

From: David Parris <mr_dave_n_sc@yahoo.com>
To: Kevin L. BryantKevinBryant@scstatehouse.gov
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Subject: South Carolina patients should not be left behind

It is long past time that our state joined the 28 other states and the District of Columbia in protecting the sickest among us from arrest and prosecution for using medical cannabis when their doctor recommends it.

The South Carolina Compassionate Care Act would create a comprehensive, compassionate medical cannabis program that would allow those with debilitating medical conditions access to treatment from a state-regulated dispensary.

In addition to working to treat illnesses and conditions that have proven difficult to relieve, medical cannabis laws appear to help wean patients off much more addictive, and potentially deadly, commonly prescribed drugs like Percocet or Oxycontin. In fact, according to the Journal of American Medical Association, states with effective medical marijuana laws have a 25 percent lower rate of annual opiate analgesic overdose deaths compared to states without legal medical marijuana access. If we trust our physicians to prescribe drugs that can cause death if not taken properly, we should also trust them to recommend medical cannabis, a substance that has not once caused a lethal overdose.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. Please support the South Carolina Compassionate Care Act.

Sincerely,

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