decreases the budget they are allocated.

Drug dealers need prohibition because it keeps the costs very high.

Further, children are Less safe under the current laws, rules and policies that govern drug use. Kids are "employed" by black market entrepreneurs to sell illicit drugs to their school mates. These kids are shot and some die, and there is a never ending supply of "kids" who can be enticed to do this "work".

I suggest, if you do a bit more research you will find this to be fact and you will also find the situation is far worse than I can describe here.

I discourage reliance upon LEO "scare tactics" in claiming that there is an association between using Only cannabis, child and sexual abuse. Unless and until they are able to produce unquestionable reliable evidence stating otherwise, respectfully I consider those statements as pure "Reefer Madness" circa 1935.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reefer_Madness

<http://www.csdp.org/publicservice/anslinger.htm>

Cannabis prohibition was born and maintained for 70 years based on racism and greed. Modern prohibition does nothing to ensure public safety, again, prohibition serves to increase crime and decrease public safety.

A terrible consequence of prohibition:

http://beforeitsnews.com/story/40/613/SWAT_Raid_on_Missouri_Family_Video.html

"Marijuana and Public Safety" by Ret. Det. Howard Wooldridge:

http://beforeitsnews.com/story/36/881/Marijuana_prohibition_and_public_safety.html

You have a wonderful opportunity, under SB728, to finally "begin an end" to this ineffective approach to drug use concerns, address the problems using effective treatment programs, in tandem with Harm Reduction through education and most importantly common sense. Over the

past 40 years we have wasted more than \$1Trillion of yours and my tax dollars, locked up people for being involved in a victimless crime, added additional burdens to our social services and yes, people have died from using cannabis, but as a consequence of harsh laws, not from consumption.

In 1924, my father, then 6 years of age, was sent to the pharmacy with a "dime" to purchase 3 cannabis cigarettes for his grandmothers "womanly days". He never thought anything of it, in fact no one thought anything of it, for back then it was in many, many pharma preparations such as baby teething drops to horse liniment, it was "grandmas medicine" and it was called "cannabis".

I encourage you to place Cannabis in a Schedule 5, to improve the quality of life for all Oregonian's.

Thank you for reviewing my comments,

Sincerely,

Alice Ivany

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