

**ILCAAAP**

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

January 5, 2015**Medical Marijuana Alert****Will Quinn award medical marijuana licenses?**

Gov. Pat Quinn would not commit Sunday to awarding licenses to grow and sell medical marijuana in Illinois before he leaves office. "We're gonna try to do it as best we can," Quinn said. "There's a lot of research to be done, and it has to be done right." [Read more](#)

A Skokie Democrat who sponsored the state's medical marijuana legislation predicted permits will be awarded before Gov.-elect Bruce Rauner's inauguration on Jan. 12. "It would be very surprising, after all this work by the Quinn administration, to do it under the next governor who had indicated he was opposed to the program," state Rep. Lou Lang said. "I just don't see that happening." [Read more](#)

Illinois extends marijuana experiment to children

"There is good evidence of long-term harm of chronic marijuana use on the developing brain under 18 years of age," said Dr. Leslie Mendoza Temple, a suburban Chicago doctor who has given accredited lectures about medical marijuana for the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians.

... Illinois doctors will be reluctant to sign children's forms, and for good reason, said Dr. Joel E. Frader, a Northwestern University bioethicist and palliative care pediatrician at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago. Signing means a doctor believes there will be a therapeutic benefit that outweighs the risks. [Read more](#)

Medical marijuana still illegal on federal level

Kristi Kelly owns legal marijuana stores in Colorado called Good Meds and has lost 23 bank accounts in five years.

Even though medical marijuana is legal in Colorado and 22 other states, it's still illegal on the federal level. And that means banks generally don't want anything to do with pot shops. ... A pot business can't issue paychecks without a bank account. At Good Meds, employees have to go to a different location to pick up their wad of cash every payday,

count it, and sign off. [Read more](#)

Marijuana and Mental Illness

Marijuana is not helpful-and potentially dangerous-for people with mental illness. Using marijuana can directly worsen symptoms of anxiety, depression or schizophrenia through its actions on the brain.

... people who are at risk of developing schizophrenia-including individuals with close family relatives that have severe mental illness-will be more likely to experience psychosis if they are using marijuana. [Read more](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. CONTACT your [State Representative](#) and [Senator](#) and ask them to OPPOSE any expansion of medical marijuana or the decriminalization/legalization of marijuana.
2. SHARE this Alert with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
3. FORWARD to 10 others.

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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems | | ilcaaap@sbcglobal.net | 1132 West Jefferson
Springfield, IL 62702

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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems | 1132 West Jefferson | Springfield | IL | 62702