



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

June 2, 2016

Marijuana Update & Alert

SB 10 to extend and expand medical marijuana passes in final hours



Illinois is still without a budget and many vendors have not been paid for providing services to the State. **Yet, Legislators rushed to pass SB 10 to help those investing in the new marijuana business.** The investors were concerned that only 6,000 people were issued medical marijuana cards and that doctors were reluctant to give a recommendation for the drug, which is listed as a Schedule I under federal law.

The House passed SB 10 on May 30, and the Senate passed the bill after 10:00 p.m. on May 31st. Click to see how your [Representative](#) and [Senator](#) voted.

SB 10 expands Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to the list of medical conditions that qualify for a medical marijuana card. **Research on veterans who were being treated for PTSD shows that marijuana may actually worsen symptoms and increase violent behavior.** [Read more](#)
Studies are being conducted about the impact of marijuana on PTSD in Veterans, and other people also suffer from PTSD. **Legislators rushed to expand marijuana use on Memorial Day when the drug may harm and/or worsen PTSD in Veterans.**

SB 10 allows convicted felons under the Controlled Substances act, Cannabis Control Act, or Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection to work in a dispensary or cultivation center to grow and sell marijuana. Many of those who were imprisoned for selling drugs were convicted of "lesser charges".

SB 10 extends the medical marijuana program until 2020, even though there are still two years left in the pilot program.

A recent study found that **psychosis was 5 times higher for regular users of cannabis,** adding to a **growing body of evidence linking drug use and mental health disorders.** [Read more](#)

There are not enough drug treatment centers or mental health facilities in Illinois. **It is not compassionate to increase cannabis use, and then not be able to care for the people who become addicted or experience mental health problems as a result of cannabis use.**

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Contact Governor Rauner and ask him to VETO SB 10. Call (217) 782-6830 or (312) 814-2121

If your Legislators vote NO on SB 10, contact your State Representative and/or State Senator to thank them for their vote.

Share this Alert with your faith community and ask them to CALL.

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