

Governor Nikki Haley  
(803) 734-5167

Pages  
~~10~~  
10

12-2-15

Ricky Loftis  
Hemp for Mother Earth

(803) 716-7315

Will I ever get response!  
Citizens are listening? Why  
Aren't your STAFF and you?

Ricky Loftin  
4520 Monticello Rd 2C  
Columbia, S.C. 29203

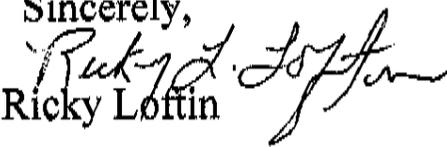
12/02/15

Mrs. Nikki Haley  
Governor of South Carolina  
1205 Pendleton St.  
Columbia, S.C. 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I am a concerned Citizen trying to educate Citizens to the FACTS concerning legal issues in South Carolina. Your Chief of SLED is using TERRORIST conspiracy tactics against us to promote his agenda ..... Circumventing the law for his views! Please bring in the Federal Government to investigate why No Law Enforcement agency will discuss hemp nor cannabis with Citizens because of orders from Chief Keel. Who paid for the 42 armed police at Senate hearing on CDB oil to intimidate Citizens?????

Israel is leading the way and we have trade agreement with Israel. Please peruse information and let me know your thoughts. Hemp for Mother Earth has never gotten an answer from you since 2010.....Gerri and staff just can not stand the TRUTH!

Sincerely,  
  
Ricky Loftin

Hemp for Mother Earth (Facebook)  
hempformotherearth@yahoo.com

## We have trade agreement with Israel?



Medical marijuana. Photo: Coaster420/Wikimedia Commons.

[JNS.org](#) – One of the most revolutionary social movements in the past decade has been the growing acceptance of the consumption of marijuana in Western society, including the substance's legalization in U.S. states such as Colorado and Washington. While marijuana is illegal for general use in Israel, the Jewish state is considered to be one of the world's most forward-thinking countries when it comes to medical marijuana, with scientists and researchers flocking there to learn more about the benefits of the drug.

Most major Israeli political parties support medical marijuana. Israel also has a pro-legalization party, aptly named the Green Leaf Party, or "Aleh Yarok" in Hebrew. That party has failed to pass the necessary threshold for the Knesset, but according to polls, a vast majority of Israelis—around 75 percent in 2013—support medical marijuana.

Marijuana was first comprehensively studied in Israel in the 1960s by Professor Raphael Mechoulam, who is known as "the father of medical marijuana," at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

"I was surprised to find out that while morphine had been isolated from opium and cocaine from cocoa leaves, the chemistry of marijuana was not well-known," Mechoulam told [JNS.org](#). "In 1963 and 1964, we started looking at the chemistry of marijuana, we got Lebanese hashish

from the police, they were our suppliers, as there were no fresh marijuana in Israel at that time.”

Mechoulam’s research team was able to isolate some of the major compounds in marijuana, many of which had been previously unknown, including THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) and CBD (Cannabidiol). THC is the psychoactive compound in marijuana that causes the typical “high” effect, and CBD is non-psychoactive. Both compounds have medicinal properties.

THC has proven valuable in helping to treat a multitude of issues such as pain, insomnia, depression, nausea, and appetite loss. CBD has shown an ability to treat inflammation, nausea, diabetes, alcoholism, Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), rheumatoid arthritis, and cardiovascular disease.

Working with other marijuana researchers in the U.S., Mechoulam’s team performed groundbreaking work on the understanding of the endocannabinoid system—the communications system in the brain and body that affects many important functions, including appetite, pain-sensation, mood, and memory. This included the discovery of the cannabinoid receptor Anandamide, which comes from the Sanskrit word ananda, meaning “supreme joy.”

Medical marijuana was first approved for use in Israel by the Ministry of Health in 1992. Since 2007, when the ministry created a more formal medical marijuana program, use of the substance has grown to more than 20,000 patients.

“The Ministry of Health at one point decided that patients, instead of going to the black market and getting whatever they get there, should be able to get material from a legitimate source, and [the ministry allowed] growing of medical cannabis,” Mechoulam told *JNS.org*. “There is a committee in the ministry that approves every single physician. It is not given freely for any disease; there is a list of diseases for which medical cannabis is approved.”

Given the openness of the Israeli government about medical marijuana, several companies have emerged that are pioneering efforts in that field.

Backed by the government, Tel Aviv-based Syqe Medical has developed a hand-held inhaler that vaporizes granules of cannabis as small as 1 milligram, helping doctors give patients more control over their treatment. In fact, one of the biggest challenges that the medical marijuana industry has faced is the inability of doctors to prescribe exact dosages for patients. This leaves many patients struggling with trial and error through smoking, vaporizers, and edibles.

"It is extremely important to know what a person with a certain disease is getting," Mechoulam said. "Not every disease is affected by a same type of marijuana or the same dosage. There are marijuana mixtures with a lot of THC and a little bit of CBD, or vice versa. There are some diseases affected by CBD alone, like epilepsy for example."

Tikkun Olam, another Tel Aviv-based company, is also focused on getting the right type of marijuana to the right patients by providing education on medical marijuana usage, including an instruction center. Tikkun Olam began research on CBD-enhanced marijuana in 2009, and in 2012 the company came up with a strand of marijuana called Avidekel, which contains high levels of CBD and almost no THC. The CBD content of the strain is as high as 15.8 percent. On its [website](#), Tikkun Olam has about a dozen strains, including Avidekel, which range in their THC and CBD percentages.

"Pharmacology clinicians have to work with precise measurements and with an understanding of what they are working with, and not just say, 'We have taken marijuana and given it to a patient, and he smoked it and feels good,'" Mechoulam said.

The research being performed in Israel has attracted scientists and researchers from other countries who are looking to taking advantage of the Jewish state's medical marijuana-friendly laws. One of those researchers is Dr. Sue Sisley, a physician from Arizona who had received U.S. approval to test marijuana on American veterans suffering from PTSD. But soon after receiving the federal grant, Sisley was fired by the University of Arizona last summer after a purported clash with state lawmakers over medical marijuana research.

Without a job or laboratory, Sisley wasn't left with many options—until the state of Colorado stepped in and offered a \$2-million grant to continue her research on PTSD and marijuana. Armed with that grant, Sisley turned to Israel to obtain the marijuana needed for her research. "Our interest in Israel started because Israel has access to strains of marijuana that we weren't able to obtain from our own federal government," Sisley told *JNS.org*.

Sisley explained that in the U.S., all marijuana used for research must come from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), which she described as a government-enforced "monopoly" and the only legal supplier of marijuana. The NIDA does not have strains of marijuana with the high concentrations of CBD that is needed for research on PTSD.

"The CBD appears to have a calming effect on those certain structures of the brain that deal with fear activation, memory, anxiety," Sisley said. "If it can calm those structures in the brain and reduce the

neurotransmissions in that area, it could result in patients being less symptomatic.”

According to Sisley, more than 22 U.S. military veterans are dying each day from suicides related to the effects of PTSD.

“The reason we are here in Israel now is because we feel there is a dire need to get this study underway,” she said. “We have an epidemic of veteran suicide in the U.S.”

“The other reason we are interested in Israel is that they are not only growing CBD-rich strains, but because Israel has an abundance of soldiers still suffering from their experience in battle,” Sisley added.

Dr. Rick Doblin—the founder and executive director of the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, a California-based non-profit that develops medical, legal, and cultural contexts for people to benefit from the careful use of psychedelics and marijuana—visited Israel with Sisley to meet with doctors and researchers. Doblin said he and Sisley are looking for Israeli collaborators for research on medical marijuana strains with high levels of THC and CBD, something he said that “we have a hard time getting in the U.S.”

While medical marijuana research in Israel is robust, Doblin told *JNS.org* that he has also encountered many complaints from Israeli medical marijuana patients about the bureaucracy at the Ministry of Health.

“I’ve heard a lot of complaints from patients on how hard it is to get access to medical marijuana, long wait times for prescriptions, small dosages, and how arbitrary the system is for each patient,” he said. “There seem to be a lot of artificial limitations.”

At the same time, the Ministry of Health last year launched a two-year comprehensive study to better understand medical marijuana.

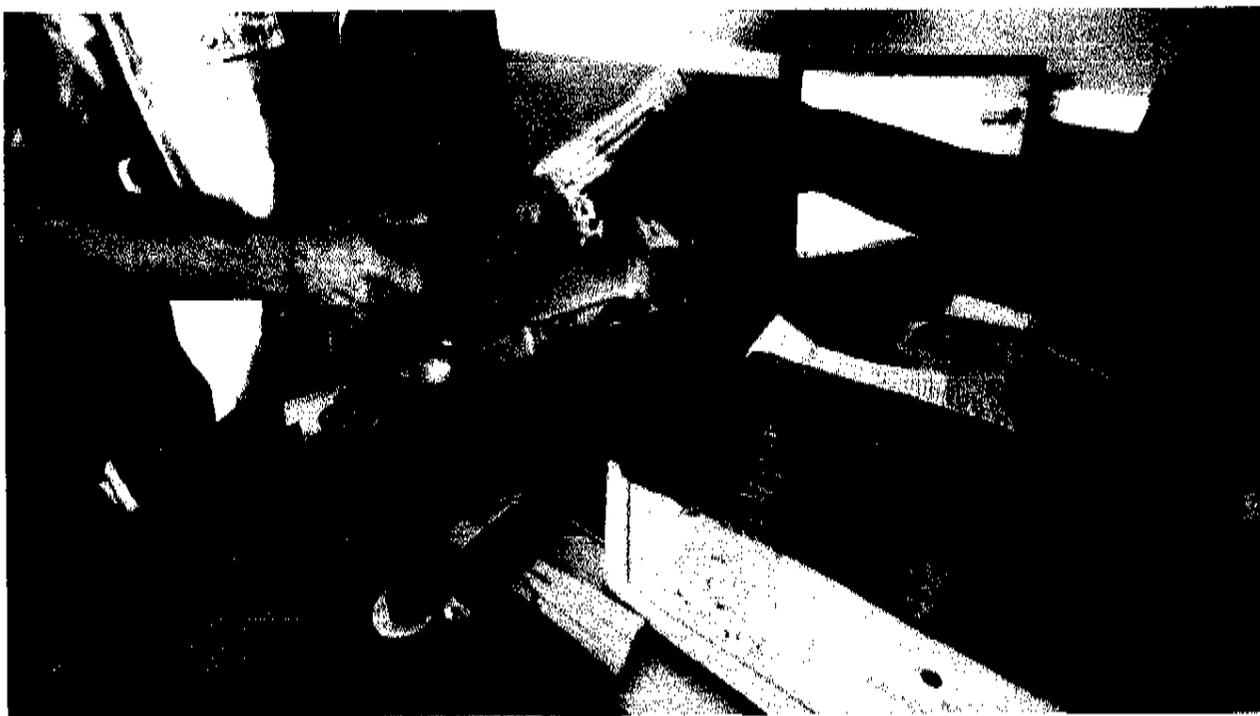
“[Medical marijuana in Israel] is being regulated, but not fully regulated, at the moment,” Mechoulam said. “It is extremely important to know what a person with a certain disease is getting. Not every disease is effected by the same type of marijuana.”

Israeli Studles and we have trade agreement with Israel?????

HEMP FOR MOTHER EARTH...COMMON SENSE,  
INSIGHT, IMAGINATION, INGENUITY, INNOVATION &  
INTEGRITY!

## **State begins extensive medical marijuana study**

**2-year survey covering thousands of patients  
aims to track effects, both good and bad, for  
cannabis users**



Purchasing medicinal marijuana in Tel Aviv. (photo credit: Abir Sultan/Flash90)

The Health Ministry has commissioned a comprehensive study into the effects and effectiveness of medical marijuana. The study, which is being carried out by the Israeli National Institute for Health Policy Research, will track up to 2,000 patients using medical cannabis over a two-year period, Haaretz reported on Sunday.

Medical marijuana treatment has become popular and accepted over the last few years in Israel, with about 15,000 registered users and 50 more approved each week by the Health Ministry. Yet there are large gaps in doctors' understanding of what happens to patients after they begin using cannabis, which the survey will attempt to fill.

There is great enthusiasm for medical marijuana and many find that their condition can be alleviated by its use, but "there are many things we do not know about it," Pesach Schwartzman, a professor of medicine at Ben-Gurion University who is leading the study, told the paper.

The study, which is already underway, aims to "do proper research on the effects of cannabis" to treat certain conditions and should greatly expand the knowledge base for doctors and patients, Schwartzman said. Information about positive results and negative side effects, the potential for addiction as a result of treatment and why some people stop their medical marijuana treatments are some of the issues to be addressed by the survey.

According to Schwartzman, some of the negative effects of medical marijuana that he says have been underreported, such as the potential for triggering a psychotic episode in those already preconditioned to mental illness, will be examined by the study.

Israel is generally considered to have one of the most forward-thinking and advanced medical marijuana programs in the world, and much of the major scientific research into marijuana is carried out by Israeli institutions. According to the Haaretz report, there are currently only 20 doctors who are authorized to prescribe cannabis, but that number is expected to rise as the demand for medical marijuana increases.

A report from last year indicated proscriptions had risen 30 percent in 2013.



A pair of scientists at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco has found that a compound derived from marijuana could stop metastasis in many kinds of aggressive cancer, potentially altering the fatality of the disease forever.

"It took us about 20 years of research to figure this out, but we are very excited," said Pierre Desprez, one of the scientists behind the discovery, to The Huffington Post. "We want to get started with trials as soon as possible."

The Daily Beast first reported on the finding, which has already undergone both laboratory and animal testing, and is awaiting permission for clinical trials in humans.

Desprez, a molecular biologist, spent decades studying ID-1, the gene that causes cancer to spread. Meanwhile, fellow researcher Sean McAllister was studying the effects of Cannabidiol, or CBD, a non-toxic, non-psychoactive chemical compound found in the cannabis plant. Finally, the pair collaborated, combining CBD and cells containing high levels of ID-1 in a petri dish.

"What we found was that his Cannabidiol could essentially 'turn off' the ID-1," Desprez told HuffPost. The cells stopped spreading and returned to normal.

"We likely would not have found this on our own," he added. "That's why collaboration is so essential to scientific discovery."

Desprez and McAllister first published a paper about the finding in 2007. Since then, their team has found that CBD works both in the lab and in animals. And now, they've found even more good news.

"We started by researching breast cancer," said Desprez. "But now we've found that Cannabidiol works with many kinds of aggressive cancers—brain, prostate—any kind in which these high levels of ID-1 are present."

Desprez hopes that clinical trials will begin immediately.

"We've found no toxicity in the animals we've tested, and Cannabidiol is already used in humans for a variety of other ailments," he said. Indeed, the compound is used to relieve anxiety and nausea, and, since it is non-psychoactive, does not cause the "high" associated with THC.

While marijuana advocates will surely praise the discovery, Desprez explained that it's not so easy as just lighting up.

"We used injections in the animal testing and are also testing pills," he said. "But you could never get enough Cannabidiol for it to be effective just from smoking."

Furthermore, the team has started synthesizing the compound in the lab instead of using the plant in an effort to make it more potent.

"It's a common practice," explained Desprez. "But hopefully it will also keep us clear of any obstacles while seeking approval."