

SB

17

<TARGET><BILL>SB 17</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
17</SUBJECT><COMM>SHSS27</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE COMMITTEE

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1:30 PM

Butrovich Room #205

1:30 PM – Call to Order

Time:

Members Present:

BILLS TO BE HEARD:

**SB17 – SYNTHETIC CANNIBINOIDS (Can-na-bin-oids)
(Senator Meyer)**

PRESENTATIONS:

- CITIZENS REVIEW PANEL, SYLVAN ROBB
- OFFICE OF CHILDREN’S SERVICES, CHRISTY LAWTON,
ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF CHILDREN’S SERVICES

ADJOURNMENT:

**H&SS Committee: Sen. Bettye Davis, Chair; Sen. Johnny Ellis,
Sen. Fred Dyson, Sen. Kevin Meyer, Sen. Dennis Egan**

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/19/11

FURTHER: Judiciary

Date of 5-Day Notice: Feb 3 - 2011
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: Feb 10, 2011

Health and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 17

SB 17-SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS AS SCHEDULE IIA

"An Act classifying certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS _____ (_____) Same Title New Title
- adopt previous CS _____ (_____) Same Title New Title
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LEG
CED	LAW
COR	LWF
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
DPS			✓	1
DPS	✓			2
LAW			✓	3
DOC		✓	✓	4

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	No REC	AMEND
	ELLIS	X			
	MEYER	X			
	EGAN	X			
	DYSON	X			
CHAIR:	PAVIS	X			

Alaska State Legislature



Interim:
716 West 4th Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 269-0199

Session:
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-4945

Senator Kevin Meyer
Senate District O

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SB 17

"An Act classifying certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances; and providing for an effective date."

SB 17 would classify certain synthetic cannabinoids, commonly known as K2 or Spice as a schedule IIA controlled substance.

This new drug is dangerous, cheap and legally available. Sold in smoke shops and gas stations as incense, it is marketed to people who are interested in herbal alternatives to cannabis. Synthetic cannabinoids are inexpensive, accessible and undetectable in drug tests. Here in Alaska, the drug enjoys some popularity amongst North Slope workers, U.S. Military members and students. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Municipality of Anchorage and the U.S. Military have all taken action to control and prohibit use of this drug.

Synthetic cannabinoid is abused mainly by smoking or prepared as drink. Users experience severe adverse reactions including hallucinations, nausea, vomiting, agitation, and panic attacks. The chemical composition of synthetic cannabinoids is considerably more potent to tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, the active ingredient in marijuana).

11 states have passed legislation classifying synthetic marijuana as a controlled substance. 21 states, including Alaska, have introduced similar legislation. Should SB 17 pass, it will be unlawful to sell, use, purchase, possess, manufacture, transport or deliver synthetic cannabinoids.

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101


State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

January 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary - SB 17 (Work Order No. 27-LS0121\B)

TO: Senator Kevin Meyer
Attn: Christine Marasigan

FROM: Gerald P. Luckhaupt 
Assistant Revisor

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill. As a preliminary matter, please note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill -- the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1 of the bill amends AS 11.71.150(b), by adding certain compounds to the list of Schedule IIA controlled substances contained in that section. The compounds that are being included:

- (21) (6aR,10aR)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-6, 6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-ol, also known as HU-210;
- (22) (6aS,10aS)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-6, 6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-ol, also known as Dexanabinol or HU-211;
- (23) 1-Pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole, also known as JWH-018;
- (24) 1-Butyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole, also known as JWH-073;
- (25) (2-methyl-1-propyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-naphthalenyl-methanone, also known as JWH-015;
- (26) 1-pentyl-3-(4-chloro-1-naphthoyl)indole, also known as JWH-398;
- (27) 1-pentyl-3-(2-methoxyphenylacetyl)indole, also known as JWH-250;
- (28) 1-hexyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole, also known as JWH-019;
- (29) 1-(2-(4-(morpholinyl)ethyl))-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole, also known as JWH-200;
- (30) 2-[(1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]-5-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)phenol, also known as CP 47, 497, and homologues

are commonly known, or have been identified by other states or the federal government, as forms of synthetic marijuana.

Section 2 of the bill provides an effective date.

GPL:ljw
11-053.ljw

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
 Bill Version SB017
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) SB017-DPS-DET-02-07-11 Dept. Affected Public Safety
 Title "An Act classifying certain synthetic cannabinoids as controlled substances." Appropriation Alaska State Troopers
 Allocation AST Detachments
 Sponsor Senator Meyer
 Requester Senate Health & Social Services OMB Component Number 2325

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
Personal Services							
Travel							
Contractual							
Supplies							
Equipment							
Land & Structures							
Grants & Claims							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES							
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared by Lt. Rodney Dial
 Division Alaska State Troopers
 Approved by Joseph Masters, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

Phone (907) 247-4480
 Date/Time 2/7/11 3:38 PM
 Date 2/7/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB017

Analysis

This legislation would amend AS 11.71.150 by adding several synthetic drugs as schedule IIA controlled substances. It is not estimated that this bill will significantly increase the workload of the division of Alaska State Troopers. There is no fiscal cost to the AST as a result of this legislation.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
Bill Version SB017
() Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) SB017-DPS-LAB-02-02-11 Dept. Affected Public Safety
Title "An Act Relating to Synthetic Cannabinoids As Schedule IIA" Appropriation Statewide Support
Allocation Laboratory Services
Sponsor Senator Meyer
Requester Senate Health & Social Services OMB Component Number 527

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	96.0		96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0
Travel	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Services	8.5		5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Commodities	12.0		2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Capital Outlay	7.3							
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	126.8		106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
CHANGE IN REVENUES								

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF	126.8		106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (please identify)								
TOTAL	126.8	0.0	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6	106.6

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost _____

POSITIONS

Full-time	1.0		1	1	1	1	1
Part-time							
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Not applicable; initial version.

Prepared by Orin Dym, Laboratory Manager
Division Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Approved by Joseph A Masters
Commissioner

Phone (907) 269-5743
Date/Time 2/02/2011 3:30PM
Date 2/4/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB017

Analysis

This proposed legislation would add certain synthetic cannabinoids to the schedule IIA list of controlled substances. This bill would become effective immediately upon passage.

The Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (Crime Laboratory) provides analysis of suspected controlled substances, issues reports, and provides expert testimony for the state of Alaska. For calendar year 2010 the laboratory received 1,267 requests for controlled substances analysis. A full time position is capable of analyzing 480 requests per year. The Controlled Substances Section of the Crime Lab currently has 2.5 full time staff assigned to it.

Once controlled, it is anticipated that the Crime Laboratory will receive significant requests for analysis related to the newly controlled substances. With the large presence of internet sales, and the ability for manufacturers to rapidly change the substances present in the materials sold, any suspected of containing these newly controlled substances will require scientific analysis at the Crime Laboratory.

This new position would come at an initial cost of \$126,800. This includes a starting salary with benefits of \$96,000, a work station start up cost of \$7,300 for equipment, \$2,000 for supplies, and there will be \$3,000 in travel funds required for the ongoing training and education necessary for an analyst to maintain their expertise and certifications. There is an expected \$5,000 in contractual costs as well, and this position also requires an initial \$3,500 to obtain licensing required for the laboratory's LIMS database. Subsequently, there is a yearly 18% maintenance fee for that license. In addition to the above considerations involved with this new position, the Crime Laboratory would be required to obtain the standards necessary to analyze these nine new chemicals and their various isomers. This would be a one-time cost of \$10,000.

In addition to the ongoing salary, benefits, and necessary travel costs relative to this position, all positions utilize an ongoing \$2,000 for supply needs, and there is an ongoing licensing and maintenance cost of \$5,600 per year. Therefore, the initial cost for this position would be \$126,800, with a subsequent ongoing cost of \$106,600.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
 Bill Version SB017
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name): SB017-LAW-CRIM-02-04-11
 Title An Act classifying certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances; and providing for an effective date.
 Sponsor Senator(s) Meyer
 Requester (S) Health and Social Services
 Dept. Affected Law
 Appropriation Criminal
 Allocation Criminal Justice Litigation
 OMB Component Number 2202

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (please identify)								
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Eileen Donahue, Division Operations Manager
 Division Administrative Services
 Approved by John J. Burns, Attorney General
Department of Law

Phone 465-5427
 Date/Time 2/4/11 4:30 PM
 Date 2/4/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB017

Analysis

This bill adds several chemical forms of Synthetic cannabinoids to Schedule IIA of Alaska's prohibited substance Schedules. Currently, marijuana, a natural form of cannabis, is a Schedule VIA prohibited substance. The anticipated fiscal impact is zero, however, if litigation ensues there will be addition costs in defending this litigation.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
 Bill Version SB 17
 () Publish Date 1/18/2011

Identifier (file name) SB017-DOC-OC-02-04-11
 Title "An Act classifying synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA"
 Sponsor Senator Meyer
 Requester Health & Social Services Committee
 Dept. Affected DOC
 Appropriation Admin & Support
 Allocation Commissioner's Office
 OMB Component Number 684

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation	Information						
	Required	FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES								
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other (please identify)								
TOTAL	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

This is the first version of the bill.

Prepared by Leslie Houston, Director
 Division Dept. of Corrections - Administrative Services
 Approved by Joseph D. Schmidt, Commissioner
Dept. of Corrections

Phone 465-3339
 Date/Time 2/4/2011 9:00 a.m.
 Date 2/4/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 17

Analysis

This legislation makes synthetic cannabinoids a schedule IIA controlled substance. Currently, possession of a schedule IIA is a Class C felony with a possible sentence of 0-2 years. Manufacturing or delivering a schedule IIA controlled substance is a Class B felony with a possible sentence of 0-4 years. The current average daily cost to house an inmate is \$136.44. Therefore, housing an offender could cost the department anywhere from \$0.0 (no time served) to \$199.2 (for a 4-year sentence).

Department of Corrections is unable to determine the fiscal impacts of the passage of this legislation, as we cannot estimate the total number of actual violations that will occur.



FAIRBANKS POLICE

911 Cushman Street
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4616
Phone (907) 450-6500
Fax (907) 452-1588
Email: fpd@ci.fairbanks.ak.us



January 21, 2011

Senator Kevin Meyer
State Capitol Room 103
Juneau AK 99801

Dear Senator Meyer:

As the Chief of Police for the Fairbanks Police Department, I would like to extend my support of Senate Bill No. 17 "An Act classifying certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances."

According to the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration, these substances have no known therapeutic use and are known to cause a variety of effects including seizures, hallucinations, psychotic episodes, and non-responsiveness. In addition the Alaska Information Analysis Center (AKIAC) has reported in studies that subjects have reported having difficulties with balance, slurred speech, and being light headed.

These cannabinoids present a significant threat to the safety of Alaska's citizens as long as they remain unclassified. Without this new legislation a person who is under the influence of synthetic cannabinoids while operating a motor vehicle is not in violation of the law. This presents a clear danger to the citizens of Alaska, as someone could potentially be under the influence of a synthetic cannabinoid while driving and experience hallucinations, seizures, or a psychotic episode. This is not a hypothetical situation and the Fairbanks Police Department has already investigated a motor vehicle accident where the driver of the vehicle was having seizures as a result of consuming synthetic cannabinoids.

By classifying synthetic cannabinoids as a schedule II controlled substance, the act of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a synthetic cannabinoid would become an illegal act. This bill would therefore have a direct impact on the safety of the citizens of the State of Alaska.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laren Zager".

Laren Zager
Chief of Police
Fairbanks Police Department

**Army punishes 36 for using synthetic pot
SPICE AND K2: U.S. Army Alaska banned head shop product in August.**

The Associated Press

(12/21/10 11:33:48)

The U.S. Army Alaska says it has punished 36 soldiers for the use of synthetic marijuana since it banned the substance.

Seven soldiers were tried at courts-martial, and 29 received nonjudicial punishments, the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner reported.

Synthetic marijuana is known as Spice or K2. It's a blend of spices and herbs sprayed with a compound similar to the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. It's commonly sold in head shops.

Some users think the substance can't be detected in drugs tests. But the Army says its urine tests can now find the chemicals used in Spice.

In March, a 25-year-old Fort Richardson soldier just back from Iraq was convicted of driving under the influence of Spice. He was arrested after driving his Chevrolet Avalanche over three raised medians, into a concrete wall and down a sidewalk with flat tires and a broken axle.

The U.S. Army Alaska banned Spice in August.

It had seen an increase in users with high blood pressure and heart rates admitted to hospitals at Fort Richardson in Anchorage and Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks.

The soldiers have had life-threatening reactions in some cases, the commander of U.S. Army Alaska, Brig. Gen. Raymond Palumbo, wrote in a commentary published in the Fort Richardson and Fort Wainwright newspapers.

"We have no idea what the long-term effects are since the chemicals vary and have not been fully tested," Palumbo wrote. "But we do know that in the short term, bad things happen when people use Spice."

This month, the Anchorage Assembly voted unanimously to make the chemicals illegal in the city as of Jan. 6. It will be a misdemeanor to sell, make, have or use products containing cannabinoids, which are versions of the active ingredients in marijuana. The products are found in convenience stores and tobacco shops in parts of the country where they're not illegal.

In October, state Sen. Kevin Meyer, R-Anchorage, proposed a bill to outlaw Spice after state troopers arrested a Fairbanks man who used the substance, broke into a house, stripped naked and slept in the homeowners' bed. He told troopers God had told him to do so.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has started a process to outlaw five chemicals commonly used in synthetic marijuana.

Assembly outlaws chemical known as 'synthetic marijuana'

By ROSEMARY SHINOHARA
rshinohara@adn.com

(12/08/10 20:59:04)

A street chemical that authorities say can cause severe reactions will be illegal in Anchorage starting in early January.

The Anchorage Assembly on Tuesday voted unanimously to ban the sale, possession or use of products containing synthetic versions of cannabinoids. The products go by a variety of names such as K2, Spice and Spike, and are found in convenience stores and tobacco shops in parts of the country where they're not illegal.

Cannabinoids, natural and synthetic, are versions of the active ingredients in marijuana.

"These products pose serious and significant health risks up to and including death, and they offer nothing positive to anyone ingesting it," said Assembly member Paul Honeman, a former police officer. Assembly members Honeman, Dick Traini and Mike Gutierrez and Mayor Dan Sullivan sponsored the new city law.

State Sen. Kevin Meyer, R-Anchorage, has pre-filed a legislative bill for consideration next year that would criminalize such products on a statewide basis.

In Anchorage, it will be a misdemeanor to sell, make, have or use products containing cannabinoids starting on Jan. 6.

The Anchorage School District made public its fears about use of the synthetic chemical last April, and said some Anchorage teens have been hospitalized. In October, school district spokeswoman Heidi Embley said regular marijuana is still much more prevalent, and that the district knew of probably only a handful of synthetic cannabinoid cases.

Lawmakers seek ban on Spice, legal synthetic marijuana

SYNTHETIC: Alarming trend sweeps nation, finally gets to Alaska.

By CASEY GROVE
casey.grove@adn.com

(10/20/10 11:41:47)

A new street drug that authorities claim is capable of causing everything from hallucinations and slurred speech to death is sweeping the nation and has made its way to Alaska, according to local police and public officials.

It goes by many names -- Spice, Spike, K2 -- but the new craze among kids, the military and others looking for a high is essentially synthetic marijuana: plant material that can hold any number of various sprayed-on psychotropic compounds.

And for now, it is legal.

State Sen. Kevin Meyer and Anchorage Assembly members Mike Gutierrez and Paul Honeman hope to change that.

The drug can be 600 to 800 times stronger than pot and can cause a physical addiction similar to methamphetamine, Gutierrez said at a press conference Tuesday.

"It's a lot more dangerous than marijuana," Gutierrez said. "Your 14-year-old can walk into a convenience store and, right next to the energy drinks, they can buy it."

Meyer has pre-filed a bill for the state Legislature that would criminalize the drug, and Honeman and Gutierrez plan to introduce a resolution to the Assembly Oct. 26 that would ask local retailers to voluntarily remove it from their shelves until the Legislature has a chance to make it illegal.

Until then, the various types of synthetic pot continue to be marketed as incense and sold in convenience stores and tobacco shops across the country. Everywhere, that is, except 10 states that have already criminalized it.

Driving under the influence of synthetic marijuana can lead to an impaired driving arrest with the same penalties as drunken driving, according to local law enforcement. Hallucinations from smoking it can also compel people to commit other crimes, they say.

A 28-year-old Fairbanks man who told Alaska State Troopers he'd smoked synthetic marijuana early Tuesday morning kicked in the door of an unoccupied home on Goldhill Road, took off all of his clothes and went to sleep in a bed, according to a trooper report.

He did it because "God told him to," troopers said.

In a separate case, in March, a Fort Richardson soldier just back from Iraq was convicted of operating a vehicle while under the influence of Spike. He was arrested after driving his Chevrolet Avalanche over three raised medians, into a concrete wall, and then driving down a sidewalk on flat tires and with a broken axle, according to a police report. The 25-year-old man later admitted to

smoking some Spike, according to the police report.

The arresting officer noted some strange behavior in his report.

"I asked him who was drinking and driving and he said, 'You were,'" wrote Officer Earl Ernest in his report. "He then hollered, 'You drink, you drive, you die.' I asked if he was saying he was going to kill me and he said, 'Yes.' He then threw the cell phone he'd been holding."

The man, who later pleaded guilty to driving under the influence, had no alcohol in his system, according to a breath-alcohol test noted in the police report.

"You may not always have a bad trip, so to speak, but if you do, chances are, you're going to end up in the emergency room, you're going to be seeing the EMTs, you're going to be seeing an ER doc," Gutierrez said.

Some Anchorage teens have been hospitalized, according to the Anchorage School District, which publicized its fears about synthetic marijuana use last April. Still, use of drugs like Spice by Anchorage students does not come close to the number of cases of marijuana use, school district spokeswoman Heidi Embley said.

"You could probably count the number of cases on one hand," Embley said.

Gutierrez and Honeman had not yet compiled a list of Anchorage stores selling Spice and similar smokeable products, but they planned to do so in order to notify stores of their upcoming resolution.

Print Page

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Health

Fake Weed, Real Drug: K2 Causing Hallucinations in Teens

By Jeanna Bryner, LiveScience Managing Editor
 posted: 03 March 2010 04:46 pm ET

Teens are getting high on an emerging drug called "fake weed," a concoction also known as K2 and "spice" that is also causing hallucinations, vomiting, agitation and other dangerous effects.

In the last month, Dr. Anthony Scalzo, a professor of toxicology at Saint Louis University, has seen nearly 30 cases of teenagers experiencing these adverse effects after smoking the fake weed, a legal substance that reportedly offers a marijuana-like high.

"K2 use is not limited to the Midwest; reports of its use are cropping up all over the country," Scalzo said. "I think K2 is likely a bigger problem than we're aware of at this time." For instance, Atlanta has seen about 12 cases recently.

Ads by Google

Drug Dependence Quiz

Identify substance abuse problems
 Confidential, free online survey
 TurnToHelp.com

1 Rated Addiction Rehab

Adult Rehab and Detox Center All
 Private Bedrooms & Insurance ok
 TransformationsTreatment.com

Substance Abuse Counselor

Become A Substance Abuse
 Counselor & Help Fight Addiction.
 Learn More.
 ChooseICDCCollege.com/Counselor

K2 has been sold since 2006 as incense or potpourri for about \$30 to \$40 per three gram bag – comparable in cost to marijuana.

"K2 may be a mixture of herbal and spice plant products, but it is sprayed with a potent psychotropic drug and likely contaminated with an unknown toxic substance that is causing many adverse effects," said Scalzo, who also directs the Missouri Regional Poison Control Center.

Origin of K2

This K2 compound was first created in the mid-1990s in the lab of organic chemist John W. Huffman of Clemson

University, who studies cannabinoid receptors. He's not sure how the recipe for what is named JWH-018 (his initials) got picked up, but he did publish details on a series of compounds including JWH-018 in a book chapter. Even before that book came out, he recalls learning that in China and Korea people were selling the compound as a plant growth stimulant.

As for where it was first smoked or used as a recreational drug, Huffman thinks perhaps somewhere in Europe.

"Apparently somebody picked it up, I think in Europe, on the idea of doping this incense mixture with the compound and smoking it," Huffman told LiveScience. "You can get very high on it. It's about 10 times more active than THC," the active ingredient in marijuana.

From a chemist's perspective, that means K2 has an affinity for the cannabinoid brain receptor (CB1) that's about 10 times greater than THC. For the less chemically inclined, it means you can smoke a lot less K2 to get just as high.

The compound works on the brain in the same way as marijuana's active ingredient THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol. Both compounds bind to the CB1 receptors, which primarily affect the central nervous system. JWH-018 also binds to the peripheral brain (CB2) receptors, which are involved in the immune system, Huffman said.

Hallucinations and delusions

Since JWH-018 or K2 acts like marijuana, you'd expect to see the same effects, including sleepiness, relaxation, reduced blood pressure, and at high doses, hallucinations and delusions.

While some patients between the ages of 14 and 21 were showing up with hallucinations, other symptoms, such as increased agitation and elevated blood pressure and heart rates, didn't match up with marijuana.

Scalza speculates either another compound is responsible for the nasty side effects, or the concentration of JWH-018 is too high.

To answer this question, Scalzo is having doctors test patients' urine for JWH-018 and other compounds, but he is having trouble getting patients to agree to the test.

"This is *not* something that people are agreeing to," Scalzo said during a telephone interview. "Here's a legal substance that we don't know really that much about that people are putting into their bodies without quality control."

And even though doctors like Scalzo say they'd like to help the teens, that's not enough. "Phenomenally, people are saying no. They're afraid someone is going to find something," though Scalzo has no idea why they'd be afraid.

Dangerous drug

Both Scalzo and Huffman agree the drug is dangerous.

Further testing is needed, but Scalzo says the symptoms, such as fast heart beat, dangerously elevated blood pressure, pale skin and vomiting suggest that K2 is affecting the cardiovascular system of users. It also is believed to affect the central nervous system, causing severe, potentially life-threatening hallucinations and, in some cases, seizures.

"It's like playing Russian roulette. You don't know what it's going to do to you," Huffman said. "You're a potential winner of a Darwin award," referring to the tongue-in-cheek awards given to people who "do a service to humanity by removing themselves from the gene pool."

In addition to the compound being made without strict quality control or any regulation, as far as anyone knows, the compound itself has never been tested on humans. And when it was tested on mice, Huffman said, the animals were euthanized at the end of the experiment, so scientists don't even know how it affects mice long-term. "And mice are not humans," Huffman said.

It's a Dog's Life

Concerned that animals were not being treated as well as they should in some shelters, several state legislatures in the past few years have passed measures to improve shelter practices.

California lawmakers passed the Hayden Shelter Reform Law in 1999 that started the trend. It lengthens the state's previously short holding time—the period before an animal can be euthanized—from 72 hours to six business days. It recommends healthy, non-suffering animals should be euthanized only if they cannot be placed in a suitable home; these would include vicious dogs or those that pose a public health hazard. It also required shelters to release any requested animal to a qualifying non-profit rescue center or adoption group as an alternative to euthanasia.

In 2010, Delaware passed a bill similar to the Hayden Law, making its shelter regulations some of the most comprehensive in the country. The Delaware law requires all shelters to immediately inspect animals for identification and to wait at least three days before putting animals up for adoption or transferring them to another facility so owners have a chance to find lost pets. The law requires shelters to stay open beyond normal business hours so the public has a greater chance to adopt animals. And it requires shelters to post quarterly statistics on their websites regarding intake, adoption, reclamation, transfer and euthanasia rates.

Although the American Veterinary Medical Association has OK'd the use of gas chambers, animal rights groups assert they are cruel and unnecessarily frightening to dogs and cats. They have advocated for more humane methods, usually intravenous injection of sodium pentobarbital.

In the past two years, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York and West Virginia passed legislation that changed their euthanasia standards, joining the 13 other states that ban the use of gas chambers for animals.

Synthetic Pot Peril

Synthetic cannabinoids—commonly known as “Spice,” “K2,” “Genie,” “Yucatan Fire,” “Sence,” “Smoke,” “Skunk” and “Zohai”—have become a popular legal alternative to marijuana. Until now, that is. At least ten states outlawed the drug this year.

The drug is sprayed onto dried herbs, marketed as “novelty herbal incense” or potpourri, and then smoked or ingested by consumers. It produces a high similar to marijuana and is sold in local convenience stores and over the Web. Although the product labels often read “not for human consumption,” abuse of these substances appears to be increasing. The American Association of Poison Control Centers reports that, as of Sept. 27, more than 1,503 calls have been made to poison centers for symptoms such as racing heartbeat, elevated blood pressure and nausea. This is up from a total of only 14 calls in 2009.

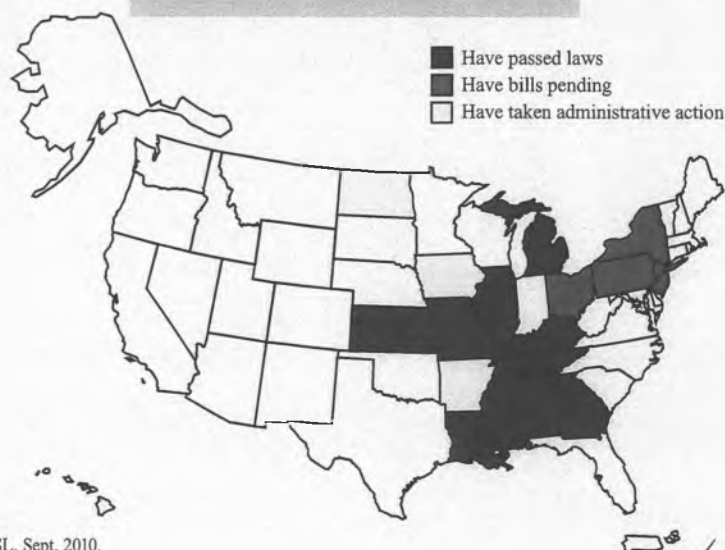
There also have been reports linking use of these drugs to hallucinations, seizures and even death. After a Minnesota teenager ended up in the hospital from using K2, Minnesota Senator Kathy Sieben announced plans to introduce legislation next session. She says protecting kids by outlawing these substances will be a top priority.

Kansas was the first state to pass legislation this year banning synthetic cannabinoids. Nine other states have passed similar measures making it illegal to possess, use, manufacture or sell the substances. Bills are pending in at least four other states as of the end of September.

Other action at the state level includes administrative bans in Arkansas, Hawaii, Iowa and North Dakota. The Hawaii Narcotics Enforcement Division, for example, applied an emergency ban on “chemicals in Spice/K2.” The ban is temporary, pending action by the Hawaii Legislature in the 2011 session. And in Idaho, a newly formed advisory committee is reviewing whether synthetic cannabinoids should be added to the list of controlled substances. They will make a recommendation to the Legislature before the 2011 session begins.



BANS ON SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS



Source: NCSL, Sept. 2010.



U.S. Department of Justice

NEWS RELEASE NEWS RELEASE

November 24, 2010

DEA MOVES TO EMERGENCY CONTROL SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA

Agency Will Study Whether To Permanently Control Five Substances

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is using its emergency scheduling authority to temporarily control five chemicals (JWH-018, JWH-073, JWH-200, CP-47,497, and cannabicyclohexanol) used to make “fake pot” products. Except as authorized by law, this action will make possessing and selling these chemicals or the products that contain them illegal in the U.S. for at least one year while the DEA and the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) further study whether these chemicals and products should be permanently controlled.

A Notice of Intent to Temporarily Control was published in the *Federal Register* today to alert the public to this action. After no fewer than 30 days, DEA will publish in the *Federal Register* a Final Rule to Temporarily Control these chemicals for at least 12 months with the possibility of a six-month extension. They will be designated as Schedule I substances, the most restrictive category, which is reserved for unsafe, highly abused substances with no medical usage.

Over the past year, smokable herbal blends marketed as being “legal” and providing a marijuana-like high, have become increasingly popular, particularly among teens and young adults. These products consist of plant material that has been coated with research chemicals that mimic THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, and are sold at a variety of retail outlets, in head shops and over the Internet. These chemicals, however, have not been approved by the FDA for human consumption and there is no oversight of the manufacturing process. Brands such as “Spice,” “K2,” “Blaze,” and “Red X Dawn” are labeled as incense to mask their intended purpose.

Since 2009, DEA has received an increasing number of reports from poison centers, hospitals and law enforcement regarding these products. Fifteen states have already taken action to control one or more of these chemicals. The Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 amends the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) to allow the DEA Administrator to emergency schedule an abused, harmful, non-medical substance in order to avoid an imminent public health crisis while the formal rule-making procedures described in the CSA are being conducted.

“The American public looks to the DEA to protect its children and communities from those who would exploit them for their own gain,” said DEA Acting Administrator Michele M. Leonhart. “Makers of these harmful products mislead their customers into thinking that ‘fake pot’ is a harmless alternative to illegal drugs, but that is not the case. Today’s action will call further attention to the risks of ingesting unknown compounds and will hopefully take away any incentive to try these products.”

##

CLERK'S OFFICE
AMENDED AND APPROVED
Date: 12-7-10

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY CHAIR TRAINI,
MAYOR DAN SULLIVAN, AND
ASSEMBLY MEMBERS
HONEMAN AND GUTIERREZ
Prepared by: Dept. of Law
For reading: December 7, 2010

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2010-87(S)

1 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 8.35**
2 **TO PROHIBIT THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, DISTRIBUTION, MARKETING,**
3 **SALE, USE OR POSSESSION OF SUBSTANCES CONTAINING SYNTHETIC**
4 **CANNABINOIDS, TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OR POSSESSION OF**
5 **PARAPHERNALIA RELATED TO THE USE OF SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS, TO**
6 **PROVIDE PENALTIES, AND AMENDING SECTION 14.60.030 TO PROVIDE FOR**
7 **CIVIL PENALTIES.**
8

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality is aware that substances containing synthetic
11 cannabinoids were and are manufactured, or assembled for, or marketed, sold or
12 offered for sale to, residents of the Municipality, including minors; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, local law enforcement personnel and "first responders" indicate there is
15 an increased use of synthetic cannabinoids, currently marketed and sold under a
16 variety of names, including "K2", "Spice", "Black Mamba", "Blue Pearl", "Genie",
17 "DaScents", "Spike", "Space" and "Zohai"; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, some users of the synthetic cannabinoids endanger the public by
20 operating vehicles while under the influence and endanger the welfare of first
21 responders; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, some users experience severe reactions, resulting in unconsciousness,
24 seizures, and hospitalization; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, users of the drug report the effects are similar to marijuana and LSD
27 usage, including blurred vision, extremely elevated blood pressure, irregular heart
28 rates, hallucinations, delusions, vomiting, euphoria, "highs", and disturbing side
29 effects including feelings of excruciating pain, agitation and loss of control; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, representatives of businesses selling the substance indicate it is
32 available to minors as well as adults; and
33

34 **WHEREAS**, products containing synthetic cannabinoids are not tested by the Food
35 and Drug Administration (U.S. Department of Agriculture) or other governmental
36 regulatory agency for human consumption and may contain chemicals detrimental to
37 the health and welfare of those ingesting them; and
38

1 **WHEREAS**, medical studies and treatises note deleterious health risks and adverse
2 effects associated with the use of synthetic cannabinoids and products containing the
3 synthetic cannabinoids; and

4
5 **WHEREAS**, despite packaging warning purchasers the products are not for human
6 consumption, the warnings are not being heeded; and

7
8 **WHEREAS**, synthetic cannabinoids are banned in many states and municipalities
9 throughout the United States as a danger to public health and welfare; and

10
11 **WHEREAS**, the smoke emanating from the burning or incineration of synthetic
12 cannabinoids may cause adverse effects on bystanders or those in the vicinity of
13 such activity; and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the Municipality to prohibit the manufacture,
16 assembly, possession, use, sale, marketing, or offering for sale of synthetic
17 cannabinoids within the boundaries of the Municipality to protect the health, safety
18 and welfare of its citizens; now, therefore,

19
20 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**

21
22 **Section 1.** Anchorage Municipal Code chapter 8.35 is amended by adding a new
23 section to read as follows:

24
25 **8.35.100 [SALE OF] [s] Synthetic cannabinoids.**

26
27 A. It shall be unlawful for any person or **entity** ~~[organization]~~ to knowingly
28 manufacture, assemble, distribute, dispense, sell, attempt to sell, give,
29 trade, barter, transfer, or to otherwise furnish in a single transaction any
30 product or combination of products containing synthetic cannabinoids,
31 such as products commonly known as "K2", "Spice", "Genie",
32 "DaScents", "Zohai" or similar products, [.] Synthetic cannabinoids
33 contain[ing] one or more of the following chemical compounds:

- 34
35 1. HU-210: (6aR, 10aR)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-6,6 dimethyl-3-
36 (2methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-
37 ol, or 6aR-trans-3-(1,1-Dimethylheptyl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydro-
38 1-hydroxy-6,6-dimethyl-6H-dibenzo[b,d]pran-9-methanol;
- 39
40 2. HU-211: (6aS, 10aS)-9- (hydroxymethyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-(2-
41 methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-
42 ol)(also known as Dexanabinol);
- 43
44 3. CP47,497 and homologues: 2-[(1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]-5-
45 (2-methyloctan-2-yl)phenol;
- 46
47 4. JWH-018: 1-Pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole;
- 48
49 5. JWH-019: 1-Hexyl-1-(1-naphthoyl)indole);

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6. JWH-073: 1-Butyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole;
 7. JWH-081: 1-pentyl-3-(4-methoxy-1-naphthoyl)indole, (also known as 4-methoxynaphthalen-1-yl-(1-pentylindol-3-yl)methanon);
 8. JWH-200: 1-[2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl]-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole;
 9. JWH-250: 1-pentyl-3-(2-methoxyphenylacetyl)indole, (also known as 2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1-(1-pentylindol-3-yl)ethanone);
 10. JWH-398: 1-Pentyl-3-(4-chloro-1-naphthoyl)indole)
 - 11[12]. TEMPP: 1-(3 trifluoromethylphenyl) piperazine;
~~[Salvia Divinorum or Salvinorum A; all parts of the plant presently classified botanically as Salvia Divinorum, whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, any extract from any part of the plant, and every compound, manufacture, salts, derivative, mixture or preparation of the plant, its seeds or extracts;]~~
 - 12 [13].BZP: N-benzylpiperazine; or
 - 13 [14].Any other synthetic cannabinoids or derivatives, salts, isomers, or salts of isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity as the substances described above.
 - 14.** This prohibition shall also apply to any other equivalent compound, substance, or derivative, whether described as tobacco, herbs, incense, food, nutrient, spice or any blend thereof which, when smoked or ingested, mimics the effects of a controlled substance, regardless of whether the substance is marketed for the purpose of being smoked or ingested.
- B. It shall be unlawful to manufacture synthetic cannabinoids described in subsection A. within the Municipality.
- C. It shall be unlawful for any person or entity ~~[organization]~~ to recklessly manufacture, assemble, distribute, sell, market, display for sale, or offer for sale within the Municipality products containing synthetic cannabinoids described in subsection A.
- D. Products containing synthetic cannabinoids may not be possessed, ingested, burned, incinerated or ignited in ~~any public place or on any property owned, leased or controlled by the Municipality.~~ For purposes of this section, "public place" ~~includes any public transit vehicle, any public street or other right of way, and any public school building or grounds.~~

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- E. A person or entity [~~organization~~] violating the provisions of subsections A. or B. shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by:
 - 1. A fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.

- F. A person or entity [~~organization~~] violating the provisions of subsection C. shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by:
 - 1. A fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both.

- G. A person or entity [~~organization~~] violating the provisions of subsection D. shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by:
 - 1. A fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both.

- H. As an alternative to the remedies, procedures and penalties provided in this title and section 1.45.010, a violation of subsection C. or D. may be charged as a civil violation subject to and prosecuted in accordance with title 14, and in such case shall be punishable by a civil penalty in accordance with chapter 14.60.

- I. If, after multiple violations by the same person or entity, the Municipal Attorney and the Anchorage Police Department determine the imposition of criminal penalties or civil fines will not be effective in enforcing this section, the Municipal Attorney may seek any other remedies provided by law, including injunctive relief.

- J. It is not an offense under this section if the person or entity was acting at the direction of an authorized agent of the municipality to enforce or ensure compliance with this section.

- K. Any product described in subsection A. found in the illegal possession of any person or entity may be confiscated and destroyed by the municipality.

- L. This section does not apply to drugs or substances lawfully prescribed or drugs or substances approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration or drugs or substances specifically permitted by state law.

Section 2. Anchorage Municipal Code section 8.35.010 is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

- A. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*** *** ***

Drug paraphernalia means any items whose objective characteristics or objective manufacturer's design indicate that it is intended for use in the consumption, ingestion, inhalation, injection or other method of introduction of:

1. A [A] controlled substance into the human body or to facilitate a violation of AS 11.71; or [.]
2. A product containing illegal synthetic cannabinoids under section 8.35.100.

Section 3. Anchorage Municipal Code section 14.60.030 is hereby amended to add to the fine schedule (*the remainder of the schedule is not affected and therefore not set out*):

14.60.030 Fine schedule.

Code Section	Offense	Penalty/Fine
***	***	***
<u>8.35.100 C.</u> <u>or</u> <u>8.35.100 D.</u> <u>[8.36.100B]</u>	Possession or use of synthetic cannabinoid	\$150 for the first violation; \$300 for the second violation; \$600 for subsequent violations
***	***	***

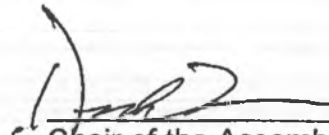
(AO No. 93-167(S-1), § 1, 4-13-94; AO No. 94-108, § 1, 10-5-94; AO No. 94-134, § 2, 9-8-94; AO No. 95-42, § 2, 3-23-95; AO No. 95-67(S), § 9, 7-1-95; AO No. 95-102, § 1, 4-26-95; AO No. 95-118, § 3, 9-1-95; AO No. 95-163(S), § 21, 8-8-95; AO No. 95-195(S-1), 1-1-96; AO No. 96-51(S-1), § 2, 8-1-96; AO No. 96-96(S-1), § 2, 2-1-97; AO No. 96-126(S), § 3, 10-1-96; AO No. 96-137(S), § 9, 1-2-97; AO No. 97-88, § 3, 6-3-97; AO No. 97-107, § 3, 11-17-97; AO No. 97-133(S), § 1, 11-11-97; AO No. 98-27(S-1), § 2, 11-11-97; AO No. 98-160, § 2, 12-8-98; AO No. 99-13(S), 2-9-99; AO No. 99-91(S), § 4, 7-13-99; AO No. 2000-64, § 1, 4-18-00; AO No. 2000-116(S), § 4, 7-18-00; AO No. 2000-127(S), § 2, 10-14-00; AO No. 2000-129(S), § 26, 11-21-00; AO No. 2001-48, § 1, 3-13-01; AO No. 2001-74(S), § 2, 4-17-01; AO No. 2001-4, § 2, 2-6-01; AO No. 2001-145(S-1), § 11, 12-11-01; AO No. 2003-68, § 1, 9-30-03; AO No. 2003-97, § 4, 9-30-03; AO No. 2003-117, § 2, 1-28-03; AO No. 2003-130, § 8, 10-7-03; AO No. 2003-152S, § 10, 1-1-04; AO No. 2004-1, § 2, 1-1-03; AO No. 2004-99, § 2, 6-22-04; AO No. 2004-100(S-1), § 6, 1-1-05; AO No. 2004-171, § 1, 1-11-05; AO No. 2005-160, § 9, 11-1-05; AO No. 2005-84(S), § 3, 1-1-06; AO No. 2005-185(S), § 35, 2-28-06; AO No. 2005-124(S-1A), § 33, 4-18-06; AO No. 2006-39, § 6, 4-11-06; AO No. 2006-54, § 1, 5-2-06; AO No. 2006-80, § 1, 6-6-06; AO No. 2007-50, § 4, 4-10-07; AO No. 2007-60, § 4, 11-1-07; AO No. 2007-70, § 3, 5-15-07; AO No. 2008-84(S), § 5, 7-15-08; AO No. 2009-61, § 3, 7-7-09; AO No. 2009-82, § 5, 7-7-09; AO No. 2009-40(S), § 3, 7-21-09; AO No. 2009-112, § 4, 10-13-09; AO No. 2009-122, § 2, 12-17-09)

Section 4. The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases and words of this ordinance are separable, and if any word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional, invalid or

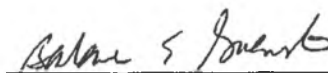
1 unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of a Court of competent jurisdiction,
2 such unconstitutionality, invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any of the
3 remaining words, phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this
4 ordinance.

5
6 **Section 5.** This ordinance shall be effective on _____, 2010 **upon**
7 **30 days of passage by the Anchorage Assembly.**
8

9
10 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 7th day of
11 December, 2010.
12

13
14
15 
16 _____
17 Chair of the Assembly

18
19 ATTEST:

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21 
22 _____
23 Municipal Clerk
24

'Fake Marijuana' Users Showing Up in Emergency Rooms

Called 'K2' or 'Spice,' the drug is legal in many states

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory_105434.html (*this news item will not be available after 02/09/2011)

Thursday, November 11, 2010

HealthDay



Photo courtesy: Wikimedia/Schorle

THURSDAY, Nov. 11 --(HealthDay News) -- A form of synthetic marijuana known as "K2" is sending young people to the hospital with racing heart beats, extreme anxiety and hallucinations, toxicologists warn.

In recent months, physicians and toxicologists say more young people have been showing up in emergency rooms after smoking synthetic marijuana. Despite the side effects, K2 is legal in many states, although many state legislators are rushing to pass legislation banning it.

Since the start of 2010, the American Association of Poison Control Centers has received nearly 2,000 reports of people who became ill after smoking K2, compared to about a dozen in 2009. Poison control officials described some of the symptoms as "life-threatening."

K2 is often marketed as incense and sold in packets of herbs laced with synthetic marijuana at "head shops," gas stations, convenience stores and online for about \$30 to \$40 per three-gram bag. The drug also goes by other names, including Spice, Spice Gold, Spice Diamond, Yucatan Fire, Solar Flare, K2 Summit, Genie, PEP Spice, and Fire n Ice, according to the U.S. Drug Intelligence Center.

While people who smoke K2 think they're going to experience deep relaxation and euphoria, those who end up in the hospital report unpleasant experiences, said Dr. Anthony Scalzo, medical director of the Missouri Poison Center and chief of toxicology at St. Louis University.

"The classic symptoms are agitation, anxiety, racing heart beat, elevated blood pressure," Scalzo said. "And some kids are having very negative psychotropic experiences. One said, 'I felt like I went down to hell.'"

In some cases, the drug also causes vomiting, tremors and seizures, according to federal drug abuse agencies.

Scalzo was the first to sound the alarm about K2 earlier this year after seeing a couple of dozen of reports of young people treated at emergency rooms who said they'd smoked K2.

The drug, also sold under the name Happy Shaman Herbs, Smoke, Skunk and Zohai, among others, was developed for study purposes in the mid-'90s in the lab of John Huffman, a Clemson University chemist, who was conducting National Institute on Drug Abuse-supported research on cannabinoids.

The chemical makeup of the drug, which he called JWH-018 and JWH-073, was similar to tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active ingredient in marijuana, only considerably more potent.

While THC is a cannabinoid, it's one of many, Huffman said. There are many other substances that interact with the cannabinoid receptors in the brain and other organs, Huffman said.

"These receptors don't exist so that people can smoke marijuana and get high; they play a role in regulating appetite, nausea, mood, pain and inflammation. They may be involved in the development of conditions such as osteoporosis, liver disease and some kinds of cancer," Huffman said. "Synthetic cannabinoids can help us understand these interactions and ultimately this knowledge may contribute to the development of new therapies.

Huffman and his colleagues described JWH-018 and JWH-073 in scientific literature. "Evidently some people have figured out how to make them," Huffman said.

Huffman warned that the drugs were only meant to be used in the lab and were not designed for use in people, Huffman said. "These compounds were not meant for human consumption," Huffman said. "Their effects in humans have not been studied and they could very well have toxic effects. They absolutely should not be used as recreational drugs."

And while the makers of K2 seem to have latched on to JWH-018, many other labs have developed their own synthetic cannabinoids that may also find their way into synthetic marijuana products, Scalzo said.

The K2 craze caught on several years ago Europe, prompting several countries to make synthetic cannabis products illegal.

In the United States, the Drug Enforcement Agency has listed K2 as a "drug or chemical of concern." But because it isn't officially "scheduled," it remains legal under federal law, according to published reports.

Alarmed by the rise in popularity, several states have rushed to outlaw K2. Earlier this year, Kansas became the first state to ban K2. Other states that have outlawed it include Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Alabama, Michigan and Illinois (where K2 remains legal until the end of the year). There are similar bills pending in many other states, including Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, New York, New Jersey and Louisiana.

Scalzo said the prohibitions don't come a moment too soon. Little is known about the health effects of the drug. But he's heard enough anecdotal reports about strange behavior -- ranging from extreme agitation to withdrawal to a suicide after smoking K2 -- to be concerned.

"This chemical was not meant to be used in any kind of pharmaceutical manner," Scalzo said.

SOURCES: Anthony Scalzo, M.D., chief of toxicology, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo.; John Huffman, Ph.D., research professor, organic chemistry, Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.

HealthDay

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Related MedlinePlus Pages

Drug Abuse [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/drugabuse.html>]

Emergency Medical Services [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/emergencymedicalservices.html>]

Marijuana [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/marijuana.html>]

Page last updated on 12 November 2010

Advisory Board on Alcoholism
and Drug Abuse



Alaska Mental Health Board

ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
431 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET, SUITE 200
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
(907) 465-8920

February 3, 2011

Senator Kevin Meyer
Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building, Room 103
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: SB 17 – Regulation of Synthetic Cannabinoids

Dear Senator Meyer,

On behalf of the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, I would like to express our thanks for your efforts to regulate synthetic marijuana or “cannabinoids.” These products pose a grave risk to youth and adults, causing serious health consequences and impairments to users of these drugs.

The dangers posed by synthetic marijuana are serious. While the base products may be natural, the chemicals used to mimic the properties of THC are not approved for human consumption. National news reports on the effects of these products include elevated heart rate and blood pressure, extreme anxiety, poisoning, nausea and vomiting, hallucinations, overdoses, and even addiction.

The American Association of Poison Control Centers reported more than 3,000 calls related to poisoning by synthetic marijuana products in 2010 – and nearly 400 calls since January 1 of this year. The U.S. Army banned use of synthetic marijuana by service members in August 2010. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) exercised its emergency scheduling authority to **temporarily** control five chemicals used in synthetic marijuana products (JWH-018, JWH-073, JWH-200, CP-47,497, and cannabicyclohexanol). This federal regulation is limited in duration (12-18 months), leaving Alaskans at risk after that time without the state taking action.

The effects of synthetic marijuana are being felt right here in Alaska. News reports of crimes involving these products have come from Fairbanks and Anchorage. The U.S. Army reported courts martial and non-judicial discipline of more than thirty soldiers in Alaska by December 2010. The Anchorage School District reports situations requiring medical care due to use by students (though not to the same extent as actual marijuana).

Given the health consequences and the role synthetic marijuana can play in criminal activity, there is a more than adequate basis for the regulation of these products to protect the health and safety of Alaskans. Thank you for your work to protect Alaskans from these harmful products.

Sincerely,

J. Kate Burkhart
Executive Director

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE



Office of the Mayor

Phone: 907-343-7100

FAX: 907-343-7180

Mayor Dan Sullivan

January 28, 2011

The Honorable Kevin Meyer
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Senate Bill 17

Dear Senator Meyer,

Thank you for introducing Senate Bill 17, *"An Act classifying certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances; and providing for an effective date."*

The Municipality of Anchorage fully supports the passage of SB 17 and its companion bill, HB 7. In the last few years, the use of synthetic cannabinoids has quickly become a significant health and public safety issue.

Due to the huge range in potency between the various compounds and products, municipal first responders have encountered users of these drugs having severe reactions, including from bizarre and dangerous behavior to unconsciousness and death. Users who operate machinery, especially motor vehicles, have had significant accidents and present a danger to others that is on par with operating under the influence of alcohol.

In response, the Municipality has enacted its own local code, but does not have the jurisdiction to deal with the influx of the drug on a state-wide basis or impose the kinds of meaningful criminal sentences that are needed to stem the manufacture, distribution, and sale of these drugs.

Thank you again for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Dan Sullivan
Mayor



NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

**State Legislation on Synthetic Cannabinoids
Pending on January 18, 2011**

As of January 18, 2011, 21 states had legislation pending to modify existing laws or create new laws relating synthetic cannabinoids.

2011 PENDING LEGISLATION

Alaska H 7

Classifies certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances.

Alaska S 17

Classifies certain synthetic cannabinoids as schedule IIA controlled substances.

Arkansas S 2

Amends the schedule VI substances regarding drugs in the criminal code; declares an emergency.

Arizona H 2167

Relates to definition of dangerous drugs; relates to synthetic.

Florida H 39

Relates to controlled substances; defines term homologue for purposes of Florida Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act; includes certain hallucinogenic substances on list of controlled substances in Schedule I; reenacts provisions to incorporate amendment.

Florida S 336

Revises the list of controlled substances included in Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V.

Florida S 204

Relates to controlled substances; defines the term homologue for purposes of the Florida Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act; includes certain hallucinogenic substances on the list of controlled substances in Schedule I; reenacts specified provisions relating to prohibited acts and penalties regarding controlled substances and the offense severity chart of the Criminal Punishment Code.

Iowa H 33

Adds hallucinogenic substances to the list of schedule I controlled substances; adds salvia divinorum and salvinorin A to the list of schedule I controlled substances; adds certain synthetic cannabinoids to the list of schedule I controlled substances in addition to the tetrahydrocannabinols and synthetic equivalents listed in schedule I.

Iowa S 35

Adds certain synthetic cannabinoids to the list of schedule I controlled substances; adds certain synthetic cannabinoids, also known as K2, to the list of schedule I controlled substances in addition to the tetrahydrocannabinols and synthetic equivalents listed in schedule I under Code section 124.204; A schedule I



controlled substance is considered to have a high potential for abuse and no medical purpose in treatment in the United States.

Iowa SSB 1016

Revises the lists of drugs on the controlled substances schedules, and provides penalties; removes marijuana from schedule I and reclassifies it as a schedule II controlled substance; strikes references to the authority of the board of pharmacy to adopt rules for the use of marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols for medicinal purposes.

Iowa HSB 5

Adds hallucinogenic substances to the list of schedule I controlled substances; adds salvia divinorum and salvinorin A", also known as divinorin A to the list of schedule I controlled substances; adds certain synthetic cannabinoids, also known as "K2", to the list of schedule I controlled substances in addition to the tetrahydrocannabinols and synthetic equivalents listed in schedule I under Code section 124.204(4)(u); A schedule I controlled substance is considered to have a high potential.

Indiana S 152

Relates to synthetic cannabinoids; defines synthetic cannabinoid and makes possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; makes conforming amendments and corrections.

Indiana S 5

Relates to synthetic cannabinoids; defines synthetic cannabinoid and makes possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; makes conforming amendments.

Indiana H 1102

Relates to possession or manufacture of synthetic cannabinoid; defines synthetic cannabinoid and makes possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; makes conforming amendments.

Indiana H 1277

Prohibits sale of synthetic cannabinoids; defines "synthetic cannabinoid" and makes dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; enhances the penalty based on the same weights used to enhance the penalty for dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering hash oil or hashish; makes conforming amendments and a technical correction.

Indiana S 448

Relates to spice; defines "synthetic cannabinoid" and makes possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; makes conforming amendments.

Indiana S 57

Relates to synthetic cannabinoids; defines synthetic cannabinoid and makes possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; makes conforming amendments.

Indiana H 1315



Relates to spice and salvia divinorum; defines synthetic cannabinoid and makes possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering a synthetic cannabinoid or salvia divinorum equivalent to possessing, dealing in, manufacturing, or delivering marijuana, hash oil, or hashish; makes conforming amendments and a technical correction.

Kentucky H 121

Relates to crimes and punishments and declaring an emergency; bans possession, trafficking, or manufacture of 3,4-methylenedioxypropylone the primary ingredient of a drug with a street name "dove"; amend various sections of KRS Chapters 217 and 218A and KRS 530.064 relating to unlawful transaction with a minor to conform.

Minnesota H 57

Relates to public safety; establishes the crimes of sale or possession of synthetic cannabinoids; provides for a penalty.

Minnesota S 7

Relates to public safety; adds synthetic marijuana to the list of Schedule I controlled substances; prescribes criminal penalties.

Mississippi S 2163

Conforms the punishment for the illegal possession, manufacture and sale of synthetic cannabinoids to the punishment for the illegal possession, manufacture and sale of marijuana.

Mississippi S 2226

Includes cathinone derivatives in Schedule I; clarifies the punishment for offenses involving synthetic cannabinoids; clarifies the punishment for offenses involving synthetic cannabinoids.

Mississippi H 518

Includes synthetic Cannabinoids in schedule I.

Mississippi S 2369

Relates to cathinone derivatives in schedule I and to clarify the punishment for offenses involving synthetic cannabinoids; clarifies the punishment for offenses involving synthetic cannabinoids.

Mississippi H 869

Amends existing code, to include cathinone derivatives in Schedule I and to clarify the punishment for offenses involving synthetic cannabinoids; clarifies the punishment for offenses involving synthetic cannabinoids.

Montana H 185

Bans synthetic marijuana; relates to crimes; relates to alcohol and drugs.

North Dakota S 2119

Relates to the scheduling of controlled substances; modifies provisions of the controlled substance schedule relating to certain substances, including tetrahydrocannabinols and synthetic cannabinoids.

New Jersey A 2644

Adds certain cannabis-like chemical substances to list of controlled dangerous substances.

New Jersey S 2606



Adds certain cannabis-like chemical substances to list of controlled dangerous substances.

New York S 1834

Prohibits sale or distribution of any product containing a synthetic cannabinoid; defines the chemical compounds which constitute a synthetic cannabinoid; imposes a civil penalty of not more than \$500 for a violation thereof; creates defenses based on over the counter drugs approved by the federal food and drug administration or lack of knowledge that the product contained a synthetic cannabinoid.

Oregon H 2462

Directs State Board of Pharmacy to classify certain synthetic cannabinoid compounds as Schedule I controlled substances; declares emergency, effective on passage.

Oregon H 2709

Directs State Board of Pharmacy to classify certain synthetic cannabinoid compounds as Schedule I controlled substances; declares emergency, effective on passage.

South Carolina H 3137

Relates to materials, compounds, mixtures, and preparations classified as schedule i drugs, add synthetic cannabis to the list of schedule I drugs.

South Carolina H 3144

Relates to materials, compounds, mixtures, and preparations classified as schedule i drugs, add synthetic cannabis to the list of schedule I drugs.

South Carolina S 78

Relates to materials, compounds, mixtures, and preparations classified as schedule I drugs; adds synthetic cannabis to the list of schedule I drugs.

Texas H 49

Relates to the addition of certain synthetic derivatives of marihuana to Penalty Group 2 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act.

Texas H 108

Relates to the addition of a synthetic derivative of marihuana to Penalty Group 2 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act.

Texas H 597

Relates to adding certain synthetic cannabinoids to Penalty Group 2 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act.

Texas S 331

Relates to adding certain synthetic cannabinoids to Penalty Group 2 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act.

Utah H 23

Modifies provisions relating to the Utah Controlled Substances Act by creating a controlled class of listed synthetic cannabinoid substances found in products often referred to as spice.

Utah H 200

Modifies the Criminal Code prohibiting the sale, distribution, and other activities relating to products containing a synthetic cannabinoid to any person under 19 years of age; provides advertising restrictions for



products containing a synthetic cannabinoid; prohibits a person from providing a product containing a synthetic cannabinoid to any person under 19 years of age.

Virginia H 1243

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act, notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 1427

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act, notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 1434

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 1473

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act; relates that notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 1481

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act; relates that the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 1778

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 (Section 54.1-3446) of the Drug Control Act ([Section] 54.1-3400 et seq.); provides that the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 1878

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act; provides that the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia H 2049

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 (Section 54.1-3446) of the Drug Control Act ([Section] 54.1-3400 et seq.); notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for



possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia S 745

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act, notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia S 746

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act, notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia S 748

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act, notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia S 749

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Drug Control Act, notwithstanding the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia S 926

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule I (Section 54.1-3446) of the Drug Control Act ([Section] 54.1-3400 et seq.); Notwithstands the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule I, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Virginia S 1082

Adds synthetic marijuana (known as K2 and Spice and various other names) to Schedule I of the Drug Control Act.

Virginia S 1186

Creates a new category for synthetic marijuana as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1 (Section 54.1-3446) of the Drug Control Act ([Section] 54.1-3400 et seq.); Notwithstands the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule 1, punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic marijuana is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana; provides that has an emergency clause.

Virginia S 1373

Creates a new category for synthetic cannabinoids as a series of controlled substances listed in Schedule I (Section 54.1-3446) of the Drug Control Act ([Section] 54.1-3400 et seq.); Notwithstands the provisions regarding punishment for possession and distribution of controlled substances listed in Schedule I,



punishment for possession and distribution of synthetic cannabinoids is largely in accord with the provisions for actual marijuana.

Washington S 5101

Places certain synthetic cannabinoids into schedule I of the uniform controlled substances act.

West Virginia H 2505

Adds synthetic cannabinoids and hallucinogens and stimulants to the Schedule I list of controlled substances (K2).

West Virginia S 63

Extends number of prohibited products included in definition of salvia divinorum.

Wyoming H 62

Relates to the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act; conforms punctuation and spelling in the act to terminology in federal law; adds and deleting substances in the various schedules of the act as specified; amends registration requirements as specified; amends methamphetamine precursor sales restrictions to match federal requirements; specifies penalties; authorizes a person to sign a consent for a third party to receive prescription tracking reports; specifies applicability of new registration requirements.

Wyoming S 59

Relates to the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act; adds specified controlled substances to schedule I of the act; authorizes additional positions.



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Synthetic Cannabinoid State Laws

(Updated: January 18, 2011)

State	Related Bill Numbers	Classified as a Schedule I Controlled Substance	Crimes and Penalties	Chemical Substances*
Alabama	HB 697 (2010)	No	Subject to the same penalties as possession of marijuana in the first and second degree.	HU-210; JWH-018; and JWH-073.
Georgia	HB 1309 (2010)	Yes	Not Specified	CP 47, 497 and homologues; HU-210; and JWH-018.
Illinois	HB 6459 (2010)	Yes	Not Specified	JWH-018 and JWH-073.
Kansas	HB 2411 (2010)	Yes	Not Specified	HU-210; JWH-018; and JWH-073.
Kentucky	HB 265 (2010)	Yes	Possession of synthetic cannabinoid is a class B misdemeanor. Trafficking in synthetic cannabinoid and manufacturing synthetic cannabinoids are class A misdemeanors. Subject to the same penalties and exclusions as marijuana for certain controlled substances crimes.	Any chemical compound that contains CP 47, 497 and homologues; dexanabinol; JWH-018; or JWH-073. Excludes synthetic cannabinoids that require a prescription, are approved by the USDA and are legally dispensed.



State	Related Bill Numbers	Classified as a Schedule I Controlled Substance	Crimes and Penalties	Chemical Substances*
Louisiana	HB 121 (2010), HB 173 (2010), and SB 37 (2010)	Yes	Subject to the same penalties as possession, distribution and possession with intent to distribute of marijuana.	CP 47, 497 and homologues; HU-210; JWH-018; and JWH-073.
Michigan	HB 6038 (2010)	Yes	Not Specified	CP 47,497; HU-210; JWH-015; JWH-018; JWH-073; JWH-200; and JWH-250.
Mississippi	SB 2004 (2010)	Yes	Subject to the same penalties and exclusions as marijuana for certain controlled substances crimes.	CP-47, 497 and homologues; HU-210; JWH-018; JWH-019; JWH-073; JWH-200; JWH-250; and JWH-398.
Missouri	HB 1472 (2010)	Yes	Possession of 35 grams or less of synthetic cannabinoids is a class A misdemeanor, and possession of more than 35 grams is a class C felony.	HU-211; Indole or JWH-018; Indole or JWH-073; and Phenol CP 47, 497 and homologues.
Oklahoma	HB 3241 (2010)	Yes	Not Specified	HU-210; JWH-018; and JWH-073.
Tennessee	SB 2982 (2010)	No	Subject to the same penalties as producing, manufacturing, distributing, possessing or possessing with intent to produce, manufacture or distribute salvia divinorium.	HU-210; HU-211; JWH-018; and JWH-073. Excludes synthetic cannabinoids lawfully prescribed or substances approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

*Synthetic Cannabinoid Chemical Substances and Trade Names:

- 1-(2-(4-(morpholinyl)ethyl))-3-(1-naphthoyl) indole [trade name: JWH-200]
- 1-Butyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole [trade name: JWH-073]
- 1-hexyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole [trade name: JWH-019]
- 1-pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole [trade name: JWH-018]
- 1-pentyl-3-(2-methoxyphenylacetyl)indole [trade name: JWH-250]



- 1-pentyl-3-(4-chloro-1-naphthoyl)indole [trade name: JWH-398]
- 2-[(1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]-5-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)phenol [trade name: CP 47, 497 and homologues]
- [(6aR,10aR)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c] chromen-1-ol] [trade name: HU-210]
- (2-methyl-1-propyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-naphthalenyl-methanone [trade name: JWH-015]
- Dexanabinol
- dexanabinol, (6aS,10aS)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-ol [trade name: HU-211]

NCSL's Criminal Justice Program is in Denver, Colo., at (303) 364-7700 or cj-info@ncsl.org.
Statutes and bills may be edited or summarized; full text can be retrieved from [NCSL's website](#).

Alaska's Citizen Review Panel



Citizen Review Panel: Who

- The CRP is composed of volunteer members who are broadly representative of the state, including members who have expertise in the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.
- Susan Heuer, Anchorage (Chair)
- Bonnie Edmondson, North Pole
- Dana Hallett, Haines
- Kristin Hull, Wasilla
- George Kirchner, Fairbanks
- Ralph Taylor, Eagle River
- Fred Van Wallinga, Willow



Citizen Review Panel: What

To provide oversight to the Office of Children's Services and gather public input on how well the child protection system is working. The Panel does this primarily by visiting different regions of the state and talking to OCS staff and partner agencies about how well the system is working. The Panel produces an annual report for OCS which is also distributed to all members of Legislature.



Citizen Review Panel: Where

Statewide! Since 2008
we're been to the following
communities.

- Anchorage
- Aniak
- Barrow
- Bethel
- Cantwell
- Chitina
- Copper Center
- Delta Junction
- Dillingham
- Fairbanks
- Gakona
- Glennallen
- Healy
- Hooper Bay
- Juneau
- Kenny Lake
- Ketchikan
- King Salmon
- Kodiak
- Kwigillingok
- Naknek
- Northway
- Nuquisut
- Palmer
- Petersburg
- Point Hope
- Saint Mary's
- Sitka
- Tok
- Unalaska
- Valdez
- Wainwright
- Wasilla
- Wrangell



Citizen Review Panel: When

The Panel has been active in Alaska since 2002.



Citizen Review Panel: Why

The Citizen Review Panel is mandated by state and federal law. The Panel was created through the federal Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act (CAPTA); Keeping Children & Families Safe Act of 2003 and through Alaska statute Sec. 47.14.205.



Benefits of CRP

- Seven volunteer members all contributing a minimum of 250 active hours annually
- We're the eyes and ears of the public for the Legislature and OCS
- Unique function of identifying and advocating for ancillary services that OCS cannot request
- Jointly we can achieve a vastly improved child protection system for the children of Alaska



Overview of presentation

- Last year's recommendations
- OCS' response
- This year's site reviews
- This year's recommendations



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to OCS

1. The discrepancy between rural, bush and urban child protection be acknowledged and addressed.



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to OCS

2. OCS front line workers have adequate support staff to allow them to focus on social work, not paperwork.



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to OCS

3. Training for new OCS workers be modified to better reflect the on-the-ground reality of the job.



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to the Legislature

1. The discrepancy between rural, bush and urban child protection be acknowledged and addressed.



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to the Legislature

2. Fiscal responsibility for transportation of children to a child advocacy center be clarified.



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to the Legislature

3. That a capital budget be formed to fund housing and facility work for OCS and its workers.



CRP recommendations from our work last year

Recommendations to the Legislature

4. That the State standardize resources available to all state agencies (internet, housing).



OCS Response to CRP Recommendations

1. Discrepancy of child protective services between urban and rural areas
 - "Safety is safety" regardless of location - same expectations, resources have been allocated to accomplish this
 - Acknowledged staff retention problems as a barrier - used staff from other areas when local staff could not be hired



OCS Response to CRP Recommendations

2. Lack of adequate support staff

- Request updated workload study to determine additional staff requirements and what could be picked up by support staff
- Undertaking in-house data study to examine caseload and resource distribution within the state
- Commission a study to determine the best ratio of support staff to social workers



OCS Response to CRP Recommendations

3. Training for new workers
 - Updated training curriculum
 - Created supervisory strategic plan



CRP: This year's report card

- Overall, OCS doing a good job addressing the most pressing agency-wide issues
- It is a huge, ponderous, bureaucratic agency with a very challenging mission
- They are working hard to comply with the requirements from the federal Program Improvement Plan
- Those changes are reflected in better child protection policies and evolving practices



Visited Bethel & Wasilla

- Our mandate is to collect input from recipients of child protection services - families, foster families, community partners - and let legislature know what the grass roots perception is.
- This year we did that through two site visits.
 - Bethel and four surrounding villages
 - Wasilla, Palmer and Glennallen
- In May, Bethel was at a critical place because of staffing and administrative issues. The Western Region was funded and it is slowly becoming a reality. Staff recruitment and retention remains the biggest barrier.
- We did two site visits to Wasilla in August and December. Wasilla continues to struggle with its own unique set of challenges.



Site Visit Feedback on the Impact of Poor Worker Retention

- Our overall impression from the visiting communities is that the worker retention problem continues to affect child protection delivery and frustrate families and affiliated community agencies that partner with OCS.
- The shortage of workers in the field has been exacerbated due to vacancies and new workers out for training.
- There is a problem retaining experienced workers.
- There are continued complaints about lack of basic social work - returning phone calls, scheduling family visits, etc.
- There are frustrations in the court system because of continuances, late reports, detrimental court rulings, and children remaining in custody for too long.



2011 CRP Recommendations

1. Staff retention and allocation

- Support OCS's efforts to evaluate staff ratios - PCN locations, social worker workload ratios, and ratios for social worker/support staff
- Resources are scarce; they need to be spent as effectively as possible (e.g. not paying social workers to transport children, etc.)
- Once the studies are completed, OCS will need financial support to implement the recommendations.



2011 CRP

Recommendations

2. We renew our request from last year for legislative changes to standardize resources between state agencies

The Internet connection speed has certainly improved in the Bethel region, but needs to be on par with the Troopers, schools, etc. in other areas.

- Housing is critical to retain staff in rural areas. No matter how excellent the policies and practices of OCS are, they will fail without staff to implement them.

CCRF



2011 CRP Recommendations

3. External audit of Wasilla office
 - We support an external audit of the Wasilla OCS office
 - Should find opportunities to be more efficient; examine why cases stay open so long
 - There are staffing dynamics that are not successful, the audit will look for ways to resolve the problems



Most importantly

There is a widespread and consistent impression that the safety of children in Alaska remains compromised and is getting worse. This impression comes first and foremost from the line workers themselves in both regions. Community partners echoed this concern.

Alaska does not want to be a state that will not make changes until a child dies.



Alaska's Citizen Review Panel



For more
information,
please visit our
website
www.crpalaska.org

