

From: jermain Jackson
Sent: 12/12/2014 6:47:16 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Cc:
Subject: Support Medical Cannabis in our state

Dear Senator/Representative,

I am a politically active senior citizen writing to urge your support for medical cannabis. We must address decriminalizing medical cannabis in our state. Eighteen states and Washington D.C. have some kind of medical marijuana law with other states not far behind.

Medical Marijuana benefits patients, with special regard for seniors and Veterans, as well as state budgets. By permitting safe access to a vital medicine you provide substantial economic benefits to the state through taxation, licensing, and regulation of cannabis. Several major cities in other states have benefited financially by hosting national medical cannabis events that are attended by tens of thousands of people who spend millions on travel, hotels, restaurants, rental cars, food, tickets, parking, etc. Our state could easily capture this market by being a medical cannabis friendly state.

Multiple state public opinion polls show a consistent majority supports some kind of legalization. The time has come to stop wasting millions of our dollars on the criminalization of cannabis. Instead, we need to be pro-active and turn it into millions of dollars of revenue for our state and our cities.

Support medical cannabis. Not only will you prevent thousands of lives from being lost or ruined by our irrational criminal laws, you will be a political hero by helping our state capture the economic benefits of medical cannabis.

Most importantly, you will be aiding thousands of seniors who urgently need this potentially life saving medicine that has been proven so beneficial for so many of the ailments that plague older Americans.

Multiple sclerosis patients, for example, who suffer from peripheral neuropathy, an excruciatingly painful condition for which there is currently no FDA-approved treatment, deserve every opportunity to have a normal quality of life. The American Academy of HIV Medicine, the American College of Physicians, the American Public Health Association, the American Psychiatric Association and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society are among the health care organizations that have endorsed allowing patients' access to marijuana with a doctor's recommendation.

If you value senior support, please support seniors and vote "Yes" in support of medical cannabis legislation. Be sure to open the discussion with your constituents and peers, have honest dialogue with factual data, and please remember the seniors and Veterans in your considerations. We rely on you to be our voice.

We are too old to wait! We wish to be able to celebrate with you when the legislature steps up and passes a responsible medical cannabis law.

Respectfully,
A concerned voter

jermain Jackson
1424 oakbend drive
hartsville, SC 29550