



People United for Medical Marijuana

Dear Registered Voter,

Floridians have the right to safe, affordable, and effective healthcare. We have been denied that right for almost 40 years. The time has come for change. We are introducing a petition for an amendment to Florida's constitution giving patients the right to marijuana for treatment. We need your help to get this accomplished.

There is an overwhelming amount of evidence supporting this legislation. Since 1996, thirteen U.S. states have made it legal and nine additional states are proposing legislature. According to an AARP poll in 2004, 72% of Americans believe this medicine should be available by prescription. Florida has over 1.7 million seriously ill, the third largest population of seriously ill people in the country.

Marijuana has documented medicinal use for over 5,000 years. In 1970 the federal government declared it to be a schedule 1 substance meaning it has no medicinal value, although they do supply it to a limited number of patients. The Florida Supreme Court ruled in favor of an HIV/AIDS patient using marijuana for treatment. The application most well known is pain management, but less known is for treating muscle spasms, as found with Parkinson's, muscular dystrophy, and multiple sclerosis. Cancer patients are prescribed this medicine for treating nausea, reducing pain, and stimulating the appetite during chemotherapy treatments. Alzheimer's, arthritis, and glaucoma are all treatable with this medication.

Studies that have shown marijuana can halt the spread of several types of cancers, including brain, breast, lung, prostate and pancreatic. According to many doctors, marijuana is considered safer than pharmaceutical drugs, has virtually no side effects, and has no addictive compounds. There has never been a recorded case of an overdose, the lethal-to-effective-dose ratio is 40,000 to 1, that of aspirin is 10 to 1.

The financial benefits are just as impressive. Medical marijuana is a multi-billion dollar a year industry that will foster new small businesses and create tens of thousands of new jobs. The state will make an estimated \$200 million per year on sales tax revenues, while saving money on reduced health care expenses and reduced prison expenses.

Please show your support by signing the attached petition, telling everyone you know, donating at least \$5 and writing your representatives. Four small steps that will make the difference in this campaign. The forms can be accessed online at www.pufmm.org or you may call 407-405-0110 to have them mailed to you. Mail the forms along with a donation to PUFMM P.O. Box 560296 Orlando, FL 32856

Sincerely,

Kim Russell
Chairman
People United For Medical Marijuana