

ACTION ALERT on marijuana legalization bill that will establish marijuana stores in Vermont.

There will be a Public Hearing on S.241, a bill to legalize marijuana and more dangerously important, a bill to establish a system to sell marijuana in licensed stores throughout the State of Vermont. The dangers are clear. To read some talking points you can go to www.randolphvtplaintalk.com, a comment site maintained by Bob Orleck. You can get ideas from this and other sources such SAM-VT, who is fighting this legislation <http://sam-vt.org/>

The important thing to remember is that the vote was close in the Senate and right now there is sentiment building that we are rushing into this and we should not. To further this feeling we need people like you to go and testify. See the details below. You will need to be there by 4:30 PM. That is a must. The testimony begins at 5 PM in the House Chambers. Please forward this message on, bring friends to attend and plan to testify. It would be especially wonderful if we could get some youth to speak out on this.

The time is now to put your faith and beliefs in to action. We only have ourselves to blame if we do nothing. If we do not do it now and this bill is passed into law we will be dealing with the damage to our children, mentally ill victims and families will see increased death on the highways from drug-impaired drivers.

Remember that there is a good chance we will have a Governor and more legislators next year after the election who would not be open to marijuana legalization so for the proponents this is the kind of their last chance for a few years at least to get this legalization passed. This is not a mere exercise you will be engaging in. Your words could truly make all the difference in the world.

Please post this right away. We need a good turnout. I have been hearing optimistic and non-optimistic assessments about passage. Lobbyists and groups have given heavily with out-of-state money to support. Governor Peter Shumlin is for this legislation. The Governor wants to tax it for revenue raiser (dirty money) and he has received major campaign contributions from the Marijuana Policy Project, a pro-legalization organization based in Washington, DC.

Please plan to attend. Show up at 4:30 PM or before on March 31, 2016 and testify. Tell of your personal feelings. That is what is most important. You do not have to be an expert on the legalization in Colorado or anything else like that. Just your concern for your family and others and maybe any accounts that are personal to you.

Bob Orleck

Please consider making a commitment to take time out of your busy schedule to come to this public hearing and - as uncomfortable as it may feel - **sign up to speak! Your voice matters.** The representatives apparently see this as a sort of informal poll. The other side will surely be organizing loads of folks to show up and voice their view..we need to let our representatives know that the more Vermonters learn about the realities of legal marijuana, the more folks understand that legalizing it will not actually ... for example.. decrease use (!).. We all know that Colorado leads the nation in use rates in every age category at this point but many Vermonters are misled by false information put out by MMP. This is an opportunity to help educate your fellow Vermonters. If you care about safe roads, productive industry, healthy kids, and grandkids, please do come to the statehouse... and sign up to voice your view!

Public Hearing on Marijuana

THURSDAY

March 31, 2016

5pm - 7pm

House committees on Judiciary and on Government Operations will hold a public hearing from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 31 in the **House Chamber at the Statehouse**.

Lawmakers will be taking testimony on S.241, a bill that would legalize marijuana. The legislation is a framework for the regulation and distribution of the drug. It includes tax, budget and law enforcement components.

Members of the public can sign up 30 minutes prior to the hearing. Each person has 2 minutes to testify, testimony is taken on a first come, first serve basis, and everyone may not be able to testify in the two hour timeframe.



Here is your opportunity to speak about marijuana legalization to lawmakers.

Source: <http://vtdigger.org/2016/03/18/house-panels-to-hold-public-hearings-on-marijuana-legalization-march-31/>



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