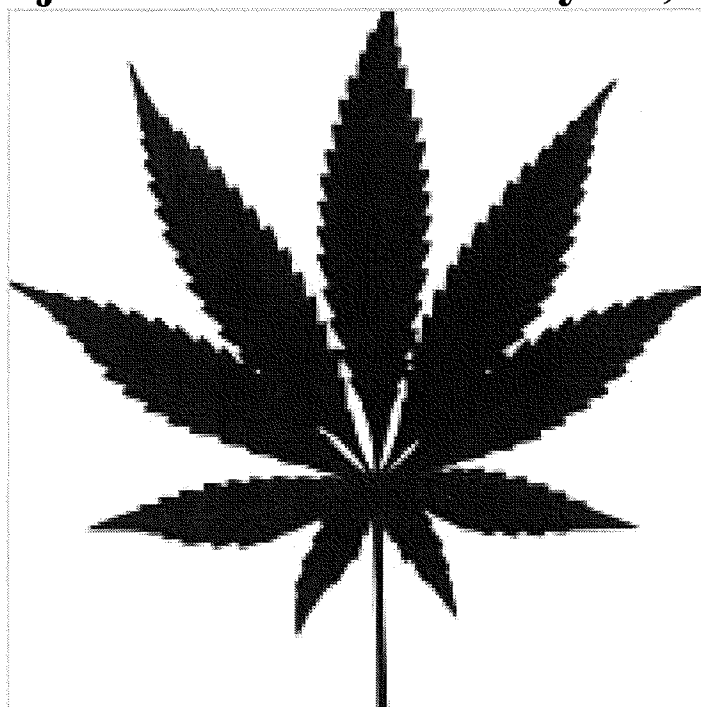


Some readers see this part of your email after the subject line in the inbox. Write something brief and catchy, compelling them to open the email.



Marijuana Alert - January 12, 2018



In response to Attorney General Jeff Session's move to reverse the Obama era policy on marijuana, today Illinois gubernatorial candidate JB Pritzker reiterated his support for the legalization of marijuana. Fiscal conservative Rep. Allen Skillicorn (R-East Dundee) also supports full legalization. [Read more](#)

One of the reasons so many people use and abuse alcohol is because it is legal, acceptable, and so easily accessible.

A new study published in the Journal of American Medical Association Psychiatry found that the rate of alcohol use disorder (alcoholism) rose by 49 percent from 2002 to 2013. **One in 8 American adults--12.7 percent of the population--meets the diagnostic criteria for alcoholism. The study also found that nearly 1 in 4 adults younger than 30 met the diagnostic criteria for alcoholism.**

The Center for Disease Control estimates that **88,000 people die each year from alcohol-related causes, more than twice the annual death rate of opiate overdoses.** In 2010, the cost to society for alcohol-related problems was \$249 Billion a year--over \$800 per year per person. The cost could be even higher today.

Regulation has not stopped youth under the age of 21 from obtaining alcohol.

The cost of underage drinking in Illinois is \$2.16 million per year.

Long time activist Dianne Berlin said, "Legalizing something harmful never removes the harm. It just changes the legal consequences usually for those who promote, produce or in other ways profit financially from the 'legalized' substance or activity with little to no regard for the negative impact on individuals or society-at-large."

Public Hearing on Legalizing Marijuana - January 22, 2018

The last joint public hearing on legalizing marijuana for "recreational" use in Illinois will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 22 in Room C600 at the Michael Bilandic Building, 160 N. LaSalle St., in Chicago.** The Subject Matter hearing will be on: Public Health and the Cannabis Regulation and Taxation Act (**SB 316, HB 2353**).

Check to see if your Senator will part of the committees at the public hearing:

[Senate Appropriations I](#)

[Senate Public Health Committee](#)

For Immediate Action

1. **Contact** your [State Senator](#) and [Representative](#) to tell them you **OPPOSE** SB 316 and HB 2353 to legalize marijuana for "recreational" use. Share the information below and ask them to Vote NO.
2. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to **CALL** and **PRAY**.
3. **Forward** to 10 others.

7 to 10% of babies born in Pueblo, CO test positive for marijuana

Watch this short video about babies exposed to marijuana in pregnancy. Every 14 births, someone is born with a preventable brain injury. [Pueblo Physicians Code Red - Dr. Steven Simerville](#)

Rare and mysterious illness linked to heavy marijuana use

Cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome is a condition only recently acknowledged by the medical community. It affects a small population - namely, a subset of marijuana users who smoke multiple times a day for months, years or even decades.

There's no hard data on the prevalence of the illness. But in California and Colorado, which have loosened marijuana laws in recent years, some emergency physicians say they're seeing it more often. [One study](#) in Colorado suggests there may be a link.

Doctors say it's difficult to treat the condition. **There is no cure other than to quit using marijuana, and many patients are skeptical that cannabis is making them sick, so they keep using it** and their vomiting episodes continue. [Read more](#)

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