



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

April 29
Date, 2016

Marijuana & Alcohol Alert

Call your Legislators



The Legislature will be back in session next week, and we need your help to make calls to stop three bills before the session ends on May 31st.

SB 2228 treats the possession of marijuana like a speeding ticket, with a fine of \$100 to \$200 for possession of 10 grams of cannabis (25 "joints"), and changes zero tolerance laws for Marijuana. There is no age limit, no limit on the number of tickets a person can receive, and records would automatically be expunged every 6 months.

SB 2228 attempts to establish a level of THC where drivers are impaired, but testing drivers for evidence of marijuana use is difficult. **In 2014, about 13% of the driving fatalities in Illinois involved marijuana high drivers, resulting in the death of more than 100 persons.** About **56% of the marijuana drivers were speeding**, and **40% were also DUI**, according to the report, *The Involvement of Marijuana Drivers in Illinois Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes*. *SB 2228 could result in even more fatalities on Illinois highways.* **SB 2228 passed in the Senate and moves to the House.** See how your Senator voted.

HB 6125 allows the sale of alcohol near churches, schools, home for the indigent, and a distillery near a home for the age. It is our understanding that one of the exemptions is for a Starbucks to sell alcohol near a school. This is not good public policy. Businesses need to follow the law and respect the small buffer for the use of alcohol close to a church or school. See how your Representative voted.

HB 4820 legalizes the sale of alcohol at Public Universities and Community Colleges for public events. Virtually all college students experience the effects of college drinking - whether they drink or not.

In the past, some colleges asked for this exemption so they could serve alcohol at fundraisers on campus. However, this could cause problems for adults who drink and drive. Read

HB 4820 is very broad and **could allow Trustees to approve the sale of alcohol at sporting events and stadium events without Legislative approval.** This could lead to an increase in underage drinking, alcohol abuse, and drinking and driving. [Roll Call](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Contact your [State Representative](#) and ask him/her to **Vote NO on SB 2228 to decriminalize marijuana.** SB 2228 will increase marijuana use and impact public safety. Currently, only those with a medical marijuana card can legally possess marijuana.

Contact your [State Senator](#) and ask him/her to vote **NO on HB 6125 and HB 4820.**

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