

March 19, 2015

# **Marijuana Action Alert**

# Call your State Representative to vote NO on HB 218 & 2750



**House Bill 2750**, which is a **precursor to the legalization of recreational marijuana**, passed out of committee this week and <u>will be sent to the full House for a vote</u>. This bill authorizes a cannabis study about the impact of taxing and legalizing marijuana. Legalizing another drug will increase use and abuse, and the tax will not begin to pay for the costs, as tobacco and alcohol have shown.

Earlier this year the governor of Colorado urged other states to "be cautious" about pot legalization, according to the Washington Post. Governor Hickenlooper, who opposed the initiative to legalize marijuana, said *pursuit of revenue should not be a factor in any state's decision to move ahead to legalize the drug*. Read more.

**House Bill 218** reduces the penalties for possession of 30 grams (75 "joints") of marijuana up to 500 grams (1,250 "joints") of marijuana to a misdemeanor, with a fine of \$100. Allowing possession of such large amounts of marijuana will lead to more marijuana use, especially among young people.

## Illinois medical pot rollout snarled by delays, lawsuits

The Chicago Tribune reported two businesses that failed to get licenses separately charge that the state Department of Agriculture unfairly awarded two licenses to Cresco Labs, LLC in Kankakee and Joliet. This month a judge issued a temporary order to prevent the state from giving the Kankakee license to Cresco and ordered the state to produce all the applications for the cultivation centers in the district. The Illinois attorney general is fighting the order, arguing that under the law, all applications are secret, and that it's a crime to release them.

At least two dispensaries have had proposed sites rejected by local officials, while other winners are seeking new investors. Read more.

#### FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

**Contact** your <u>State Representative</u> and ask him/her and ask them to wait for the medical marijuana law to be implemented and not rush to make marijuana more available on the streets in Illinois. Ask your Representative to Vote NO on HB 218 and HB 2750.

#### **PRAY**

Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action.



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