



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

July 13, 2015

Marijuana Action Alert

**Marijuana can't help PTSD - Call Gov.
to VETO HB 3299**



Editorial: THC can't help PTSD, experts say

"I have seen marijuana use create so many more problems than it solves," said Brian Lanier, a licensed clinical social worker and Army reservist in Colorado Springs who has worked more than 15 years with veterans and active-duty service members. ***"If nothing else, these people are just numbing themselves, which is definitely not appropriate treatment for PTSD. Telling someone to use marijuana for PTSD or any mental health problem is like telling them to go get drunk."***

... State laws sanctioning marijuana for medical reasons have "relied on low-quality scientific evidence, anecdotal reports, individual testimonies, legislative initiatives and public opinion," two psychiatrists at Yale University write in an editorial.

... Marijuana users mask problems without addressing the underlying causes of the stress, anxiety, fear and anger that keep them in a continual state of emotional distress. If they're under the drug's influence, therapy is nearly impossible, and the symptoms of PTSD worsen, said Dr. Stuart Gitlow, the immediate past president of the American Society of Addiction Medicine. [Read more:](#)

A bust for medical marijuana

The Journal of the American Medical Association last month published a compilation of 79 studies of the experiences of 6,000 patients who used the weed as a medicinal palliative.

The day may come when marijuana demonstrates its effectiveness as medicine. But that day is not yet at hand. [Read more:](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Contact the governor and ask him to VETO HB 3299 to extend the date for the medical marijuana program. **Phone** 800-642-3112 or [E-mail](#)

Forward to 10 others.

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