

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672
4594 HHES SB 32 (FILE 4)

Sirs:

file
no response

Lee Lewis
P.O. #71
Palmer AK

Enclosed find copies of
report to the medical
findings behind Senate Bill #55
House Bill #35.

I have lived, worked and
voted in this state for 6 years
and spent another 18 years
between Seattle and many parts
of Alaska.

I came here because I love
this state and here we have
freedom - unique only to our
great state.

God made Alaska to test
the metal of mortals.

The last frontier and all the
freedom we have with it takes
no step backward if this legislation
is passed. The spirit and very
guts of our great unique way
of life are at stake.

I and thousands of people
in this state smoke marijuana
responsibly.

I am a bartender and have
watched friends die from it. I
haven't lost a friend yet to
marijuana. I have 50%
disabled, marijuana helps to
keep me away from narcotics

To stop the pain. The
narcotics were a vicious circle.
Pain, medication, pain medication.
until I got tired of hurting
from taking the drug (addiction)
and hurt when I didn't.

Marijuana allows me to
relax, (important to pain control)
to eat (Pain & Pain medication
cut my appetite) and to sleep.

Basic things healthy people
take for granted.

I and many others who vote
feel this is "Wrong".

Pressure from outsiders
have never crushed Alaskans
yet.

I need schedules of all
planned meetings. I plan to
attend.

My apology but I live
back in the mountains. No
typewriter, this ~~is~~ is me. I
wanted to get the message across
and want to come to Juneau for
the "scheduled meetings". Please
let us know, there will be more
than me so please send meeting
schedule.

Thank you

Lee Loomis
Box 3371
Palmer, AK. 99645

P.S. B. R. L. date 1/19/50
Registered Voter

We Need to Refocus The War on Drugs

WASHINGTON POST HEALTH/OCTOBER 14, 1986

The drug-related deaths of young and promising athletes focuses attention on a major problem in the United States. To stem the tide of illicit drug use, people are calling for greater law enforcement, the use of drug testing and more educational programs. Yet none of those actions gets to the heart of the matter.

The real issue is the inappropriate use of all drugs by each of us. Our national drug problem is not just the free-basing of cocaine, excessive use of alcohol or the misuse of prescription drugs. It is our casual attitude toward all the drugs we take and our lack of appreciation of their potency and toxicity. It is our unwillingness to understand that many chemicals are actually drugs, and our willingness to put those chemicals into our bodies unnecessarily.

The tonnage of chemical compounds that this nation swallows, injects, inserts or inhales into its collective body each year is astronomical. We're so casual about the use of drugs that we don't even consider alcohol, nicotine, aspirin, caffeine and the theobromine in chocolate to be drugs.

The crucial factor in all of this is attitude. We must adopt a new national philosophy toward appropriate drug use. We must minimize usage, limit the effects of the so-called social or cultural drugs and use prescription drugs in a cost-conscious and therapeutically effective manner.

Making such changes in our heterogenous society will be difficult; cynics might say impossible. But I am not a cynic. The current antismoking campaigns have shown that massive change can happen.

Alcohol use can't be effectively banned; that was tried and failed 60 years ago. However, while each individual should continue to have the right to use alcohol (and tobacco), that use should not impact negatively on other persons.

While the sale of alcoholic beverages should continue, penalties for drunk driving should be severe. The efforts of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and similar groups should be supported. The use of the breathalyzer test should be required when erratic behavior is seen. The effect of alcohol on job performance should be clearly identified and treatment programs made easily accessible and required for abusers. Repeat offenders should face disciplinary action.

Serious consideration should be given to the further decriminalization or even legalization of marijuana. Legal control of marijuana is almost impossible, and our limited resources should be directed to the control of the more toxic illicit substances. While there have been claims that the use of marijuana leads to the use of more potent substances, that has not been substantiated. Just as in the case of alcohol, the individual's right of use in private should be allowed, but drug-related public actions, such as impaired driving, severely penalized.

Increased taxes on social drugs—alcohol, tobacco and marijuana—would directly support an expanded National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA).

Over-the-counter drugs are generally considered by the public to be non-drugs, an idea reinforced by their relative safety and accessibility. Yet each drug does cause side effects, some serious. Many interact negatively with other drugs.

continues its efforts to release addictive prescription drugs to the OTC market

Prescription drugs are a major part of our lives. When we visit a physician, we expect to receive a magical piece of paper called a prescription. We must learn to accept that there are times when drug treatment is inappropriate.

As for illegal drugs, we cannot afford, either financially or philosophically, to create the kind of enforcement envelope around this country that would be required to block the flow. Therefore, if the supply can't be substantially reduced, we must work to reduce the demand.

Why do people take illegal drugs? The reasons are numerous and complex. Some include the

Serious consideration should be given to the further decriminalization or even legalization of marijuana. Our limited resources should be directed to the control of the more toxic illicit substances.

need to isolate oneself mentally from poor living conditions; the thrill of the risks involved; the affluence of American society and the great increase in leisure time; peer pressure; and the lack of knowledge of toxic effects.

One of the most obvious ways of combating illicit drug use among the poor is simple, albeit expensive and complicated: their environment must be changed. This means better housing, jobs, education and other activities that help build self-esteem, especially among our young people. There is no higher priority.

Stopping the use of cocaine and other illicit drugs by the affluent will require them to change their attitude. They must be educated to understand that these drugs are not without toxicity, and that each user contributes to the support of a terrifying underground drug distribution system that will ultimately, if unchecked, destroy the entire texture of American life.

Admittedly, change is difficult, but until we do, cocaine will continue to flow across our borders and up the noses of abusers; heroin, another "hound of hell" in the Rev. Jesse Jackson's memorable phrase, will murder our national spirit; drunk drivers will kill thousands of innocent persons; and the costs to society for the inappropriate and misuse of over-the-counter and prescription drugs will escalate.

Dr. William J. Kinnard Jr. is the dean of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

Second Opinion is a forum for points of view on health-related topics. Send articles to Second Opinion, Health Section, The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071.

I have examined the findings reported in Senate Bill #55 and Senate Bill #12 of the Alaskan Legislature and have found them flawed and inaccurate. Here is a point by point rebuttal of the findings. Beginning sentences by apostrophies are direct quotes from the bills. References to the National Academy of Sciences refer to their publication Marijuana and Health which reports their 1982 study of marijuana related research. I have also enclosed other materials which are pertinent to the topic of recriminalization.

1) "THC, the mind altering ingredient in marijuana, is not soluble in water, but goes into the fatty tissues of the brain, testicles, ovaries, and other internal organs, and takes 30 days to be eliminated from the body;"

Actually, THC is broken down by the body soon after ingestion. It's metabolites stay in the body for up to 30 days, but these metabolites are non-psychoactive. Any toxicologist can confirm this. Urine testing advocates exploit the confusion between THC which is the active ingredient and is metabolized relatively quickly, and its metabolites (chiefly 9-carboxy-THC) which have no psychoactive effect but linger in the body for a month or so.

The following quote is from a recent article by Chemical & Engineering News (6/2/86). "Marijuana is the most commonly abused drug and the kinetics of its metabolism have been studied extensively. It is also an unusual drug in that it can be detected in urine for a long time. Very little of the original drug, Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, goes into the urine. The chemical is absorbed from the blood into body fat tissue where it is eliminated as it is slowly metabolized. . . (metabolites) can be found in urine for longer than a month . . ."

The following quote is from a Center for Disease Control MMWR Report (9/16/83). "Studies involving humans indicate that 80% - 90% of the total dose of Delta-9-THC is excreted within 5 days - approximately 20% in urine and 65% in feces."

Most experts claim that the metabolites disappear 10 to 14 days after ingestion in most cases. Urine tests detect these metabolites, which is why the manufacturers are required to point out that they are tests to indicate recent use, not intoxication or impairment. If THC remained in the system for 30 days, and remained active, the urine tests would be marketed as a way to indicate impairment. They aren't.

2) "the buildup of THC in the body causes the user to smoke more marijuana to achieve the desired high and may result in loss of sleep, appetite, and initiative, as well as moodiness and depression;"

The "buildup of THC" is actually tolerance to the drug, a physiological response humans and animals have to any drug. It occurs not because of the THC buildup, but because of other complex biological factors.

There is no clear evidence that marijuana causes schizophrenia. The National Academy of Sciences found that drug abuse was more often than not a symptom rather than a cause of mental problems. Illusions and hallucinations are often subjective phenomena influenced by an individual's mental state and the power of suggestion. Individuals susceptible to lapses in their grasp of reality will compound their mental problems with the use of alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs.

Marijuana users do not hallucinate. They do experience an alteration of their space perception, and an apparent enhancement of colors. These, combined with impairment of motor coordination, are reasons why marijuana should not be used while driving a motor vehicle. However, to call these effects of marijuana "hallucinations" is misleading if not untruthful. Individuals who take LSD hallucinate. Individuals detoxifying from alcohol addiction hallucinate. Hallucinate means the individual sees something that isn't there. Marijuana users do not hallucinate.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse's pamphlet, "Marijuana", is far from being the best source on marijuana's effects. However, it's claims are based far more on actual research than popular myths. It makes no mention of hallucinations, illusions, or schizophrenia resulting from marijuana use.

Marijuana's promise as a pain killer is referenced above. However, the dose required to render an individual oblivious to body signals such as pain far exceeds standard levels of use. A sufficient dose to accomplish this would also put the subject to sleep. It is unlikely that this presents any danger to the individual or to society.

6) "although it may take a heavy cigarette smoker as long as 20 years to develop lung cancer, one marijuana cigarette a day may cause lung cancer in three years;"

Marijuana is used daily by over 6 million Americans, according to the National Institute of Drug Abuse. Marijuana has been a popular recreational drug used by a large percentage of young Americans since 1965. There is no record of case histories to document this finding. If this finding were true, we would have millions of case histories of young individuals with lung cancer from marijuana use. The case histories don't exist because the statement is false.

The National Academy of Sciences decided that marijuana smoking and tobacco smoking can not be compared because the methods of ingestion differ so greatly. Marijuana smokers smoke far less materials a day than tobacco smokers (up to 2 cigarettes a day compared to 20 - 60), but they inhale the smoke far deeper into the lungs. On the other hand, many marijuana smokers use a waterpipe (or "bong") which filters out many, but not all, of the tars that contribute to lung cancer.

Claims that marijuana is more carcinogenic than tobacco are compelled by a logic that dictates that because marijuana is illegal (except in Alaska) it has to be more dangerous than tobacco (or in other cases, than alcohol). The claims are based on the undisputed fact that marijuana contains more tar than tobacco, but ignore the differences in ingestion and dosage that make comparisons inaccurate. Marijuana smoke is bad for the lungs, it does

contribute to the formation of lung cancer, and I am convinced that by the year 2000 we will begin to hear of case studies of bronchitis and lung cancer as a result of long term marijuana use.

Nonetheless, it is not true that a marijuana cigarette a day for three years will cause lung cancer. I offer my own lungs and continued health as proof.

7) "THC affects eggs, sperm, sexual hormones, and the development of a fetus, and marijuana use may result in deformed or undersized offspring."

There are no documented cases of marijuana use causing a genetic deformity. I challenge anyone to provide one.

In April, 1984 Ralph Hanson delivered a paper at a NORML conference on "Effects of Marijuana Use on Pregnant Women". Dr. Hanson's conclusion was that marijuana use during pregnancy may result in a smaller birth weight for the fetus, but in an allowable range (similar to the smaller birth weight for babies from nicotine or alcohol using mothers.) NORML has been publicizing this since 1984. We regularly hear, though, from mothers who used marijuana during pregnancy who delivered babies of normal weight.

Laboratory tests have indicated that under some conditions, large doses of THC affect the eggs, sperm, and sexual hormones of rats and other animals. There is evidence that THC inhibits sperm mobility. However, the effects of marijuana on fertility seem to be negligible - as millions of marijuana smoking parents will attest to.

The National Academy of Sciences report affirmed that marijuana use has no effect on chromosomes or fertility.

8) "other physical reactions to marijuana include irreversible changes in the brain, sinusitis, pharyngitis, bronchitis, emphysema, increased heart rate, and decreased blood circulation;"

Marijuana use does not cause brain damage. NIDA recently announced proof that it does. My office contacted the researcher. His data actually suggested that a dose of 50 marijuana cigarettes a day for 30 years would not cause brain damage. What NIDA based their comments on was his finding that 100 marijuana cigarettes for 30 years would cause slight premature senilia. An individual would have to smoke a marijuana cigarette every 8 minutes for 12 hours a day, for thirty years, to suffer any brain damage - if this study is conclusive. The enclosed NORML press release cited above re: marijuana potency contains more details of this study.

Smoking contributes to lung and sinus problems, and marijuana smoking is no different. Marijuana does increase the heart rate and/or blood pressure in some individuals; NORML cautions against marijuana use by individuals with cardiovascular problems.

9) "other psychological reactions to marijuana include loss of memory; impairment in thinking, reading comprehension, and verbal and arithmetic problem solving; impairment of perception of distance and time; and anxiety, panic, paranoia, psychosis, and psychological dependence."

The symptoms mentioned accompany cessation of marijuana use in some individuals, not the building up of the body. A majority of marijuana smokers experience no side-effects from cessation of use. If these symptoms indicate anything, they indicate the relative lack of serious side-effects from cessation of use, unlike those associated with alcohol and opiate withdrawal.

3) "it is possible for a human being to overdose from the use of marijuana, especially if it is used in conjunction with alcohol, because it increases the effects of alcohol;"

There is no record of anyone ever dying from an overdose of marijuana. It is one of the least toxic drugs known to man.

Raphael Mechoulam, who isolated the main ingredient of marijuana (THC) has edited Cannabinoids as Therapeutic Agents which includes an article by Mark Segal on Marijuana's potential as an analgesic. He reports that marijuana has promise as a pain killer because it is non-addictive and does not depress the respiratory tract (unlike opioids.) Marijuana's promise as a pain-killer is reported by the National Academy of Sciences, and by Roger Roffman in the book Marijuana as Medicine; its promise rests on the fact that finding #3 is essentially false.

Marijuana is a mild intoxicant, and as such should not be used in conjunction with other intoxicants. Whether marijuana increases the effects of alcohol, or complicates them, or just how one would subjectively describe the effects of mixing the two, is beside the point that multiple drug use provides multiple safety concerns. Marijuana, though, has far less severe cross-reaction with alcohol than barbituates or tranquilizers such as valium. Once again, a good toxicologist can provide confirmation of these points.

4) "the THC content of a marijuana cigarette 10 years ago was one percent, but is as high as 10 percent per cigarette today;"

Proponents of jailing people for marijuana use have been using this argument as if to suggest that marijuana is ten times more dangerous than it used to be. The premise that an increase in potency demonstrates an increase in danger is logically unsound. As with alcohol, consumers compensate for higher potency by consuming smaller doses. Anyone who counsels alcoholics will confirm that beer is no less dangerous than whiskey simply because it has a lesser potency.

The government has been trying to sell the increased potency argument for some time. The enclosed press release refers to a New York Times report in 1980 that marijuana had increased to an average potency of 3.5%, and that this was an alarming increase over the seventies. However, in 1980, The Times ran a similar story, only at that time they claimed that marijuana had an average potency of 4%. So, marijuana has actually decreased in potency, if you believe The Times.

5) "Marijuana causes schizophrenia, illusions, and hallucinations, including a dulling of the senses, creating the possibility that the user is unable to respond to body signals, such as pain;"

People use marijuana because they enjoy the mild impairment of the senses marijuana contributes. This impairment is short term, and wears off two to three hours after ingestion. There is no evidence of prolonged impairment from marijuana use. The effects described above up to but not including anxiety are the short-term effects desired by the marijuana user.

The danger of teenage marijuana use is that many teens are prone to mix relaxation and studying, meaning they think it is okay to study while high on marijuana or while drinking beer. Impairment limits the ability to learn, especially the acquisition of learning skills. This is why it is essential to deter adolescents from marijuana use, and a primary reason why NORML advocates legalizing marijuana for adults (and shutting down the black market that will sell to students.) However 90% of marijuana smokers are adults whose learning skills are unimpaired by their occasional, moderate marijuana use.

Marijuana produces a condition similar to stress on the human body (for example, the increase in heart rate.) Most users find this pleasurable (ironically even the ones who claim they use marijuana to alleviate stress), some first time users do not. This is what accounts to reports of anxiety attacks by new or inexperienced users of marijuana. No everybody who tries marijuana likes it, nor does everyone who uses it does so without ill-effect. People with pre-existing mental problems, as mentioned above, are susceptible to drug abuse. They are the source of reports of panic, paranoia, and psychosis resulting from marijuana use.

The issue of psychological dependence has been hotly debated for twenty years. Obviously, millions and millions of Americans use marijuana regularly. I contend they do so because they enjoy using marijuana. Whether they are psychologically dependent or not is a moot point. Marijuana is not an addictive drug, nor a dangerous one. Psychological reactions to it are cultural, not medical or biological. Once again, to belabor the point, some people with psychological problems abuse marijuana and other drugs. As with anxiety, panic, paranoia and psychosis, psychological dependence is not an observed side-effect in the overwhelmingly majority of marijuana users.

Additional Comments

To be to the point, these findings at best constitute horrible distortions and exaggerations of existing research findings. At worst, they are deceptive lies and half-truths designed to mislead the legislature of Alaska. The bulk of the rebuttal information presented here deals with health issues because of the logic of the bills.

Other valid arguments against the bill include the fact that Alaskans generally don't like the government interfering in their personal lives. This is the reason for the right to privacy clause in the state constitution. Also, the Alaskan police have better things to do with their time and your tax money than arrest marijuana offenders. Also, if this bill passes, it will likely be challenged in court as a violation of Ravin vs. State.

The National and International Drug Law Enforcement Strategy of the National Drug Enforcement Policy Board (NDEPB) (Jan. 1987) states that "because the decriminalization of marijuana possession undermines the standard

of the unacceptability of drug use, the 11 states which would no longer have decriminalized marijuana possession should reconsider their position. This document indicates that the Attorney General, i.e. the federal government, is in the forefront to change Alaska's laws.

Many of the claims represented in the above findings replicate claims in the NDEPB's Analysis of the Domestic Cannabis Problem and the Federal Response, (3/86). The source cited was a Drug Enforcement Administration report "The Health Implications of Marijuana Use." It is rife with phrases such as "research suggests," "have been observed," "marijuana may," and other cautious terminology which avoids making a direct conclusion. It is my opinion after studying these claims that the represent law enforcement's last attempt to justify the laws which they are obligated to enforce.

Social bias often interferes with sound scientific reasoning. The notion that marijuana is illegal so it must be dangerous is the driving rationale behind the ludicrous comments about marijuana above. The strategy of the NDEPB is to justify their increasing budget requests by turning drug education programs into law enforcement propaganda.

August 24, 1987

Dear Representative Ellis,
A LINE ON POT

Why is it that in most of the countries where cannabis has been used for centuries, the laws against use and dealing are the harshest in the world? Long before scientists ever got to work on the subject, law makers saw what this drug did to their populations. In Taiwan, Iran, Algeria, Turkey, smuggling or selling pot or hashish can bring long-term prison sentences up to 30 years. In Burma, Bolivia, India, Iraq, Kenya, and Turkey, you can be clapped into jail for two to 10 years for smoking pot. Why would such laws be made if the drug were so harmless?

The two main drug products of cannabis are marijuana and hashish. Marijuana consists of any part of the plant that has been crudely prepared for smoking, primarily by drying. Hashish essentially is resin from the plant.

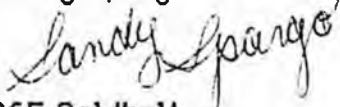
At a 1925 International Opium Conference, Egypt and Turkey refused to sign any international agreement about opium and heroin, unless delegates at the Conference agreed to put cannabis in the same "dangerous drug" category. And all the delegates from all the cannabis-using countries went along with this demand. These countries had seen what cannabis had done to their male populations. (Women in these nations never used the drug; nor did middle or upper class men.)

The U. S. signed the agreement with a shoulder shrug. After World War II the situation changed. Pot became part of the new life style of young people who called themselves "swingers." When scientists and medical doctors from 74 countries met in 1961 at a United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the U. S. delegates signed the new cannabis law with enthusiasm. The decision of the 500 delegates--including some of the world's most noted pharmacologists--was unanimous.

They all agreed that "that the use of cannabis was dangerous from every point of view, whether physical, mental, or social." Furthermore, they all agreed that the drug should be forbidden, and that none of the 74 nations signing the treaty could make cannabis legal in their land.

International cooperation at the highest United Nations' level has been overridden by international cooperation at the lowest level. Ask our local police authorities. Ask those youth who buy it for themselves and for their parents. Where there is a demand, there will be a supply.

Sandy Spargo



965 Goldbelt
Juneau, AK 99801
586-2392 (w)

SOURCE: POT SAFARI, A VISIT TO THE
TOP MARIJUANA RESEARCHERS IN THE
U.S., By Peggy Mann, 1985

Dear *Representative Ellis,*

file

A LINE ON POT

Dr. Ethel Sassenrath is the only scientist in the world to have done studies on the reproductive effects of long-term marijuana use on female rhesus monkeys and their offspring.

Rhesus monkeys break down the marijuana molecule in a way similar to humans, and their reproductive systems are similar to humans. The endocrine system, which controls the menstrual cycle, is virtually indistinguishable between the human and the female rhesus monkey.

Dr. Sassenrath gave her monkeys only one of the 61 known cannabinoids in marijuana--the famous THC. She fed the THC to the monkeys in a cookie every day for three to five years. Each received a dose sufficient to produce the same concentration of THC in its blood that a human would have who smoked one joint a day.

Remember, the pregnant monkeys were fed only one cannabinoid--THC. A pregnant human would be exposed to all 61 cannabinoids in a marijuana joint, making toxicity presumably greater.

Results can be summed up in one startling statistic. The reproductive loss was 44 percent for the THC-fed mothers and 12 percent for the undrugged mothers. Ten to 12 percent is a normal birth loss in a monkey colony, resulting from injury, infection, and other ordinary causes. In the case of the THC mothers, birth loss occurred from early spontaneous abortion, fetal deaths, still-births, and infant death just after birth.

There was not one THC baby who did not have some subtle developmental abnormality in one or more systems (nervous, cardiovascular or urinary) and/or placental abnormality. **In human studies, radioactively-tagged THC has been shown to accumulate in the placenta.** It also crosses through the placenta; consequently, when the pot-smoking mother gets high, so, presumably, does her developing baby. None of the following abnormalities were found in the control baby monkeys or in any of the 80 rhesus babies from non-drugged mothers in the primate colony who had died during the same period:

1. Water on the brain.
2. Degenerative changes in cardiovascular structures, including the heart muscle and the umbilical vessels.
3. Acute kidney disorder in the recycling of the necessary parts of the nutrients of the blood, leaving only the waste.
4. Blockage of the canal through which the testes descend.
5. Dead tissue in the placenta.
6. Depletion of blood production of white blood cells in the lymph nodes to combat infections; depletion of the formation of red and white blood cells in the bone marrow--the center of cell formation.

MORE

Chris -
file,

ct. 18, '87

Dear Editor,

I recently read in your paper of Fairbanksans who would have the legislature criminalize the possession of marijuana. (At present, any sale or possession of more than the equivalent of one cigarette is already against the law). These are a few reasons given me by one legislator I know *for why they have not done so:*

1. Although it's fairly clear that marijuana is unhealthy, logic would have tobacco and alcohol outlawed first as both have proven to be far more damaging to health as well as more addictive. Prohibiting alcohol in the 20's was not a success.

2. Information given the legislature shows no cases in Alaska of violent crimes being committed under the influence of marijuana.

3. The Troopers and city Police force have been cut. They have told the legislature that if marijuana is criminalized they will not be able to enforce the law; it's too low a priority compared to more violent and damaging ^{cases that} demand their limited resources. That wouldn't cost us anything but do we want laws that are not enforced?

4. Marijuana is only one of hundreds of drugs that have harmful side effects. Drugs to soothe or to activate or to whatever are almost all a hazard to perfect health as well as serving their specific purpose.

5. Education has reduced the use of tobacco dramatically and with almost no rebellion. It is a great example of the best way to reduce the smoking of other hazardous substances. It would also permit the police to direct their efforts at the suppression of the trade in hard drugs and other activities that are more obviously criminal.

Sincerely,

Joan Koponen
Joan Koponen

710 Chena Ridge, Fairbanks, AK. 99709

Bethel Mar 30, 1987

Senator Jan Faiks
Alaska State Senate
Hess Committee
Box V, Juneau, AK. 99811

Dear Senator,

Your district has one of the highest violent crime rates in Alaska and the City of Anchorage has 21 unfilled police officer positions . The records show that when marijuana was prohibited, law enforcement spent about 20 percent of their duty hours in investigation, arrests and court appearances involving simple possession. It would appear that the officers preferred that non-violent pursuit as opposed to dealing with rapists and other crimes of violence.

The health hazards that you cited, from use of marijuana, can also be cited for use of tobacco and alcohol. The problem is not one of use but, rather, abuse. Please consider educational programs to deter abuse. Criminal sanctions merely enhance the problem.


Thank you for your consideration,

Vernon Keezer

cc to: Hess Committee, House of Representatives

VERNON KEEZER

Box 242

BETHEL, AK 99559

The Honorable Frank H. Murkowski
United States Senate
720 Hart Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

The effects of a new prohibition of the use and possession of Marijuana would be socially and financially disastrous to the State of Alaska.

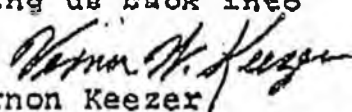
Hundreds of newly created "criminals" would be dumped into a court system that is already overloaded and would severely impair the ability of the courts to speedily and efficiently handle trials involving serious major crimes against the people of Alaska. Civil Rights litigation caused by overzealous search, seizure and investigative tactics on the part of law enforcement agencies, would further overload the system.

The increased cost in dollars to operate the courts and the costs of law enforcement man hours spent in investigation, arrests and court appearances cannot be acceptable in the light of our declining economy.

The social impact on Alaskans would be even more disastrous and have longer lasting negative effects than the financial impact. The first to suffer will be the children whom some prohibitionists claim they seek to protect. To jail a teenager is perhaps one of the easiest ways to corrupt and ruin his or her life. Surely we have not so soon forgotten the Ohio State R.O.T.C. and honor student who was incarcerated in a federal penitentiary in 1964 for the possession of one marijuana cigarette?

Under present laws, minors are forbidden the use or possession of marijuana and alcohol and tobacco, however, the common law of the land has left the responsibility to limit or deny the use of these legal drugs to the parents and guardians. By making any of these legal drugs illegal we travel back in time to the "roaring twenties" of alcohol prohibition and to 1937 when marijuana was made illegal for the first time ever to give law enforcement leverage against the blacks and hispanics who were the major if not only, users. The results of these prohibitions were the violation of the civil rights of hundreds of thousands and corruption of the judicial and law enforcement systems.

Please address your efforts, on our behalf, to the problems of abuse of legal drugs rather than thrusting us back into the Dark Ages of Prohibition.


Sincerely, Vernon Keezer
Fellow Alaskan.

Box 242
Bethel, AK 99559

cc to: Senators Jan Fakis and Paul Fisher, Senate Hess
Committee
Hess Committee, House of Representatives

POSITION STATEMENTS FOR MARIJUANA RECRIMINALIZATION

Which organizations represent voters who want to see marijuana made illegal in Alaska?

EDUCATIONAL

Alaska State Board of Education
Alaska Parent-Teacher Association
Association of Alaska School Boards
Alaska Association of School Governments/
General Assembly/39 high schools
Alaska Association of School Governments/
Student Leaders/passed unanimously by
60 Alaskan high schools
Alaska Assoc. of Secondary School Principals
Galena City School District
Galena City School District Board of Education
Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District
Kenny Lake High School
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
City and Borough of Juneau School District
Juneau-Douglas High School Student Council
Anchorage School District
Northwest Arctic Borough School District
Wrangell Junior and Senior High School
Haines Borough School Board of Education

Political

1988 Republican Convention Platform
Senator Frank Murkowski/Alaska Congressional
Delegation
Alaska Municipal League

City/Borough/Municipality

City and Borough of Juneau
Municipality of Anchorage
City of Ketchikan
City of Galena
Togiak City Council
City of Saxman
City of Valdez
City of Haines
City of Togiak
Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
City and Borough of Sitka
Petersburg General Hospital
City of Wrangell

OVER

Fathom Graphics

P.O. Box 1690
Cordova, Alaska 99574

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(907) 424-3116

April 8, 1988

Representative Nillo Koponen
Alaska State Legislature
P. O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: SB 32 Recriminalization of Marijuana

Dear Representative Koponen,

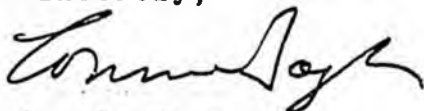
Please support the recriminalization of marijuana.

As an Alaskan employer, I see the damage marijuana can do. One of my most promising employees got hooked on it; it was amazing to see her learning curve drop off to nothing and then see her become unable to cope with what had previously been easy tasks.

It is hard to understand why Alaska would make such a dangerous, illegal to acquire drug, legal in our state. I urge you to correct this situation and vote for the recriminalization of marijuana.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Connie Taylor

cc: Representatives Johnny Ellis, Max Gruenberg, Dave Donley,
Bill Hudson, Randy Phillips, Alyce Hanley

PETERSBURG GENERAL HOSPITAL

and Long Term Care Facility

Phone: (907) 772-4291

P.O. Box 589

Petersburg, Alaska 99833

April 4, 1988

APR 08 1988

Johnny Ellis
Niilo Koponen
Co-Chairmen
House HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 1988. I understand that Recriminalization of Marijuana is scheduled for teleconference hearings on April 13th and 14th. Please share this letter with the other members of the HESS Committee.

To me, this issue goes beyond right to privacy vs. harm to society. I look at it as a health issue. The enclosed literature that I share with you indicates that marijuana is a "drug". As such it should be controlled the same as other narcotics. Narcotics are controlled by the federal government thru the food and drug administration and for this reason the federal government has laws which prohibit the use of marijuana in the United States. I believe that Alaska still belongs to the U.S. and we should uphold the laws of the land.

I have a hard time seeing marijuana allowed in the homes of Alaska if there are federal laws which prohibit the possession of marijuana in any form in the United States. Isn't an Alaskan home a part of the United States? In addition how can Alaska citizens have marijuana in their homes without first breaking a law in getting it into the home and that includes seeds to grow plants? Marijuana in any form has to pass thru the streets, highways, or airways of the state, which is against the law.

Next, I agree that people do have a right to privacy in their own homes, to a point. However, we cannot do certain things there such as child abuse or assault of our spouse or criminal acts such as murder, rape, incest and other moral crimes without being arrested. I put marijuana in that category.

Next, you might want to talk to some newborn care nurses at hospitals such as Ketchikan or Juneau who will tell you that babies whose mothers have been smoking marijuana are more restless, cry more, and have drug withdrawal symptoms to varying degrees. On the other hand, they will

Johnny Ellis, Niilo Koponen,
Co-Chairmen, House HESS Committee
April 4, 1988

Pg. 2

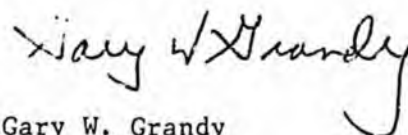
tell you that the most healthy and best behaved babies come from mothers who do not smoke marijuana, do drugs, or drink alcohol.

I believe that innocent newborns have a God-given right to start life without being in subjection to problems created by their mother's marijuana habit.

The enclosed literature speaks for itself to the fact that marijuana is a drug, is a health hazard and can damage your health. Therefore, as a committee interested in the health of the citizens of Alaska, I am convinced that you too will support the bills requesting the recriminalization of marijuana.

A year ago a petition was circulated in Petersburg requesting the support of recriminalizing marijuana. I believe that the majority of the citizens in Petersburg and Alaska support CSSB 32. Therefore, I solicit your vote in favor of this bill. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Gary W. Grandy
Administrator

Enclosures

A Drug That Can Damage Your Health

Although marijuana is less controversial and more socially acceptable than a few years ago, you still need to be aware of the facts concerning its use. Recently scientists have found that marijuana produces many more subtle effects as a drug than suspected even a few years ago.

What effect does marijuana have on your body?

According to research done at the University of California, smoking one "joint" has the same effect on your lungs as ten medium-tar cigarettes. Marijuana smoke contains 50 percent more cancer causing chemicals than cigarettes. Because it is inhaled deeply, then held in the lungs for several seconds, the risk of lung cancer for users may be at least as great as for cigarette smokers.

Effects of THC

Marijuana also affects your ability to think. Its intoxicating effects are caused primarily by a chemical called THC (tetrahydrocannabinol). The time it takes THC to affect the body can vary, but once it is introduced, things begin to happen.

THC travels in the bloodstream to all parts of the body. It impairs short-term memory, alters sense of time, and reduces the ability to do things which require concentration, swift reaction, and coordination, such as driving a car.



Unlike alcohol or nicotine, marijuana is not water soluble, so the body has trouble getting rid of it. Weeks after smoking marijuana, traces of THC can still be found in the body.

While all the effects of THC are not yet known, researchers believe that THC, like any foreign substance, taken into the body, causes or contributes to a range of long-term health problems.

Indications of Early Research

It may be years before all the remaining mysteries of marijuana are unraveled, but early research suggests that smoking marijuana causes:

- bronchial irritation and reduced lung capacity
- increased risk of lung cancer
- increased heart rate (which could induce a heart attack)
- lowered resistance to colds and the flu
- higher health risks to unborn children
- harmful dependence

Although marijuana has dramatic short-term effects, the real danger lies in the long-term subtle effects on the body. □

ALCOHOL
(beer, wine, liquor)

COCAINE
(coke, rock, crack, base)

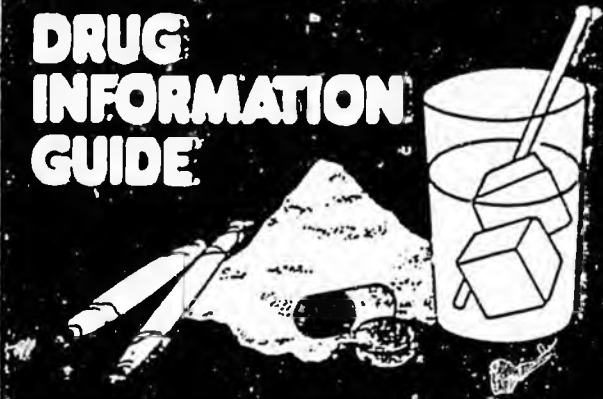
MARIJUANA
(pot, dope, grass, weed,
herb, hash, joint)

HALLUCINOGENS
(acid, LSD, PCP, MDMA,
Ecstasy, psilocybin
mushrooms, peyote)

← **DRUG
USED**

Belinda McFee
Drug Counseling & Evaluation Services
Durham, North Carolina 27701

DRUG INFORMATION GUIDE



PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

Altered perceptions, red
Eyes, dry mouth, reduced
concentration and coordi-
nation, euphoria,
laughing, hunger.

LOOK FOR

Polling papers, pipes,
dried plant material, odor
of burnt hemp rope,
roach clips.

DANGERS

Flu-like reaction, impaired
short term memory, ad-
diction.

Intoxication, slurred
speech, unsteady walk,
relaxation, relaxed inhibi-
tions, impaired coordi-
nation, slowed reflexes.

Smell of alcohol on
clothes or breath, intoxi-
cated behavior, hang-
over, glazed eyes.

Addiction, accidents as result
of impaired ability and judg-
ment, overdose when mixed
with other depressants, heart
and liver damage.



EPIDEMIOLOGY BULLETIN

EPIDEMIOLOGY OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
STATE OF ALASKA
3601 C Street, Suite 540
P. O. Box 240249
Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0249

Myra M. Munson, Commissioner
Department of Health
and Social Services

Editor: John Middaugh, M.D.
Elizabeth Ward, M.N., Director
Division of Public Health

Bulletin Number 3

Week Ending January 23, 1987

HEPATITIS A OUTBREAK STRIKES ALASKANS

Between August and December 1986, 75 cases of confirmed hepatitis A were reported to the Epidemiology Office. Of these 75 cases, 41 (56%) were located in Anchorage, 17 (23%) in Fairbanks, 4 (5%) in Juneau, and 13 (17%) from seven other Alaskan communities. Of the 75 cases, 59 (79%) occurred in adults. These 75 cases represented a dramatic increase over the number of hepatitis A cases reported during the first half of 1986 and the last 3 years (Figure). In all, 104 cases of hepatitis A were reported in 1986.

- Of 41 cases among Anchorage residents, 37 were confirmed since October 4, 1986.
22 were male, 19 were female.
11 were Native, 30 were non-Native.
36 were adults, 5 were children.
- Of the 36 adults, 30 (83%) were between the ages 20 and 39 (Table 1).
- Of 22 cases fully interviewed for risk factors, 17 (77%) admitted drug use, either IV or marijuana; only 3 (14%) had children less than 6.
- Although eight small clusters of individuals with hepatitis A were identified, no common source was found.
- Of the 41 Anchorage cases, at least 21 lived in midtown or downtown. Other cases were scattered throughout town.

A similar outbreak of hepatitis A in the drug community was recognized 18 months ago in the State of Washington and is continuing. Several other states including Connecticut, Oregon, and Oklahoma have also reported outbreaks in this same risk group. Questions concerning parenteral transmission of hepatitis A through use of shared needles and IV drugs remain unanswered. Samples of marijuana provided to the Division of Public Health for testing have shown massive fecal contamination and may be implicated in transmission. Further investigation will be necessary to confirm this finding.

A major concern is that hepatitis A may be introduced into rural Alaska. Once established, the disease may be difficult to control, as it proved to be in the past.

It is imperative that all physicians and other health care providers request the proper serologic tests on all suspected cases of hepatitis. Hepatitis screening is available through the state lab. All physicians and other health care providers should immediately report, by phone, any suspected cases of hepatitis to our office so that we can interview all new cases.

(Reported by Ronald Boisen, M.D.)

Hepatitis A in Alaska, 1983 - 1986

N = 189

Table 1
Hepatitis A cases Anchorage by Age, Sex, Race
August - December, 1986
N=41



STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

POUCH Y STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
907 465 3800

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Hess Committee
Attn: Chris

FROM: Cassie Russell *CR*
Representative Hanley's Office

SUBJECT: Additional Items for SB 32 file:

Please add the attached items to your file on Senate Bill 32, An Act relating to marijuana."

1. Letter from Ray Schalow dated April 15, 1988
2. Resolution #2947 & Resolution #88-038 in support of recriminalization.
3. Letter dated 4/9/88 from Gateway Human Services Advisory Board, Ketchikan, Alaska, in support of recriminalization.
4. Letter dated 4/11/88 from Alaska Board of Pharmacy, in support of recriminalization.

Thank You.

4-20-88

201 Galleon Drive
Anchorage, AK 99515
(907) 562-2662
April 15, 1988

Honorable Bill Hudson
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Hudson:

There is one issue surrounding Senate Bill 32, "An Act Relating to the Recriminalization of Marijuana" that has alluded public notice but could be catastrophic for our state and its ability to deal with the whole issue of substance abuse.

In 1986 Congress passed the Omnibus Drug Education and Rehabilitation Bill for which Alaska was allocated \$2 million. At the time, resources for those funds were limited and competition for dollars was intense. Congress and the administration looked unfavorably at Alaska and our liberalized drug laws and only after intensive lobbying by Senator Murkowski were the funds finally released to our state.

Now in 1988, the United States Senate has passed SB 2205 which provides emergency funding of \$3.6 billion that will insure the continuation of the 1986 programs. Alaska's share has been targeted at \$6 million. But resources are even more limited today and the pressure is intense in Congress to allocate monies to states that deal with the drug issue in a responsible manner. Parenthetically, the recalcitrance of our legislature to abolish the only liberalized drug law in the union has placed us in serious jeopardy of losing \$6 million in federal funds. These funds are urgently needed to combat our growing drug problem.

We take pride that our state is known as the "Last Frontier"; let us not be hoodwinked into being the "Last Fool-tier".

Sincerely,

Ray Schalow
Ray Schalow

Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP
CHAIRMAN, LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN, OIL AND GAS COMMITTEE
515 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 130
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
OFFICE (907) 452-4882
HOME (907) 456-2899

WHILE IN JUNEAU
PO BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
CAPITOL ROOM 125
OFFICE (907) 465-3833
HOME (907) 780-6027

Senate

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis, Co-Chairman
House Health, Education and Social Services Committee

FROM: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp

RE: SB 32, Relating to marijuana

DATE: February 24, 1988

Attached for your information are copies of all the correspondence I have received on SB 32 from my district. Since the beginning of this session, I have received eight letters, POM's, and telegrams. Only one expressed support for the bill. I hope this gives you some indication of how the people of Fairbanks feel about their constitutionally protected right to privacy.

If I can provide you with further information, please let me know.

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

NAME: GENE WILLIAMS

TITLE:

ADDRESS: 781 9 MILE HILL ROAD

CITY: FAIRBANKS

ZIP: 99712

FHCHE: 488-9008

BILL NO: SB 39

SUBJECT: REAL ESTATE COMMISSION/REALTORS

MESSAGE: HOW MANY TIMES MUST YOU HEAR THE FACTS BEFORE BELIEVING THEM. FACT -
MARIJUANA IS LESS ADDICTIVE THAN COFFEE AND TOBACCO AND LESS INTOXICATING THAN AL-
COHOL. HYPOCRISY IS ALWAYS MORE DANGEROUS THAN ANY SUBSTANCE BECAUSE IT
UNDERMINES THE REAL TRUTHS THERE ARE IN THE LAWS OF THIS LAND.

EOM-FZ

POMID: 07095740

DATE: 02/19/88

TIME: 09:57:40

LIONAME: FAIRBANKS LIO

COPIES: SENATORS

COGHILL

FANNING

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

NAME: LLOYD YSTENES, JR.
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 939 LATHROP ST., #3
CITY: FAIRBANKS
PHONE: 452-4396
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: I WOULD LIKE TO URGE YOU TO VOTE AGAINST IT - TO KEEP IT LEGAL.
THANK YOU. ECH/HJO

POMID: 07083109
DATE: 02/19/88
TIME: 08:31:09
LIONAME: FAIRBANKS LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

BOYER	COGHILL
DAVIS	FANNING
FRANK	
KOFONEN	
MILLER	
DONLEY	
ELLIS	
GRUENBERG	
HANLEY	
HUDSON	
PHILLIPS	

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

BROTHER TOM PATMOR
LEGISLATIVE ADVISOR
P.O. BOX 124
CLAM GULCH
N/R-

ZIP: 99658

JAPAN'S ATTEMPT TO ANNEX ANCHORAGE
DON'T TAKE TOM FINK TOO SERIOUSLY. HE MUST EITHER SUPPORT SEGREGATION
TOO HAIVE TO REALIZE THAT BUILDING A HIGH SCHOOL JUST FOR JAPANESE
IS JUST THE FIRST STEP OF A JAPANESE PLOT TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE WHOLE
ANCHORAGE, BECAUSE JAPAN LACKS SPACE TO EXPAND.

13083334
02/17/88
08:33:34
SOLDOTHA LIO

REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

ADAMS	BARNES	ABOOD
BOUCHER	BOYER	BINKLEY
BROWN	CATO	COGHILL
COLLINS	COTTEN	DUNCAN
DAVIDSON	DAVIS	ELIASON
DOHLEY	ELLIS	FAIKS
FRANK	FURNACE	FANNING
GOLL	GRUENDERG	FISCHER
GRUSSENDORF	HANLEY	HALFORD
HERRMANN	HOFFMAN	HENSLEY
Hudson	KOPONEN	JONES
LARSON	MARTIN	JOSEPHSON
HENARD	MILLER	KELLY
NAVARRE	PEARCE	KERTTULA
PETTYJOHN	PHILLIPS	RODEY
POUFCHOT	RIEGER	STURGULEWSKI
SHULTZ	SPRINGER	SZYMANSKI
SUND	SHACKHAMMER	UEHLING
TAYLOR	ULNER	ZHAROFF
HALLIS	ZAWACKI	

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

NAME: KIM SCOTT
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 1185 PUEBLO ST.
CITY: NORTH POLE
PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99705

BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: VOTE NO BECAUSE THE RIGHT TO POSSESS AND/OR GROW A SMALL AMOUNT
WITHOUT INTENT TO SELL FOR STRICTLY PERSONAL USE SHOULD NOT BE A CRIME.
MANY PEOPLE DO NOT DRINK BUT LIKE TO GO HOME AND SHOVE A JOINT INSTEAD.
THEY DO NOT STOP AT A BAR AND GET DRUNK AND CREATE A POSSIBLE PUBLIC SAFETY
PROBLEM. IT WOULD CREATE AN ALREADY OVERBURDEN COURT SYSTEM. EOM/110

ON TO
ON

PHID: 07081818
DATE: 02/17/88
TIME: 08:18:18
LIONAME: FAIRDANKS LIO

COPIES: SENATORS

HALFORD
KELLY
STURGULEWSKI
SZYMANSKI
ZHAROFF
BINKLEY
DUNCAN
FISCHER
HENSLEY
UEHLING
FANNING
JONES
JOSEPHSON
KERTTULA
FAIKS
RODEY
ELIASON
COGHILL
ABOOD

FEB 17 1988

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

NAME: DEL THORNGREN
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 758 ESTER LOOP ROAD
CITY: ESTER ZIP: 99705
PHONE: 479-2654
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: I AM AGAINST IT. EOM/HJO

POMID: 07135523
DATE: 02/18/88
TIME: 13:55:23
LIONAME: FAIRBANKS LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

BOYER COGHILL
DAVIS FANNING
FRANK
KOPONEN
MILLER

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

FEB 19 1988
NAME: GORDON THOMPSON
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 2755 ILIAMMA
CITY: ANCHORAGE ZIP: 99517
PHONE: 279-2554
BILL NO: HB 93
SUBJECT: ESTABLISH SYSTEM OF RECREATION RIVERS
MESSAGE: I SUPPORT HB 93. I AM A PRIVATE PILOT AND USE THE RIVERS AT LEAST
TIMES A YEAR AS A RECREATIONAL RIVER. I SUPPORT THE BILL BECAUSE IT PRESE
THE UNIQUE RECREATIONAL AREA WITH EASY ACCESS FOR THE MAJORITY OF ANCHORAGE
RESIDENTS. I THINK THESE RIVERS ARE AN IMPORTANT ECONOMIC SOURCE. I WOULD LI
TO SEE THIS CONTINUE.

POMID: 03151037
DATE: 02/18/88
TIME: 15:10:37
LIONAME: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES: SENATORS

ABOOD
BINKLEY
COGHILL
DUNCAN
ELIASON
FAIKS
FANNING
FISCHER
HALFORD
HENSLEY
JONES
JOSEPHSON
KELLY
KERTTULA
RODEY
STURGULEWSKI
SZYMAŃSKI
UEHLING
ZHAROFF

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

NAME: LYNETTE CLARK
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 2521 OLD STEESE HWY
CITY: FAIRDANKS ZIP: 99712
PHONE: 457-1884
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: SB 32 & HB 55: I AM STUDYING THE RESEARCH ON HB 55 AND SB 32
ILLS AND HOPE TO SEE A TELECONFERENCE SET UP ON BOTH THESE BILLS. I AM
ERY CONCERNED WITH CONTENT OF BOTH BILLS AND THE OBVIOUS INVASION OF AN
IVIDUAL'S CONSTITUTIONAL PRIVACY. PLEASE SEND ME YOUR POSITION ON
OTH BILLS AND TELECONFERENCE DATE. EOM/HJO/C

POHID: 07152606
DATE: 02/01/88
TIME: 15:26:06
LIONAME: FAIRBANKS LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

- | | |
|-------|---------|
| DAVIS | FANNING |
| BOYER | COGHILL |
| FRANK | BINKLEY |
| | ELIASON |
| | FAIKS |
| | HENSLEY |
| | JONES |

word to learn
from you
take your words
under
advice
Have your objection
did. Hope everything is
going OK.

DEAR: SENATOR FAHRENKAMP
NAME: NANCY NEEL
TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 076606
CITY: WASILLA ZIP: 99687
PHONE: 373-5252
BILL NO: SB 191
SUBJECT: OUTFITTING IN THE FIELD; GUIDE LICENSE
MESSAGE: I SUPPORT SB191.THE INDUSTRY IN ALASKA MUCH LIKE COMMERCIAL FISHING
HAS BEEN WELL REGULATED IN PAST. BOTH LIMITED ENTRY FISHING AND EXCLUSIVE
GUIDE AREA CONCEPT HAVE WORKED WELL TO CONTROL HARVEST OF OUR RESOURCES.
UNREGULATED OUTFITTING CAN NO LONGER BE TOLERATED NOR CAN OUR RESOURCES STAND
THE INCREASED PRESSURE.

POHID: 14153744
DATE: 02/01/88
TIME: 15:37:44
LIONAME: MAT-SU LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| ADAMS | BARNES | ABOOD |
| BOUCHER | BOYER | BINKLEY |
| BROWN | CATO | COGHILL |
| COLLINS | COTTEN | DUNCAN |
| DAVIDSON | DAVIS | ELIASON |
| DONLEY | ELLIS | FAIKS |
| FRANK | FURNACE | FANNING |
| GOLL | GRUENBERG | FISCHER |
| GRUSSENDORF | HANLEY | HALFORD |
| HERRMANN | HOFFMAN | HENSLEY |
| HUDSON | KOPONEN | JONES |
| LARSON | MARTIN | JOSEPHSON |
| MEHARD | MILLER | KELLY |
| HAVARRE | PEARCE | KERTTULA |
| PETTYJOHN | PHILLIPS | RODEY |
| POURCHOT | RIEGER | STURGULEWSKI |
| SHULTZ | SPRINGER | SZYMANSKI |
| SUND | SWACKHAMMER | UEHLING |
| TAYLOR | ULMER | ZHAROFF |
| WALLIS | ZAWACKI | |

NO RESPONSE REQUIRED

Jim

FROM:
AK FOR DRUG-FREE
YOUTH

Sb 32, a bill to modernize our state marijuana laws passed the Senate 15-3 on February 18, 1988.

This bill is now in the House HESS Committee chaired by Representatives Ellis and Koponen.

We have received assurances in writing from the following Representatives that they will vote for this bill when it reaches the floor:

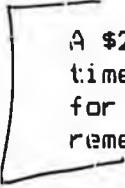
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Ben Grussendorf, Speaker | Ramona Barnes |
| H.A. Boucher | Virginia Collins |
| Walt Furnace | Alyce Hanley |
| Bill Hudson | Terry Martin |
| Drue Pearce | Fritz Pettyjohn |
| C.E. Swackhammer | Robin Taylor |
| James Zawacki | Mike Miller |

Rep. Ron Larson and Randy Phillips responded that because of changes that may happen to the bill before it reaches the floor they are at this time uncommitted.

On Oct. 29, 1987 Rep. Fran Ulmer wrote to Rep. Martin regarding HB 55 asking to be a co-sponsor, and stating that she would work with Rep. Martin to get the legislation passed. However, on Feb. 9, 1988 in a letter to our office she stated that our form asking for a position was too narrow. She enclosed a copy of a letter to Sandy Spargo and Bobi Trani in Juneau, where among other things she stated that she favors a citation mail in bail approach for what she refers to as a "cookie jar criminal".

You could in fact refer to this as a cookie jar criminal for 4 oz. of marijuana would FILL most cookie jars. This 4 oz. of marijuana if it is the type with a THC content of 4% to 6% has a street value of aproximately \$1800.

Our position is that in order for Alaskan Society to stop using marijuana there has to be a strong deterrent to the use of marijuana.



A \$25 ticket or even a \$100 ticket as supported by Rep. Sund without any jail time penalty included is not, in our opinion, a strong deterrent. SB 32 calls for a MAXIMUM fine of \$1000 and/or a MAXIMUM jail term of 90 days. Please remember that judges rarely give maximum sentences.

A report of the council on Scientific affairs from the American Medical Association in December of 1980 stated:

The AMA has long opposed excessive and unrealistic penalties for possession of small amounts of this drug for personal use. Nevertheless, legislative action as designed to moderate penalties for possession should be such a nature as to discourage use and not to support misconceptions that marijuana is a harmless substance. The fact that marijuana may prove to have therapeutic value in medical practice does not indicate that it is a safe drug for recreational use. Legislators should keep in mind the primary need to give young people a clear message that marijuana use may be hazardous and is not sanctioned or endorsed by society.

FINES , ALTHOUGH MORE APPROPRIATE PENALTIES THAN PRISON SENTENCES WHEN APPLIED TO POSSESSION FOR PERSONAL USE, SHOULD BE LARGE ENOUGH TO CONSTITUTE A DETERRENT TO USE.

ALASKANS FOR DRUG FREE YOUTH
Executive Board

May 28, 1975

Page 495

9. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Right of privacy in the home must yield when it interferes in a serious manner with the health, safety, rights and privileges of others or with the public welfare.

COMMENT: Consider passive smoking (inhalation of smoke by others near smoker) by spouse and children. Children learn by example - consider the education children get with marijuana use in the home.

14. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

The right of an individual to do as he pleases is not absolute and it can be made to yield when it begins to infringe on the rights and welfare of others. (stated again on 509)

COMMENT: Adult may use money needed for family food and shelter for drug use and accessories. The user may be too impaired to care for his or her family and their basic needs.

19. HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

When there is substantial doubt as to safety of a given substance or situation of public health, controls intended to obviate the danger will usually be upheld. (Stated again on 510)

COMMENT: New information is now documented from many highly reliable sources substantiating the many dangers of marijuana, ie. Report of the Council on Scientific Affairs, American Medical Association, 1980.

Page 500

At some point, the states interest in safeguarding health, maintaining medical standards, and protecting potential life becomes sufficiently compelling to sustain regulations. One does not, the Supreme Court said, have an unlimited right to do with one's body as one pleases.

COMMENT: PLEASE REREAD THE LAST SENTENCE!

Page 505

Most marijuana available in the United States has a THC content of less than one percent.

COMMENT: THC content today may range from 4-10%.

Page 506

It appears that use of marijuana, as it is presently used in the United States today, does not constitute a public health problem of any significant dimensions.

COMMENT: This statement is now inaccurate. Marijuana use is a public health problem as declared by the World Health Organization, National Institute of Drug Abuse, National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth, Report of the Council on Scientific Affairs - AMA and everyone who works with the people impaired by marijuana use..

Page 510

64 We recognize that more potent forms of cannabis than marijuana are commonly used in other countries and are available on a limited scale here. However, studies of use patterns here do not indicate any great likelihood of a significant shift in use here to the more potent substances. If such a shift were to occur, then marijuana use could be characterized as a serious health problem.

COMMENT: Hashish is grown and smoked by many. This is a much more potent form of marijuana. Sensimilia can be refined to a THC content of upwards of 14%.

Page 511

The State has a legitimate concern with avoiding the spread of marijuana use to adolescents who may not be equipped with the maturity to handle the experience prudently, as well as a legitimate concern with the problem of driving under the influence of marijuana. Yet these interests are insufficient to justify intrusions into the rights of adults in the privacy of their own homes.

COMMENT: What is MORE important than influencing your children?

Page 511

We wish to make clear that we do not mean to condone the use of marijuana

COMMENT: WE HAVE CONDONED THE USE OF MARIJUANA. IT IS TIME TO REPAIR THE MISTAKE!

"IN VIEW OF THE EVIDENCE OF POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF MARIJUANA USE, THE SALE OF, OR OTHER TRAFFICKING IN MARIJUANA SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO STRINGENT PENALTIES AND VIGOROUS PROSECUTION." AMA SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL.

MAR 22 1988

Ketchikan, Ak.
March 21-88

Rep. John Sund.

Dear John,

Enclosed is more documented scientific social & monetary evidence addressing the importance of the marijuana issue.

John, we completely disagree with the proposal of a 'malt in bail' for marijuana possession. When $\frac{1}{4}$ oz of the type of marijuana that is produced in Alaska sells for \$1,000 wholesale & when the SB. 32 raises under 8oz. \$1,000.00 fines are ludicrous. We propose that the 1st offense of 1oz or less be a \$125 fine. Then the 8oz offender would at least pay \$1,000. (which would be $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of 8oz. of marijuana sold wholesale). If you raise the fine, it would come a tiny bit closer to paying for the cost of prosecution.

Also, John, you state that possession by people under 21 is illegal - the law says the legal age is 19 - I suspect the bill was written when in "our collective wisdom" we made alcohol legal at 19.

We urge you to request SB. 32 be wrenched out of the House HESS committee & sent to your judicial committee today!

Sincerely,
Samy Fran Lyons

The Ravin decision of May 28, 1975 states on Page 494 2.
Constitutional law:

"Once a fundamental right under State Constitution has been shown to be involved and it has been further shown that this constitutionally protected right has been impaired by governmental action - government must come forward & meet it's substantial burden of establishing that abridgement in question was justified by a compelling governmental interest."

In light of the above finding and the cost of drug abuse, both in dollars & human energies & of which marijuana is one of the most often abused drugs; how can we allow legal marijuana/

Alcohol & tobacco have been legal & accepted in our society since the founding of our nation. The sickness these two drugs have caused and are causing is well documented. But, since the 60's something is different. Suddenly crimes of all kinds, particularly violent crime is rampant. Teen pregnancies, teen suicides, teen accidents are epidemic. People presently in their 20's are part of this group. Infertile parents is another big concern. Broken marriages, sexual abuse, runaway & throw away kids, burgeoning mental health costs, jail costs and a desperate need for facilities to treat addicted minor children. What has been added or what is new in our society? MARIJUANA - Pot use became hot news in the 60's. LSD, PCP, cocaine followed quickly. Very quickly we acknowledged the dangers of LSD & PCP, but ignored cocaine until the end of the 70's. Society persisted in believing fallacy that marijuana is harmless. Just one case as an example of many. One 17 yr. old in 1972 started smoking pot because he was told - among other things - that it was harmless - certainly not addictive. Today he's a recovering addict. His drug of choice - Marijuana. We weren't listening or believing the truth about the drug in the 70's. We were denying that it was another "gateway" drug like tobacco & alcohol.

So what is happening today? First some history. In the many years before the 80's there have been alcohol & a few drug treatment programs. A.A. was the predominate self-help program & the Schick Shadel aversion treatment were the most common - profile of alcoholics & addicts generally was males 40 & over. There were very few N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) or support groups for families of the addicts.

Today in Anchorage there are about 40 N.A. meetings a month. In Ketchikan there are two & three A.A. meetings daily and three N.A. meetings a week. There are Alanon meetings, parent support group meetings & adult children of Alcoholics (or addicts) every week. The total numbers of meetings is about 21 a week. The average number of people attending these various meetings (some people attend more than one meeting a week) is 274. Each meeting consumes about 1 1/2 hrs. of time which means 411 hrs. a week are consumed in our community each week for these people to maintain their sobriety & sanity. That's a lot of human resources & energy being diverted from various positive up-building community activities. It certainly takes away from our communities' collective energy & time to even contribute to elective offices, boards & commissions, all of which are positive ways to serve our fellowman.

Now to the actual cost of drug abuse & addiction in just three areas in our town. Our local 30 day residential treatment facility is over-flowing. The ages of the impaired follow the same trends as the A.A. & N.A. and are well documented. The impaired are beginning at age 18 instead of 40 and it's both male & female instead of just male. Today they are poly-drug users. In Methuen virtually all of the residents are involved with alcohol and marijuana and then to lesser degrees, cocaine, amphetamines, depressants, etc. What has happened? Marijuana is supposed to be harmless and besides it can only be used by people 19 & over in only the privacy of their own homes - yet we tax payers are now footing their rehabilitation bill in the local rehab house. That's quite a public effect for a supposedly private use.

In Methuen around 80% of all patients using our mental health facilities are abusers of one or more drugs. Again that facility is supported by tax dollars - PUBLIC MONEYS - another area. Today in our jail 85% - 90% of the inmates have significant drug (including alcohol) problems. Most of the arrest records done at the time of the crime, do not show drugs as being involved because tests were not done. These drug use figures come directly from the inmates through people working in the jail. People who are there to identify & help treat the inmates drug problems. Again, these inmates predominate drugs of choice are alcohol & marijuana. Guess who is paying the expenses for operating the jails? The taxpayers - the public!

Another area that the public is affected is insurance costs. Industrial accidents figures state that up to 20% of the work force are drug abusers & they consume 80% of private company's insurance moneys covering illness & accidents. Incidentally those insurance moneys generally do not include company moneys that cover employee assistance programs that pay for addiction or abuse rehabilitation. We all know the unbearably high costs of insurance. Drug abuse certainly is a major causative reason. We are all affected by drug abuse three times over.

It's obvious that marijuana, a new widely used drug, added to our society is changing our society in an insidious way. One example being that when marijuana & alcohol are used together - which is an extremely common behavior - the affects of the drugs isn't doubled, it's multiplied 4 or 5 times. Synergistic is the term used when the drugs are in the body at the same time. It's agreed alcohol is a serious problem, but it should be asked, "how do we know it's just alcohol?" It's easy to identify alcohol use - testing is simple - but we don't test for marijuana every time we test for alcohol; so, how can we say it's just alcohol? Alcohol & marijuana have been in existence for thousands of years, but the main thing that's happened in the last 20 years in our country is that the drugs are being used simultaneously along with any other drug that might be available - cocaine is in this category. Because we were duped into believing marijuana was harmless & non-addictive - our "drugged" state allowed people to believe that the even more spectacularly dangerous drug, cocaine was safe. Now in the 80's we have a growing cocaine problem.

To conclude: National cost figures for drug abuse are overwhelming and Alaska's drug abuse figures are even worse. What's different about Alaska? We accept marijuana as not very harmful and condone its' use by our law - therefore we are more sick than the rest of the nation.

How sad that each and every man, woman & child in our state is affected by drug abuse three times over.

In light of the Ravin decision law quoted at the beginning of this article - the state of Alaska has a legal & social obligation to investigate fully, whether by legislative or by legal search through the attorney general's office - to address the truth about marijuana and change our present statutes to classify marijuana as a dangerous health hazard to society and place the appropriate restrictions & consequences on this drug.

Frances C. Young
Ketchikan, Alaska

I have examined the findings reported in House Bill #56 and Senate Bill #32 of the Alaskan Legislature and have found them flawed and inaccurate. Here is a point by point rebuttal of the findings. Beginning sentences with apostrophics are direct quotes from the bills. References to the National Academy of Sciences refer to their publication Marijuana and Health which reports their 1982 study of marijuana related research. I have also enclosed other materials which are pertinent to the topic of recriminalization.

1) "THC, the mind altering ingredient in marijuana, is not soluble in water, but goes into the fatty tissues of the brain, testicles, ovaries, and other internal organs, and takes 30 days to be eliminated from the body;"

Actually, THC is broken down by the body soon after ingestion. It's metabolites stay in the body for up to 30 days, but these metabolites are non-psychoactive. Any toxicologist can confirm this. Urine testing advocates exploit the confusion between THC which is the active ingredient and is metabolized relatively quickly, and its metabolites (chiefly 9-carboxy-THC) which have no psychoactive effect but linger in the body for a month or so.

The following quote is from a recent article by Chemical & Engineering News (6/2/86). "Marijuana is the most commonly abused drug and the kinetics of its metabolism have been studied extensively. It is also an unusual drug in that it can be detected in urine for a long time. Very little of the original drug, Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, goes into the urine. The chemical is absorbed from the blood into body fat tissue where it is eliminated as it is slowly metabolized. . . (metabolites) can be found in urine for longer than a month . . ."

The following quote is from a Center for Disease Control MMWR Report (9/16/83). "Studies involving humans indicate that 80% - 90% of the total dose of Delta-9-THC is excreted within 5 days - approximately 20% in urine and 65% in feces."

Most experts claim that the metabolites disappear 10 to 14 days after ingestion in most cases. Urine tests detect these metabolites, which is why the manufacturers are required to point out that they are tests to indicate recent use, not intoxication or impairment. If THC remained in the system for 30 days, and remained active, the urine tests would be marketed as a way to indicate impairment. They aren't.

2) "the buildup of THC in the body causes the user to smoke more marijuana to achieve the desired high and may result in loss of sleep, appetite, and initiative, as well as moodiness and depression;"

The "buildup of THC" is actually tolerance to the drug, a physiological response humans and animals have to any drug. It occurs not because of the THC buildup, but because of other complex biological factors.

There is no clinical evidence that marijuana causes schizophrenia. The National Academy of Sciences found that drug abuse was more often than not a symptom rather than a cause of mental problems. Illusions and hallucinations are often subjective phenomena influenced by an individual's mental state and the power of suggestion. Individuals susceptible to lapses in their grasp of reality will compound their mental problems with the use of alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs.

Marijuana users do not hallucinate. They do experience an alteration of their space perception, and an apparent enhancement of colors. These, combined with impairment of motor coordination, are reasons why marijuana should not be used while driving a motor vehicle. However, to call these effects of marijuana "hallucinations" is misleading if not untruthful. Individuals who take LSD hallucinate. Individuals detoxifying from alcohol addiction hallucinate. Hallucinate means the individual sees something that isn't there. Marijuana users do not hallucinate.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse's pamphlet, "Marijuana", is far from being the best source on marijuana's effects. However, it's claims are based far more on actual research than popular myths. It makes no mention of hallucinations, illusions, or schizophrenia resulting from marijuana use.

Marijuana's promise as a pain killer is referenced above. However, the dose required to render an individual oblivious to body signals such as pain far exceeds standard levels of use. A sufficient dose to accomplish this would also put the subject to sleep. It is unlikely that this presents any danger to the individual or to society.

6) "although it may take a heavy cigarette smoker as long as 20 years to develop lung cancer, one marijuana cigarette a day may cause lung cancer in three years;"

Marijuana is used daily by over 5 million Americans, according to the National Institute of Drug Abuse. Marijuana has been a popular recreational drug used by a large percentage of young Americans since 1965. There is no record of case histories to document this finding. If this finding were true, we would have millions of case histories of young individuals with lung cancer from marijuana use. The case histories don't exist because the statement is false.

The National Academy of Sciences decided that marijuana smoking and tobacco smoking can not be compared because the methods of ingestion differ so greatly. Marijuana smokers smoke far less materials a day than tobacco smokers (up to 2 cigarettes a day compared to 20 - 60), but they inhale the smoke far deeper into the lungs. On the other hand, many marijuana smokers use a waterpipe (or "bong") which filters out many, but not all, of the tars that contribute to lung cancer.

Claims that marijuana is more carcinogenic than tobacco are compelled by a logic that dictates that because marijuana is illegal (except in Alaska) it has to be more dangerous than tobacco (or in other cases, than alcohol). The claims are based on the undisputed fact that marijuana contains more tar than tobacco, but ignore the differences in ingestion and dosage that make comparisons inaccurate. Marijuana smoke is bad for the lungs, it does

contribute to the formation of lung cancer, and I am convinced that by the year 2000 we will begin to hear of case studies of individuals who have lung cancer as a result of long term marijuana use.

Nonetheless, it is not true that a marijuana cigarette a day for three years will cause lung cancer. I offer my own lungs and continued health as proof.

7) "THC affects eggs, sperm, sexual hormones, and the development of a fetus, and marijuana use may result in deformed or undersized offspring."

There are no documented cases of marijuana use causing a genetic deformity. I challenge anyone to provide one.

In April, 1984 Ralph Hingson delivered a paper at a NORML conference on "Effects of Marijuana Use on Pregnant Women". Dr. Hingson's conclusion was that marijuana use during pregnancy may result in a smaller birth weight for the fetus, but in an allowable range (similar to the smaller birth weight for babies from nicotine or alcohol using mothers.) NORML has been publicizing this since 1984. We regularly hear, though, from mothers who used marijuana during pregnancy who delivered babies of normal weight.

Laboratory tests have indicated that under some conditions, large doses of THC affect the eggs, sperm, and sexual hormones of rats and other animals. There is evidence that THC inhibits sperm mobility. However, the effects of marijuana on fertility seem to be negligible - as millions of marijuana smoking parents will attest to.

The National Academy of Sciences report affirmed that marijuana use has no effect on chromosomes or fertility.

8) "other physical reactions to marijuana include irreversible changes in the brain, sinusitis, pharyngitis, bronchitis, emphysema, increased heart rate, and decreased blood circulation;"

Marijuana use does not cause brain damage. NIDA recently announced proof that it does. My office contacted the researcher. His data actually suggested that a dose of 50 marijuana cigarettes a day for 30 years would not cause brain damage. What NIDA based their comments on was his finding that 136 marijuana cigarettes for 30 years would cause slight premature senilia. An individual would have to smoke a marijuana cigarette every 8 minutes for 16 hours a day, for thirty years, to suffer any brain damage - if this study is conclusive. The enclosed NORML press release cited above re: marijuana potency contains more details of this study.

Smoking contributes to lung and sinus problems, and marijuana smoking is no different. Marijuana does increase the heart rate and/or blood pressure in some individuals; NORML cautions against marijuana use by individuals with cardiovascular problems.

9) "other psychological reactions to marijuana include loss of memory; impairment in thinking, reading comprehension, and verbal and arithmetic problem solving; impairment of perception of distance and time; and anxiety, panic, paranoia, psychosis, and psychological dependence."

The symptoms mentioned accompany cessation of marijuana use in some individuals, not the buildup in the body. A majority of marijuana smokers experience no side-effects from cessation of use. If these symptoms indicate anything, they indicate the relative lack of serious side-effects from cessation of use, unlike those associated with alcohol and opiate withdrawal.

3) "it is possible for a human being to overdose from the use of marijuana, especially if it is used in conjunction with alcohol, because it increases the effects of alcohol;"

There is no record of anyone ever dying from an overdose of marijuana. It is one of the least toxic drugs known to man.

Raphael Mechoulam, who isolated the main ingredient of marijuana (THC) has edited Cannabinoids as Therapeutic Agents which includes an article by Marc Segal on Marijuana's potential as an analgesic. He reports that marijuana has promise as a pain killer because it is non-addictive and does not depress the respiratory tract (unlike opioids.) Marijuana's promise as a pain-killer is reported by the National Academy of Sciences, and by Roger Roffman in the book Marijuana as Medicine; its promise rests on the fact that finding #3 is essentially false.

Marijuana is a mild intoxicant, and as such should not be used in conjunction with other intoxicants. Whether marijuana increases the effects of alcohol, or complicates them, or just how one would subjectively describe the effects of mixing the two, is beside the point that multiple drug use provides multiple safety concerns. Marijuana, though, has far less severe cross-reaction with alcohol than barbituates or tranquilizers such as valium. Once again, a good toxicologist can provide confirmation of these points.

4) "the THC content of a marijuana cigarette 10 years ago was one percent, but is as high as 10 percent per cigarette today;"

Proponents of jailing people for marijuana use have been using this argument as if to suggest that marijuana is ten times more dangerous than it used to be. The premise that an increase in potency demonstrates an increase in danger is logically unsound. As with alcohol, consumers compensate for higher potency by consuming smaller doses. Anyone who counsels alcoholics will confirm that beer is no less dangerous than whiskey simply because it has a lesser potency.

The government has been trying to sell the increased potency argument for some time. The enclosed press release refers to a New York Times report in 1966 that marijuana had increased to an average potency of 3.5%, and that this was an alarming increase over the seventies. However, in 1980, The Times ran a similar story, only at that time they claimed that marijuana had an average potency of 4%. So, marijuana has actually decreased in potency, if you believe The Times.

5) "Marijuana causes schizophrenia, illusions, and hallucinations, including a dulling of the senses, creating the possibility that the user is unable to respond to body signals, such as pain;"

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Constitutional law:

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Page 3.
3/15/88

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Frances C. Young
Ketchikan, Alaska

Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee

P. O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4990

March 22, 1988

Ms. Lynda Adams
P.O. Box 7171
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Lynda:

This is in response to your letters to me, both dated March 13, 1988, dealing with the marijuana recriminalization legislation.

Waiver of bills is a prerogative of the chair or co-chairs of that committee. As you know, I already held a hearing in Ketchikan on HB 55 in the Judiciary Committee without actually having the bill in my committee. This was a substantial breach of the rules we operate under and I am not in a position to request a waiver of that bill.

Your criticism of the handling of documents you submitted to the Judiciary Committee at the October 24, 1987 hearing on the same topic is not warranted.

The committee "record" consists of the written minutes, the tape recording of the committee hearing, and the committee files for each bill in committee. After each two-year legislative session, the entire record is archived in the Legislative Library where it remains as the permanent record for the committee and is accessible to the public.

The material you submitted remains part of the official committee record. It was noted in the written minutes; your comments when handing out the documents are on the tape; the documents were sent to my Juneau office after the hearing and were filed in the appropriate committee files.

Lynda Adams
March 22, 1988
Page Two

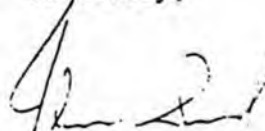
As a general rule, information on legislation in committee remains in the members' files until the bill is up for a hearing, at which time the files are distributed to the members. The documents you sent are still in the file.

Since we do not officially have the bill in this committee, it is appropriate to distribute the information at such time as the bill is referred and we have a public hearing.

However, I will see that copies of all the material you sent will be forwarded to the House HESS Committee.

I hope this adequately addresses your concern.

Sincerely,



John Sund
Representative

cc: House HESS Committee Members
House Judiciary Committee Members



WILLIAM G. KLEIN
CHIEF OF POLICE
108TH SESSION

WRANGELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY OF WRANGELL, ALASKA
POST OFFICE BOX 531 • WRANGELL, ALASKA 99929
(907) 874-3304



March 4, 1987

MAR 5 1987

Senator Paul Fisher
Hess Committee Chairman
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811 (Mail Stop 3100)

Dear Senator Fisher:

On behalf of this department and the concerned members of this community, I sincerely urge that all possible efforts and support be afforded to Senate Bill 32, Recriminalization of Marijuana, in order that said bill be brought to the floor of the Senate and House for a vote.

As an Alaska law enforcement officer for the past 21 years I can state without reservation that one of the greatest errors consummated by a legislative body was the decriminalization of marijuana. Not only is it in violation of Federal Law, its usage among the youth of this state has escalated like a malignant growth.

In all frankness, I must state that the time is long overdue for positive action on behalf of our elected officials to combat and control this statewide problem. Give law enforcement in the State of Alaska the weapons, in the form of realistic and effective laws, and we will do our part.

Respectfully submitted,

William G. Klein
Chief of Police

WGK:rrk

cc: Representative Terry Martin
Senator Lloyd Jones
Representative Robin Taylor
Representative John Sund



The
University of Mississippi

LINDA
APRMS
A

Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Physical Sciences Research Division
School of Pharmacy
University, MS 38677
(601) 232-5324



September 14, 1987

Det. John McIntosh
Ketchikan Police Dept.
361 Main St.
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Det. McIntosh:

Attached is an analysis report of the marijuana sample #87-3673 you sent to our laboratory on June 19, 1987.

The material has a profile typical of drug-type Cannabis - high Δ^9 -THC (4.38) coupled with little or no CBD content. The average Δ^9 -THC for whole plant material is approximately 2.5%, well below the THC percentage of this plant.

If you have any questions or if we can be of service to you again, please let me know.

Sincerely

Carol T. Abel
Laboratory Supervisor
NIDA Marijuana Project

CTA/kkl

Enclosure

These are excerpts directly from the 1973 Ravin decision that are no longer valid and are reason it can be overturned.

Ravin v. State

Pg. 495

May 28, 1975

9. Constitutional Law

Right of privacy in the home must yield when it interferes in a serious manner with the health, safety, rights and privileges of others or with the public welfare.

14. Constitutional Law

The right of an individual to do as he pleases is not absolute and it can be made to yield when it begins to infringe on the rights and welfare of others. (Stated again on 509)

19. Health and Environment

When there is substantial doubt as to safety of a given substance or situation of public health, controls intended to obviate the danger will usually be upheld. (Stated again on 510)

500-

At some point, the states interest in safeguarding health, maintaining medical standards, and protecting potential life becomes sufficiently compelling to sustain regulations. One does not, the Supreme Court said, have an unlimited right to do with one's body as one pleases.

505-

Most marijuana available in the United States has a THC content of less than one percent.

506-

It appears that the use of marijuana, as it is presently used in the United States today, does not constitute a public health problem of any significant dimensions.

507-

Certain researchers cite evidence of an "amotivational syndrome" among long-term heavy cannabis users.....The National Commission concludes that long-term heavy users do not deviate significantly from their social peers in terms of mental functioning, at least to any extent attributable to marijuana use.....

Moreover, the Commission and most other authorities agree that there is little validity to the theory that marijuana use leads to use of more potent and dangerous drugs.

508-

The National Commission rejected the notion that marijuana is physically addicting. It also rejected the notion that marijuana as used in the United States today presents a significant risk of causing psychological dependency on the user.

political gossip, the daily crises, the delicious high that is obtained only at the center of the action. Like any lobbyist, he was first of all selling himself, and he took pains to develop his public persona of Mr. NORML, the cool and collected pot politician, party-giver and ladies' man. In fact, he had to an extent modeled himself after NORML's first financial patron, Hugh Hefner. But there was another, darker side to Stroup's personality, an angry side. He was angry in part at the drug laws and at a political establishment that, as he saw it, loved to guzzle its whiskey but denied his generation the right to enjoy its drug of choice. At another level Stroup was angry at his past, angry at a small-town Baptist boyhood in Dix, Illinois, that for years he had only wanted to escape. There was a certain Jekyll-and-Hyde quality to Stroup. If he could be charming and considerate, he could also be abruptly cold, self-righteous, and intensely critical of others, including his close friends and allies, if they did not match him in their dedication to the cause. This duality seemed to flow from the influence of two quite dissimilar parents: a father with a small-town politician's live-and-let-live attitude and a mother who was a devout Southern Baptist and not at all tolerant of the sins of the world.

In the fall of 1975 I was asked to conduct a *Playboy* interview with Stroup. By then the reform movement had scored some major victories. In 1973 Oregon had ended criminal penalties for smoking, and in the summer of 1975 five more states had done the same: Alaska, California, Maine, Colorado, and Ohio. NORML had provided national leadership to this burst of reform, by gaining publicity for the issue, by advising state legislators on what strategies and expert witnesses might be most effective, and often by paying the expenses for those outside witnesses to go to testify. Moreover, NORML had begun a far-ranging legal program, which involved both aid to individual defendants and court challenges to the constitutionality of state and federal marijuana laws, and to the federal government's ban on the medical use of marijuana. For many years the government had treated marijuana smokers pretty much as it pleased, but now NORML was rallying some of the brightest young lawyers in America to the smokers' defense.

As I studied the marijuana debate in preparation for my interview with Stroup, I began to think of it in terms of a war, a terrible civil war. I was struck by the parallels between this issue and the other great nation-dividing issue of the time, the war in Vietnam. In both

cases the political establishment had been hell-bent to convince young Americans of something they refused to believe: that they should go die in Vietnam, in one case; that they should not smoke marijuana, in the other. In the minds of many Americans the two wars seemed to have blended: The slippery little Vietcong in Southeast Asia had become the dope-smoking hippie at home, and it was somehow imperative that the government's armed forces search out and destroy him. The same mentality that could say we had to destroy a village to save it in Vietnam could argue that we had to send a college student to prison to save him from marijuana.

The marijuana war was being waged on one front as a military conflict, in which tens of thousands of police and narcotics agents busied themselves arresting millions of young people for smoking and/or selling the weed. But as NORML, the Marijuana Commission, President Nixon, Sen. James Eastland, and others began a national debate on the issue, it became increasingly a propaganda war, fought through the media, as the pro-marijuana and anti-marijuana forces battled for the hearts and minds of millions of nonsmoking Americans who would ultimately determine the outcome of the conflict in the political arena.

In 1976 I spent six months as Jimmy Carter's speechwriter and had an opportunity to view the marijuana issue from the perspective of a presidential campaign. If there is anything to be learned in a national campaign, as it moves endlessly from city to city, rally to rally, enclave to enclave, it is that America is an incredibly large, diversified, and potentially explosive nation, less melting pot than tinderbox. The divisions are all there—black and white, Protestant and Catholic, North and South, immigrant and blueblood—waiting for politicians to exploit them. Now to that list has been added the division between those who enjoy drugs and those who fear them. The issue had been exploited in 1972, when McGovern supported decriminalization and Nixon opposed it. Nixon's followers denounced McGovern as the candidate of the three A's—acid, amnesty, and abortion, marijuana having been transformed by political hyperbole into "acid," or LSD.

Fortunately, the drug issue was not exploited in the 1976 campaign. Carter had endorsed decriminalization early in his campaign. I had assumed he was motivated by a combination of intellectual honesty and political necessity: the former because he knew his sons had smoked, the latter because the issue was important to a lot of young

When Stroup arrived in Sacramento, Brownell took him around to meet several Democratic assemblymen, one of whom took him for an outside agitator and threw him out of his office, whereupon Stroup carried his lobbying campaign to Beverly Hills, where he rallied rich liberals to contact their assemblymen. The Playboy mansion was made available for lobbying efforts, a fact that reflected Hefner's intense interest in the legislation.

The second vote came on June 24. The Republicans invoked unit rule again. During two hours of emotional debate, Assemblyman Willie Brown, a black liberal, waved a hand-rolled cigarette and declared that people who smoked a few joints were not criminals. (He later said the joint was made of tobacco). John Briggs, the anti-gay, anti-pot leader, gave the Democrats a candid summary of his political strategy: "It's quite possible that in 1976 your platform will be 'Grass, Gays, and Godlessness.'"

The bill needed forty-one votes, and it got forty-two. In Brownell's eyes the heroes of the second vote were two first-term Democrats from conservative districts who voted no the first time but switched to yes on the second vote. One of them was Floyd Mori, a Mormon who neither smoked nor drank. The reformers had succeeded in convincing him that a vote against jail penalties did not amount to an endorsement of marijuana. The other convert was Richard Robinson, a former Marine officer in Vietnam who decided that as a matter of conscience he could not oppose reform, even if his vote was not needed and might harm him politically.

The bill's passage was denounced by Ed Davis, who said the legislature was favoring "pansies and gotheads" and urged Governor Brown to veto it. In fact, Brown postponed action on the bill until it was within hours of becoming law without his signature; then he signed it with a minimum of ceremony. Still, he signed it, and on the first day of 1976, California stopped putting people in jail for smoking marijuana.

A state agency later conducted a survey of the results of the new law in its first year. It found that arrests dropped from about eighty-eight thousand in 1975 to about ten thousand in 1976 (these were for possession of more than an ounce), and about forty thousand citations were issued for possession of less than an ounce. An estimated \$25 million in police and court costs was saved.

Finally, in the 1976 elections, there was a political footnote: None of the Democrats who supported the reform bill was defeated.

That spring, as the battle raged on in California, strange things were happening in Alaska.

The Alaska saga actually began in 1972, with two young lawyers sitting around one evening smoking marijuana and grumbling about the marijuana laws. The two lawyers in Alaska were about thirty years old, and their names were Robert Wagstaff and Irwin Ravin. Wagstaff was a native of Kansas City who had done his undergraduate work at Dartmouth. It was there, in 1961, that he first smoked. Marijuana was not readily available in those days, but Wagstaff was a jazz fan, and some black jazz musicians introduced him to the weed. He returned to the University of Kansas law school, then moved to Fairbanks, Alaska, where he became an assistant district attorney. It was in Fairbanks that he met Ravin, a native of Newark, New Jersey, and a graduate of Rutgers. Later they moved to Anchorage and practiced law together.

They also smoked marijuana, and as they talked that night in 1972, they agreed the legal and political climate in Alaska was such that a good test case, with the right client, could overturn the marijuana laws. But who would be that client?

That question was left unresolved. Then, a couple of nights later, fate intervened in the person of a Fairbanks policeman who stopped Ravin because a taillight was out on his car. It was a routine traffic violation. All Ravin had to do was sign the citation and go on his way. But Ravin decided the time had come to take a stand. Knowing he had a couple of joints in his pocket, he refused to sign the citation. That left the arresting officer no choice but to take him to the station. There he was routinely searched, the two joints were found, and the case of *Ravin v. Alaska* came to be.

Wagstaff and another lawyer, R. C. Middleton, filed a motion to dismiss the charges before trial, arguing that the state law prohibiting possession of marijuana was unconstitutional because it violated the right of privacy guaranteed by both the U.S. and the Alaska constitutions. In a sense, the issue was not so much legal as political. Reformers in other states had made the same right-of-privacy arguments and had always been turned down. But Alaska was not like



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March 27, 1987

Representative Terry Martin
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Terry:

On behalf of Boys & Girls Clubs of Alaska and its Board of Directors, I urge your continued support for House Bill ⁵⁵ AS. As you are aware, substance abuse among Alaska's young continues to prevail in alarming numbers. The recriminalization of marijuana is an important step the State must take to bring those numbers down.

Boys & Girls Clubs have addressed the drug and alcohol problem with today's youth and are developing programs aimed at education and service of needs related to substance abuse. The State of Alaska's recriminalization of marijuana will not only boost our efforts, but also the work of many other agencies, schools and private businesses throughout Alaska. Your participation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

David Choquette^{74.}
David Choquette
Board Member

cc: David G. Kolesky, President

Boys & Girls Clubs of Alaska... Where kids belong.

Woodland Park Branch • Eagle River Branch • Fairview School • Kings Lake Camp • Government Hill
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NORML — IZER

THE BIG CHILL: Alaska's Proposed Pot Law

By JON GETTMAN, NORML Director

(The following testimony was given to the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 1, 1987 during a public hearing on Senate Bill #32, which if passed would **recriminalize** marijuana use in the state of Alaska.)

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, citizens of Alaska: My name is Jon Gettman and I am the National Director of NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. Founded in 1970, NORML is an educational organization dedicated to the review and study of marijuana use, marijuana laws, and their effect on our society.

The Marijuana Tax Act of 1937 marked the beginning of federal attempts to deter marijuana use by making it illegal. And here we are, 50 years later, living proof of prohibition's ineffectiveness, still discussing whether criminal penalties are appropriate for marijuana use.

Alaska has the respect and admiration of people around the world for its integrity on the matter of marijuana use. They are impressed by your dedication to the principle of privacy, which Justice Brandeis once remarked is the cornerstone of all our freedoms. We are impressed by Alaska because we know that your dedication to privacy is founded on a deep conviction to the ethic of personal responsibility.

Others, though, respect your laws because they are practical. They envy you in that respect, wishing the political climate in which they work would allow them to devote their time to more serious matters than debating adult marijuana use at home.

There have been repeated challenges to the policy of arresting marijuana users over the last 25 years that have discredited many of the old excuses justifying prohibition. The

emotional voices calling for the imprisonment of marijuana users come up with some new excuse every few years. The latest is that because marijuana is, on average, more potent today than ten years ago, it is somehow more dangerous; more subtle is the implication that this increase in its potency renders previous research irrelevant.

The claim is that the more potent marijuana of the '80s is a new, different drug than the one many adults tried in the '60s and early 70s. First of all, as with alcohol, marijuana smokers compensate for a higher potency by simply using less. Secondly, high potency marijuana has been on the market, so to speak, for thousands of years under the name hashish. Though hashish is manufactured from the resins of oils of marijuana, pharmacuetically it has a high level of THC. This claim is part of a long historical trend of believing that despite the discrediting of previous scare stories about marijuana, new evidence emerging from research will finally prove that marijuana really is as bad as "they" said it was. It is this historical context that causes me to treat these claims with more than a bit of skepticism.

The National Academy of Sciences conducted a review of all the literature about marijuana. The study was chaired by Arnold S. Relman, editor of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Their report, *Marijuana & Health*, was published in 1982. There have been no new developments since that time to contradict their findings. Just as in a court of law, there are rules of evidence by which to evaluate research claims. Without exception,

the "dangers" of marijuana fail to satisfy those rules of evidence to the satisfaction of the National Academy of Sciences.

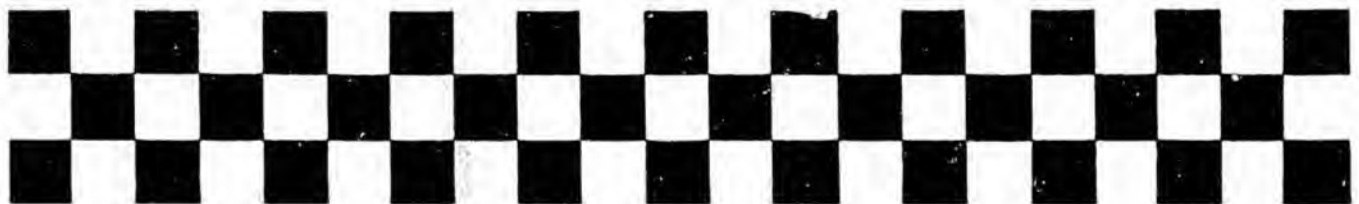
Let me address this bill pointedly. It is based on several "findings" that are without foundation. First of all, THC, the drug's active ingredient, does not, I repeat, does not lodge in the fatty tissues of the body for 30 days, as Finding Number One reports. Findings Number One and Number Two (which claims that this buildup cause "loss of sleep," "moodiness," and "restlessness") are simply wrong. THC is broken down by the body in a few hours, when the high associated with it wears off. It is the by-products of this chemical breakdown that lodge in the fatty tissues for several weeks. **These have no effect on the body whatsoever and there is not a single study that proves otherwise.** So there is no "buildup" of THC.

Finding Number Three, which claims "it is possible for a human being to overdose from marijuana," is also factually incorrect. Marijuana is one of the least toxic drugs known. You can not overdose from smoking marijuana. Furthermore, marijuana does not interact with alcohol, as other drugs do, and increase its potency. Any toxicologist familiar with marijuana will confirm this fact.

To the extent that marijuana and alcohol are both intoxicants, their use in conjunction, and to excess, would be irresponsible, and in some circumstances, dangerous.

Finding Number Four concerns the accusation that marijuana is more dangerous today because it is more potent. The "finding" also claims that marijuana averages a THC potency of 10 percent; actually, the average potency of marijuana these days is closer to 3.5

continued on page 28



arty
issue!

CHILDREN'S GUIDE TO GROW ROOMS

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CANADA

JOURNEY TO
THE MIND'S
EYE

POT STING
IN HAWAII

THE 10 WORST
THINGS THAT
HAPPENED TO
POP MUSIC
BY JAMES MARSHALL





NO. 144 AUGUST 1987

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ELISABETSKY

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SHARON M.

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CAPTAIN WHIZZO

ON THE COVER: Sharon M. is the lead singer of *Black Light Chameleons*, a New York-based psychband (pictured left). Captain Whizzo's light show is visible to the naked eye at NYC's *Mind's Eye* Events (see feature).

PETERSBURG GENERAL HOSPITAL
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MAR 11 1987

March 5, 1987

Representative John Sund
Representative Robin Taylor
Senator Lloyd Jones
State of Alaska
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Gentlemen:

I appreciated the opportunity of sharing dinner with you and your spouses and talking about various legislative matters.

However, I did not feel inclined that evening to fully express myself on SB 32 "Recriminalization of Marijuana" but wish to do so at this time.

To me, this issue goes beyond right to privacy vs. harm to society. I look at it as a health issue also. For this reason I support Senate Bill #32. I listened to two hours of testimony on the matter on February 25, 1987.

I add some points that were not made in those hearings. First, people do have a right to privacy in their own homes, to a point. However, we cannot do certain things there such as child abuse or assault of our spouse or criminal acts such as murder, rape, incest, and other moral crimes without being arrested. I put marijuana in that category.

Second, I have a hard time seeing marijuana allowed in Alaska if there are federal laws on the books making it a violation to possess marijuana in any form in the United States. Along with this, how can an Alaskan citizen have marijuana in their homes without first breaking a State law in getting it into the home and that includes seeds to grow the plants? Marijuana in any form has to first pass thru the streets, highways, or airways of the State, which is against the law.

Third, you might want to talk to some newborn care nurses in hospitals such as Ketchikan or Juneau who will tell you that babies whose mothers have been smoking marijuana are more restless, cry more, and have drug withdrawal symptoms to varying degrees. On the other hand, they will testify that any mother who does not drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, do drugs, or smoke marijuana have the most healthy and best behaved babies.

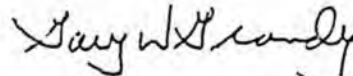
Representative John Sund, Robin Taylor
Senator Lloyd Jones
Juneau, Alaska

Page 2.

I believe these innocent newborns have a God-given right to start life without being in subjection to problems created by their mother's marijuana habits.

I will not repeat the many comments made in the hearings but I did hear a majority of testimony in favor of SB #32. I also believe that the majority of citizens in Petersburg and Alaska support SB #32. You will receive or the Hess Committee will receive a petition from people in Petersburg who support SB #32. Therefore, I solici your vote in favor of SB #32 when it reaches the floor of the legislature.

Sincerely,



Gary W. Grandy
Administrator

cc: Hess Committee - Recriminilization of Marijuana
Ben Grussendorf, Senator
Ed Malewski - Sitka Community Hospital
Frank Sutton - Mt. Edgecume Hospital

Incidentally, I have just learned that Senator Ben Grussendorf may attempt to retain SB #32 in Committee. Bluntly, that stinks and I resent any important legislation being retained in Committee. Politically, those actions can hurt legislators as the majority of people in a democratic society want those issues debated and voted upon.

BILL NO: HB 55
TITLE: "An Act relating to marijuana; and providing for
an effective date"
DATE: 3/4/87

The Juneau Police Department is supportive of this legislation.

The purpose of HB 55 is to recriminalize the possession of any amount of marijuana. By achieving this end a number of purposes will be served.

Increasingly it has been shown that the long term consumption of marijuana poses a health hazard of serious consequence. A number of medical studies substantiate this fact. It is necessary to reflect that the possession of any amount of marijuana will not be tolerated so as to reinforce the concept that health hazards do exist when marijuana is used. Marijuana has been targeted as the single best predictor of other future illegal drug use.

The present conflict that exists between current state and federal law tends to create confusion in the mind of the public. This conflict creates apathy on the part of the public and flies in the face of the need for consistency in the law. Disregard and apathy are most readily apparent in the minds of the young people of the community. This conflict also creates impediments in the discharge of local police responsibilities in addressing the problem of drug traffickers.

The relaxed attitude toward marijuana in Alaska creates in the minds of people that this is a state that condones this and other types of drug usage. It creates a marked placed for a substance that is legal here but illegal in all other states.

The recriminalization of marijuana would not, as some sources are concerned, create a large scale impact on the criminal justice system. The primary focus is and will continue to be on interception, interdiction and prosecution of drug sources. This is a demonstrated philosophy that provides cost effective results for resources expended.

Michael S. Gelston
Chief of Police
Juneau Police Department

MSG/ps6



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and haida INDIAN TRIBES of alaska
320 West Willoughby Avenue • Suite 300
Juneau, Alaska 99801

February 23, 1987

Senator Paul Fisher
Chairman, Hess Committee
Pouch V - M/S 3100
Juneau, Alaska 99811

FEB 24 1987

Dear Senator Fisher:


I am writing this letter in support of Senate Bill Number 32 on the recriminalization of marijuana.

I believe this Bill will help stop some of the hypocrisy involved around the issues of substance/controlled substance use, whether it be in or out of a person's residence.

With all the problems our society suffers with the legal and socially accepted use of alcohol I cannot in any way accept or support the use of any other mind altering substance. Your support for passage of Senate Bill 32 is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

If there is anything I can personally do to assist the Hess Committee on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Brent C. Moody
Village Public Safety Officer
Program Coordinator

cc: Evelyn E. Myers, Executive Director
Representative Terry Martin

BCM:wb

TELEPHONE: 907/ 586-1432



Galena Police Department

P.O. Box 208 • Galena, Alaska 99741 • Telephone (907) 658-1303

February 24, 1987

The Honorable Terry Martin
Hess Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Recriminalization of Marijuana, Senate Bill 32

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am writing this letter to formally advise you that this Department thoroughly supports the above-captioned Senate bill pertaining to the recriminalization of marijuana; and to also solicit your support of the same, for the following reasons:

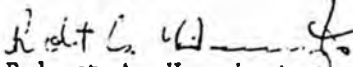
First, let me begin by stating that proper drug abuse education is probably one of our most effective overall means of combating the abuse of controlled substances. Our Youth and others are being taught that marijuana is a controlled substance which can produce harmful effects. To confuse this issue, the State of Alaska, first defines marijuana as a controlled substance, pursuant to Title 11 of the Alaska Statutes (Criminal Code); and then, within the same breath of the law, condones the possession of up to four (4) ounces of marijuana by a person within their own residence for their own consumption. How are our youth and others suppose to respond to what they are being taught, when they see others using marijuana in what is supposedly a lawful manner. This is not only contradictive, but also counterproductive.

Secondly, Law Enforcement has a difficult enough job attempting to deal with controlled substance abuse which involves those drugs that are strictly illicit. To interject a decriminalization law into the Controlled Substance Act, only serves to make their work that much more difficult and confusing. After attempting to deal with the same, certain Law Enforcement factions may begin to develop a disinterested attitude toward the enforcement of marijuana abuse, thinking if the State of Alaska doesn't care, why should we. Additionally, State Prosecutors are justifiably less than enthusiastic about prosecuting cases involving marijuana.

Finally, the State of Alaska has been receiving nationwide recognition through television talk shows where marijuana is the topic of discussion. On one such show, a guest emphasized several times that marijuana has been "LEGALIZED" in Alaska. The word: "DECriminalIZATION" was never mentioned. That little advertisement should give our tourist industry quite a boost.

In closing, this Department will appreciate any effort you may put forth in guiding Senate Bill 32 out of committee and to the floor of both the Senate and House for a vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Robert A. Harrington
Chief of Police

san/RAH

ROTARY CLUB



MAR 9 1987

February 26, 1987

Senator Paul Fisher
Pouch V (Mail Stop 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Fisher:

The Rotary Club of Valdez supports the City of Valdez Resolution No.8711 which urges the repeal of laws allowing for the personal use of marijuana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patrick M. Shely". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Patrick M. Shely
President
P.O. Box 307
Valdez, AK 99686

FBI National Academy Associates
Alaska Chapter



FEB 12 1987

February 9, 1987

Representative Terry Martin
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Terry:

I received your letter of February 5, 1987, concerning the teleconference hearing on Senator Paul Fischer's bill to recriminalize marijuana and to be held on February 18, 1987.

Unfortunately, I will be out of the state, attending an Energy Security Conference and will be unable to personally testify. I have been very interested in this particular subject for a number of years and, as you are aware, I served as Vice Chairman of the Anchorage Crime Commission in 1984-85. This subject was one of our priorities then and it is still a current priority of the present Crime Commission members.

In 1985, we prepared an extensive review of information developed since 1976, when the existing law was passed. I was rather taken back that the Director of the State Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse stated that there had been no new scientific information gathered since 1976 which would support the changing of the law. Obviously, this particular individual has not done the research that I have and I'm confident that there is substantial scientific evidence to support the health problem created by the use of marijuana.

One of the major arguments used to state that the law should remain the same is the amount of manpower and commitment that would be necessary in order to enforce any changes in the law. In my opinion, this is not an issue—the issue is the health problem created by the continuous use of marijuana and, equally important if not more so, the illusion it gives to our young people that marijuana in Alaska is legal and, therefore, its usage must not be harmful.

UNA
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Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

Crime Commission

February 25, 1987



Representative Terry Martin
Alaska House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Terry:

The Anchorage Crime Commission has endorsed the recriminalization of marijuana as one of its 1987 goals. The Commission enthusiastically supports your previously stated position on this issue.

The Commission's Public Opinion survey, conducted in the Anchorage area, indicated that there was a strong desire by the general public to change the present law.

This correspondence is to reiterate our strong support of this issue and request your continued support and endorsement of HB 55. We believe the passage of this legislation will be beneficial to Alaska and its citizenry.

We further request your support in enlisting other members of the State Legislature to help assure passage of this bill into law.

If the Anchorage Crime Commission can be of further assistance in this matter please contact me.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Harold C. Heinze
Harold C. Heinze
Chairman

A Committee of the
Anchorage Chamber
of Commerce

415 F Street
Anchorage AK 99501
(907) 272-2401



TONY KNOWLES
MAYOR

ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

4501 SOUTH BRAGAW STREET • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99507-1599
TELEPHONE (907) 786-8500



RONALD L OTTE
CHIEF

March 13, 1987

MAR 18 1987

Senator Paul Fischer
Chairman, H.E.S.S. Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Fischer,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our support for Senate Bill 32 addressing the recriminalization of marijuana.

We believe that recent research may indicate that marijuana is more of a health hazard than originally thought. We believe that the legislature of the State of Alaska should take a serious look at recriminalization and hold hearings regarding its potential medical effects upon the populace. In addition, we believe that the youth of Alaska receive a mixed signal regarding the appropriateness of drug usage when marijuana is essentially legal in this state. In addition to that, we feel that the populace develops a scoff law attitude when the possession of marijuana is legal, but the purchase of and transportation of is illegal.

We urge that the recriminalization of marijuana be brought from the committee and addressed on the floor of the State Legislature.

If we can be of any further assistance regarding this issue or any other law enforcement related issue that you wish to call upon us for, feel free to do so.

Sincerely,

Del Smith
Del Smith

Deputy Chief of Operations

DS:d1



ANCHORAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

4600 DeBarr Avenue - Anchorage, Alaska

99504

AREA CODE 907-333-9561

2508 Blueberry Phone #276-1992

October 23, 1986

Ms. Alyce Hanley
Representative
1024 E. 6th Ave., Suite 200 A
Anchorage, Ak 99501

Dear Rep. Hanley:

I have enclosed for your information the names of the schools that were in attendance at the Alaska Association of School Governments fall conference held at Dimond High school. The list also contains the name of the student that was designated by their school to serve as the spokesperson on business items.

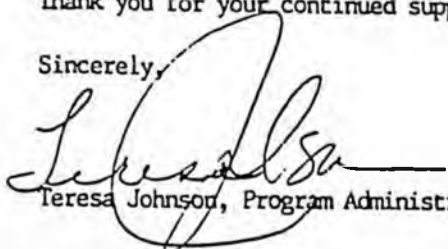
The students did finish the just say no flag and have made arrangements for the flag to be sent to Juneau and presented to the governor. The students also passed a resolution during their business meeting to support the establishment of Just say No clubs in schools, support for additional Drug Education Programs and unanimous support for repealing the current marijuana statute for the state of Alaska. I have taken the liberty of enclosing a copy of the resolution for you. I think it would be wonderful if you would present this resolution to the house for the students. Likewise, if you could recommend a senator, perhaps Jan Faiks, that would like to do the same in the senate, I would be interested in your recommendation.

Please let me know if it is possible for you to present the resolution on behalf of the students. If I can be of any further assistance to you, please let me know.

Also for your information, the Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals passed a resolution for repeal of the marijuana statute. Larry Graham would be the contact person for information about that resolution.

Thank you for your continued support of students & education.

Sincerely,



Teresa Johnson, Program Administrator

TJ:svr

cc: Dermis Johnson
St. Dir. AASG

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Alaska Association Chiefs of Police

625 C Street • Anchorage, Alaska 99501

March 26, 1985

Mr. George N. Nelson
Anchorage Crime Commission
415 F Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Nelson,

Our Association conducted its annual meeting on March 22, 1985 in Anchorage.

Legislation pending before the Alaska State Legislature was extensively discussed. The Association has identified several pieces of legislation that it feels merit support. Among those bills we will be commenting on to the Governor and individual legislators are four that we understand have been identified as priority legislation by your Commission.

These bills are as follows:

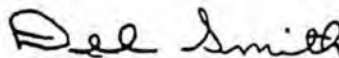
HB 178	Conspiracy
HB 179	Hearsay
HB 205	Juvenile Waiver
SB 165 32	Recriminalization of Marijuana

As stated previously, these bills were thoroughly discussed by the Association membership. The consensus was a directive to relay our strong support for passage of the legislation.

I understand that members of your Commission will be going to Juneau shortly to meet with legislators. Please feel free to make those legislators aware of our support for your legislative priorities.

If we can be of any additional assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

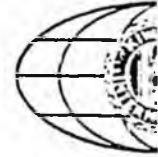


Del Smith
Secretary-Treasurer, ACOP





KIWANIS CLUB OF ANCHORAGE
P.O. BOX 101404
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510



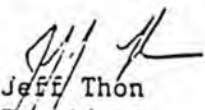
Anchorage Assembly

Whereas, it is a major emphasis of Kiwanis International to enrich the lives of our youth, and

Whereas, the Kiwanis Club Of Anchorage is currently participating in a nationally promoted activity of drug abuse prevention and education through the Just Say No Foundation, and

Whereas, the current laws in Alaska do not consider it a crime to possess certain combinations of controlled substances in certain amounts, which is counterproductive to our efforts in the Just Say No [to drugs] Program

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Kiwanis Club of Anchorage hereby encourages the Anchorage Municipal Assembly to adopt a resolution in support of changing our statutes to make possession of a controlled substance, other than by prescription, a crime.


Jeff Thon
President

KIWANIS RESOLUTION



GALENA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

GALENA, ALASKA 99741
PHONE (907) 656-1205

SUPERINTENDENT'S
OFFICE

January 7, 1987

Representative Terry Martin
P.O. Box V
Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Martin:

The Board of Education for the Galena City School District is appalled at the free uncontrolled flowing use of controlled drugs including marijuana.

We are aware of the detrimental effect that drugs have on the education of students who use drugs and that schools are held accountable for the learning that should take place. Therefore, it is very important that those negative effects on learning be eliminated.

One of the big reasons that larger and larger numbers of students are failing in school is the use of drugs and marijuana.

Our School Board strongly encourages you to support stricter laws on possession, sale and use. Further, we would ask for your support laws that will facilitate the arrest and conviction of dealers.

We appreciate your positive attitude and support.

Sincerely,

Carole C. Huntington, President
Board of Education

CCH/elb
069/87

cc: School Board Members
Galena City School District

GALENA SCHOOL DIST

MARCH 7, 1988

REPRESENTATIVE PEARCE:

I FIND YOUR RESPONSE TO MY PGM OF FEBRUARY 23 CONCERNING SB32 DISTURBING. AS WE BOTH KNOW, POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA IS PROHIBITED BY STATUTE LAW IN THE STATE OF ALASKA EXCEPT IN THE PRIVACY OF ONE'S OWN HOME. IF YOUR OVERRIDING CONCERN IS FOR CHILDREN, YOU WILL FIND SOLACE AS I DO IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT STIFF PENALTIES ARE PROVIDED FOR ANYONE CAUGHT CLOSE TO A SCHOOL GROUNDS WITH INTENT TO SELL MARIJUANA. YOUR CLAIM THAT WE HAVE LEGALIZED MARIJUANA IS SPURIOUS AND OBFUSCATED THE REAL POINT.

THE STATE CONSTITUTION WAS WRITTEN BY FREE MEN AND WOMEN FOR FREE MEN AND WOMEN, NOT TO SEND A SIGNAL TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE OR ANYBODY-- ELSE. WHEN IT IS IMPLEMENTED, AS IT WAS IN THE RAVIN DECISION, WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL THAT THE FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION PROVIDED PROTECTIONS FOR PERSONAL FREEDOM AND CIVIL LIBERTIES AND NOT TRY TO SUBVERT THEIR INTENT.

IN MY OPINION, THE MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO SEND CHILDREN IS THAT LIFE IS FULL OF DIFFICULT DECISIONS. THE LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS YOU PROVIDED WITH YOUR LETTER SUGGEST TO ME THAT SOCIETY IS READY AND WILLING TO EDUCATE ITS YOUNG CITIZENS AND HELP THEM LEARN TO MAKE GOOD DECISIONS. EDUCATION IS THE ONLY REAL ANSWER TO THIS PROBLEM. YOU CERTAINLY CAN'T DENY THAT CIGARETTE SMOKING BECAME INCREASINGLY UNPOPULAR AS THE PUBLIC BECAME AWARE OF THE SERIOUS HEALTH HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH ITS USE - ITS NOW "OUT OF VOGUE" TO BE A CIGARETTE SMOKER. I'M AFRAID YOUNG PEOPLE RESPOND TO WHAT IS IN OR OUT OF FASHION FAR MORE THAN THEY RESPOND TO WHAT IS OR IS NOT LEGAL. AS A MATTER OF FACT, ILLEGALITY JUST ADDS FUEL TO THE FIRE. DO YOU REALLY THINK MARIJUANA IS MORE OF A PROBLEM NOW THAN IT WAS IN THE LATE 60'S AND EARLY 70'S?

FINALLY REP. PEARCE, YOUR ASSERTION THAT THE HEALTH HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH CASUAL MARIJUANA USE ARE MORE SEVERE THAN THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF ALCOHOL LEAVE ME UNCONVINCED. I WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING ANY STATISTICS YOU HAVE SUPPORTING THIS CLAIM. I SUSPECT YOUR LITERATURE REVIEW IS BIASED AND NOT VERY THOROUGH. I HAVE BEEN A STUDENT OF MEDICINE AND A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FOR MANY YEARS AND THERE IS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND THAT ALCOHOL IS A FAR MORE SERIOUS DANGER FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND FOR THE SOCIETY.

I AM SIMPLY ONE OF YOUR MANY CONSTITUENTS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH A LARGE ORGANIZATION LIKE THE "IMPRESSIVE" LIST YOU PROVIDED WITH YOUR RESPONSE. I DOUBT ALL THE MEMBERS OF ANY OF THOSE GROUPS SUPPORT THE STAND - A TEACHER OR POLICEMAN WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LOOSE HIS/HER JOB IF THEY ATTEMPTED TO FORM A COMMITTEE IN OPPOSITION. I AM NOT A DRUG USING FANATIC AND I TOO AM DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH THE WELFARE OF OUR CHILDREN - SO MUCH SO THAT I HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO WRITE YOU AND URGE YOU TO RECONSIDER YOUR POSITION AND NOT SUPPORT SB32.

SINCERELY,

B. J. BOND, B.S., M.S., A.S.C.P



ALASKA COUNCIL ON PREVENTION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE, INC.

March 29, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
House of Representatives
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Johnny:

Because of the work we do at the Alaska Council on Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Inc. and our mission I contacted all legislators this session with regard to CSSB 32. Your response was the most soundly based opinion regarding this complex issue.

As you know, my concern is the mixed messages we give our youth. If marijuana is illegal to sell, deliver, or possess in public or autos, etc. how does marijuana legally get into the privacy of the home? What kind of a message do we give our youth about the law? When the Anchorage Assembly heard testimony regarding this problem, many young people came forth sharing how their drug addiction began with the use of marijuana; several spoke of marijuana as their sole addiction.

It is discouraging that marijuana is not classified as a dangerous drug. During the past 14 years, of working in the field of substance abuse, I have seen the devastation of lives due to abuse and addiction. I consider action on this problem an important prevention strategy. Perhaps this bill is not the answer but I will not give up until one is found.

Thank you for your response and for allowing me to share my concerns.

Sincerely,

Bette O'Moor
Executive Director

file

BOM: jr



A United Way Agency

7521 OLD SEWARD HWY., SUITE A ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518 (907) 349-6602

Palmer Police Department

423 SOUTH VALLEY WAY
PALMER, ALASKA 99645

PHONE: (907) 745-4811

JOHN L. McKIBBEN
CHIEF OF POLICE

February 24, 1987

Senator Paul Fisher
Chairman, H & SS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Ak 99811 (Mail Stop 3100)

Dear Senator Fisher,

I urge you to give your full support to the passage of Senate Bill 32, The Recriminalization of Marijuana.

I am aware that you have the power to kill this bill through inaction within your committee, and I ask that you not allow this to happen.

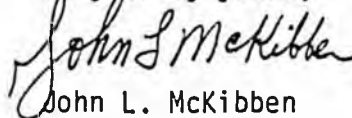
I feel that this bill has more support at the community level this year than it has ever had in the past.

From my personal point of view, I support this bill as a general statement of what our whole attitude should be about drugs, and not as a tool for law enforcement. To be quite honest, our agency was not very active in the arrest and conviction of marijuana users when it was against the law before. I know that if marijuana is recriminalized, my department will not actively pursue violators of this statute, however, I very strongly feel that the statement this law would make is of major importance to the youth of our state. Nobody should want their children to grow up with the idea that using drugs is O.K.

I have been actively discussing this issue with the various citizens groups in this community and the response has been strongly in support of recriminalization.

Thank you for any support you can provide in this matter.

Very truly yours,



John L. McKibben
Chief of Police

JLM/pb

cc: Senator Jay Kerttula
Senator Mike Szymanski
Representative Ron Larson
Representative Curt Menard
Representative Terry Martin
President ACOP Pat Shely

TOGIAK CITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 99
Togiak, Alaska 99678
(907) 493-5820

February 25, 1987

Representative Terr. Martin
Alaska State Legislature
Fourth Floor
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Mr. Martin:

So recriminalization of marijuana is put for Alaska. It seems the private rights of some are more important than the future generation of Alaskans.

well, ok... Then now about if we look at the dope situation from a different approach. In Alaska, to sell alcoholic beverages, you must have a liquor license and in Canada you go to a state liquor store to buy liquor. Since marijuana is a drug, why not at least have it licensed so we can get it out of the hands of dope dealers and criminals.

Here in the village of Togiak, the kids pay \$10.00 for about \$.50 worth of marijuana in one tin, cigarette.

If the city here was selling the crud out of the clinic at the price of \$3.00 (\$1.00 cost, \$1.00 cit. tax, \$1.00 state tax) then the dope business could be taken out of the hands of the criminals and dope dealers who are ripping off all of us.

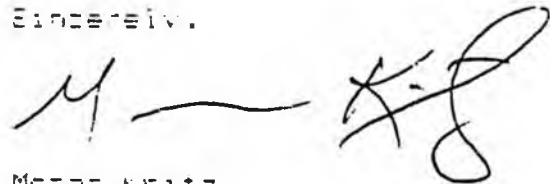
Representative Terry Martin, Page 2

yes, all of us. They pay no taxes because they show no income. This also allows them to sit back on welfare, unemployment assistance, and food stamps so the state is already financing the cocaine business. Also, by charging such high prices for an addictive substance, our local economy is going up in smoke.

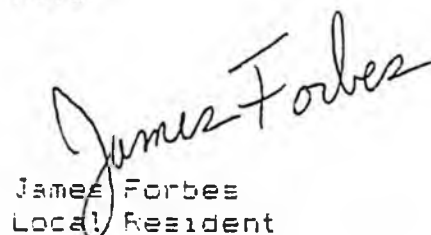
Another point which should be brought up is if the legislature is really concerned about peoples' rights is the quality of the marijuana. I think it should be tested for pesticides and other harmful pollutants. It should also be tested for impurities or more harmful drugs which may be mixed into the marijuana.

It seems to me if your legislature can't make marijuana illegal, the least you can do is make it a controlled substance which is controlled by the state just like alcohol.

Sincerely,



Moses Krutz
Mayor



James Forbes
Local Resident

April 12, 1988

.. Jim Nordlund -

.. Please include the enclosed for
.. tomorrow's HESS committee
.. meeting on SB 32.

Thank you

Janka Kottarov

Rep. Taylor's office.

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: LYNDA ADAMS

TITLE:

ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 7171

CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK

PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99901

BILL NO: SB 32

SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

MESSAGE: TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE YOUTH OF ALASKA IF YOU DON'T PASS SENATE BILL 32 OUT OF THE YOUR COMMITTEE SOON. THE VERY LEAST YOU COULD DO IS TO WAIVE SENATE BILL 32 OUT OF YOUR COMMITTEE NOW AND SEND ON TO JUDICIARY SO IT CAN BE VOTED ON THE FLOOR RIGHT AWAY. PLEASE!

POHID: 08101425

DATE: 03/14/88

TIME: 10:14:25

LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATOR:

ELLIS
KOPONEN
SUND
DONLEY
GRUENBERG
HANLEY
HUDSON
PHILLIPS

FISCHER
JONES

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: DANA LECORNU

TITLE:

ADDRESS: CIPT MOD D, 1300 E. 4TH

CITY: ANCHORAGE

PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99501

BILL NO:

SUBJECT: UNFAIR TRIAL

MESSAGE: THE LEGISLATURE IS PART OF THE CHECK AND BALANCE OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT, WHY ARE THEY CHECKING INTO A COURT THAT ALLOWS AN INNOCENT TO BE CONVICED IN AN UNFAIR TRIAL WHERE THE JUDGE, PROSECUTOR AND PUBLIC DEFENSE ATTORNEY DO SECRETLY CONSPIRE TOGETHER TO CONVICT AN INNOCENT MAN.

POHID: 03094040

DATE: 03/14/88

TIME: 09:40:40

LIONAME: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

ADAMS
BOUCHER
BROWN
COLLINS
DAVIDSON
DONLEY
FRANK
GOLL
GRUSSENDORF
HERMANN
HUDSON
LARSON
MENARD
NAVARRE
PETTYJOHN
POURCHOT
SHULTZ
SUND
ULMER
ZAWACKI

BARNES
BOYER
CATO
COTTEN
DAVIS
ELLIS
FURNACE
GRUENBERG
HANLEY
HOFFMAN
KOPONEN
MARTIN
MILLER
PEARCE
PHILLIPS
RIEGER
SPRINGER
SHACKHAMPEP
WALLIS

ABOOD
BINKLEY
COGHILL
DUNCAN
ELIASON
FAHRENKAMP
FAIKS
FANNING
FISCHER
HALFORD
HENSLEY
JONES
JOSEPHSON
KELLY
KERTTULA
RODEY
STURGULEWSKI
SZYMANSKI
UEHLING
ZHAROFF

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: SUSAN BUTLER
 TITLE:
 ADDRESS: HC01 BOX 6050-D
 CITY: PALMER ZIP: 99645
 PHONE: 745-0988
 BILL NO:
 SUBJECT: UAA BUDGET
 MESSAGE: I SINCERELY URGE YOU TO SUPPORT U OF A BUDGET LINE 7 INCREMENTS
 UPPER DIVISION COURSES AT THE EXTENDED SITES.THE \$200,000 SHOULD BE IN-
 CREASSED TO \$350,000.

POPID: 14133521
 DATE: 03/18/88
 TIME: 13:35:21
 ORNAME: MAT-SU LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

ADAMS	BARNES	ABOOD
BOUCHER	BOYER	BINKLEY
BROWN	CATO	COGHILL
COLLINS	COTTEN	DUNCAN
DAVIDSON	DAVIS	ELIASON
DONLEY	ELLIS	FAHRENKAMP
FRANK	FURNACE	FAIKS
GOLL	GRUENBERG	FANNING
GRUSSENDORF	HANLEY	FISCHER
HERRMANN	HOFFMAN	HALFORD
HUDSON	KOPONEN	HENSLEY
LARSON	MARTIN	JONES
MENARD	MILLER	JOSEPHSON
NAVARRE	PEARCE	KELLY
PETTYJOHN	PHILLIPS	KERTTULA
POURCHOT	RIEGER	RODEY
SHULTZ	SPRINGER	STURGULEWSKI
SUND	SWACKHAMMER	SZYMAWSKI
ULMER	MALLIS	UEHLING
ZAWACKI		ZHAROFF

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: SHARON WILSON
 TITLE:
 ADDRESS: MILE 4 NORTH TONGASS
 CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK ZIP: 99901
 PHONE: N/R-
 BILL NO: 38 32
 SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
 MESSAGE: PLEASE PASS SENATE BILL 32. I STRONGLY URGE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL.

POPID: 08134032
 DATE: 03/18/88
 TIME: 13:40:32
 ORNAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

SUND
 HANLEY
 DONLEY
 ELLIS
 GRUENBERG
 HUDSON
 KOPONEN
 PHILLIPS

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: REBECCA A LONG

TITLE:

ADDRESS: P O BOX 344

CITY: TALKEETNA

PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99676

BILL NO:

SUBJECT: REP GRUSSENDORF'S LETTER

MESSAGE: I AGREE WITH EVERYTHING THE SPEAKER SAYS. FOR TWO YEARS THE SENATE GANG HAS BEEN HANDING HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS IN TAX BREAKS TO THE OIL MOGULS WHILE CUTTING BACK BASIC SERVICES AND RESOURCE PROTECTION OR THE REST OF US. I AM SICK OF IT.

POMID: 14133714

DATE: 03/18/88

TIME: 13:37:14

LIONAME: MAT-SU LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

ADAMS	BARNES	ABOOD
BOUCHER	BOYER	BINKLEY
BROWN	CATO	COGHILL
COLLINS	COTTEN	DUNCAN
DAVIDSON	DAVIS	ELIASON
DONLEY	ELLIS	FAHRENKAMP
FRANK	FURNACE	FAIKS
GOLL	GRUENBERG	FANNING
GRUSSENDORF	HANLEY	FISCHER
HERRMANN	HOFFMAN	HALFORD
HUDSON	KOPONEN	HENSLEY
LARSON	MARTIN	JONES
MENARD	MILLER	JOSEPHSON
NAVARRE	PEARCE	KELLY
PETTYJOHN	PHILLIPS	KERTTULA
POURCHOT	RIEGER	RODEY
SHULTZ	SPRINGER	STURGULEWSKI
SUND	SWACKHAMMER	SZYMANSKI
ULMER	WALLIS	UEHLING
ZAWACKI		ZHAROFF

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: DR. ARTHUR WILSON, JR.

TITLE:

ADDRESS: MILE 4 NORTH TONGASS

CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK

PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99901

BILL NO: SB 32

SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

MESSAGE: PLEASE PASS SENATE BILL 32. THIS BILL SHOULD BE PASSED AS A POSITIVE ACTION--AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG USE.

POMID: 08133007

DATE: 03/18/88

TIME: 13:30:07

LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

HANLEY
SUND
DONLEY
ELLIS
GRUENBERG
HUDSON
KOPONEN
PHILLIPS

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: JEAN SCHULTZ
 TITLE:
 ADDRESS: 407 BUREN
 CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK ZIP: 99901
 PHONE: N/R-
 BILL NO: SB 32
 SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
 MESSAGE: PLEASE PASS SENATE BILL 32.

NAME: HOWARD GATES
 TITLE:
 ADDRESS: P O BOX 875561
 CITY: HASILLA ZIP: 99687
 PHONE: 376-7843

BILL NO:
 SUBJECT: U OF A BUDGET
 MESSAGE: I WOULD URGE YOU TO SUPPORT INCREASING THE U OF A BUDGET LINE 7 TO \$350,000. THIS FUNDING FOR UPPER DIVISION COURSES AT EXTENDED SITES AND A
 STUDENTS WHO DO NOT WANT TO DRIVE TO ANCHORAGE TO FINISH THEIR
 : SEE THAT THIS FUNDING IS INCREASED.

POMID: 08132847
 DATE: 03/18/88
 TIME: 13:28:47
 ORNAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

721
 /88
 :21
 U LIO

OPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

HANLEY
 SUND
 DONLEY
 ELLIS
 GRUENBERG
 HUDSON
 KOPONEN
 PHILLIPS

SENATIVES	REPRESENTATIVES	SENATORS
	BARNES	ABOOD
IER	BOYER	BINKLEY
J	CATO	COGHILL
INS	COTTEN	DUNCAN
JSON	DAVIS	ELIASON
EY	ELLIS	FAHRENKAMP
K	FURNACE	FAIKS
	GRUENBERG	FANNING
SEMDORF	HANLEY	FISCHER
MANN	HOFFMAN	HALFORD
ON	KOPONEN	HENSLEY
ON	MARTIN	JONES
RD	MILLER	JOSEPHSON
RRE	PEARCE	KELLY
YJOHN	PHILLIPS	KERTTULA
CHOT	RIEGER	RODEY
.TZ	SPRINGER	STURGULEWSKI
J	SWACKHAMMER	SZYMANSKI
R	HALLIS	UEHLING
ACKI		ZHAROFF

Handwritten marks and scribbles at the bottom left of the page.

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: KENRIETTA CUSACK
TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 9047
CITY: KETCHIKAN
PHONE: 225-4481
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: AS A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AND PARENTS WE KNOW THE COST IN DOLLARS
AND HUMAN SUFFERING THAT MARIJUANA IS NOW CAUSING. PLEASE MOVE SB32 OUT OF YOUR
COMMITTEE NOW. THE USE OF MARIJUANA AFFECTS FAR MORE PEOPLE THAN
JUST THE USER. ITS NOT AN ISSUE OF RIGHT OF PRIVACY ANYMORE. THANK YOU.

ZIP: 99901

POMID: 08130150
DATE: 03/09/88
TIME: 13:01:50
LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATOR

SUND JONES
ADAMS
GRUSSENDORF
BARNES
GOLL
DOHLEY
ELLIS
GRUENBERG
HANLEY
HUDSON
KOPONEN
PHILLIPS

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: MIKE CUSACK
TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 9047
CITY: KETCHIKAN ZIP: 99901
PHONE: 225-4481
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: AS A HEALTH PROFFESIONAL AND PARENTS WE KNOW THE COST IN DOLLARS AND HUMAN SUFFERING THAT MARIJUANA IS NOW CAUSING. PLEASE MOVE SB32 OUT OF YOUR COMMITTEE NOW. THE USE OF MARIJUANA AFFECTS FAR MORE PEOPLE THAN JUST THE USER. ITS NOT AN ISSUE OF RIGHT OF PRIVACY ANYMORE. THANK YOU.

PGMID: 08135408
DATE: 03/09/88
TIME: 13:54:08
LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATOR

SUND	JONES
ADAMS	
GRUSSENDORF	
BARNES	
GOLL	
DONLEY	
ELLIS	
GRUENBERG	
HANLEY	
HUDSON	
KOPONEN	
PHILLIPS	

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: KATHY BOLLING
TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 5958
CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK
PHONE: N/R-
BILL NO: HB 55
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: I ASK YOU TO SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 55 TO RECRIMINALIZE THE USE OF MARIJUANA IN OUR STATE. I WILL EXPECT MY LEGISLATOR TO SUPPORT THIS, AND KNOW MANY PEOPLE WHO FEEL THE SAME AS I DO ON THIS ISSUE.

ZIP: 99901

POMID: 08164134
DATE: 03/10/88
TIME: 16:41:34
LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATI'IES

ADAMS	BARNES
BOUCHER	BOYER
BROWN	CATO
COLLINS	COTTEN
DAVIDSON	DAVIS
DONLEY	ELLIS
FRANK	FURNACE
GOLL	GRUENBERG
GRUSSENDORF	HANLEY
HERRMANN	HOFFMAN
HUDSON	KOPONEN
LARSON	MARTIN
MENARD	MILLER
NAVARRÉ	PEARCE
PETTYJOHN	PHILLIPS
POURCHOT	RIEGER
SHULTZ	SPRINGER
SUND	SWACKHAMMER
ULMER	WALLIS
ZAWACKI	

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: JUDY SMITH
TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 7151
CITY: KETCHIKAN ZIP: 99901
PHONE: 247-8416
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: THE MISUSE OF DRUGS KILLS MORE OF OUR KIDS THAN ALL OTHER CAUSES COMBINED. MARIJUANA RENDERS THE BRAIN FAR LESS CAPABLE OF LEARNING. THERE PERCUSSIONS ARE FRIGHTENING. I APPEAL TO YOU TO PASS SB32 SO THAT THE SUPREME COURT CAN ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF HEALTH HAZARDS OF MARIJUANA.

POMID: 08140220
DATE: 03/09/88
TIME: 14:02:20
LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

SUND
ADAMS
GRUSSENDORF
HANLEY
GOLL
DONLEY
ELLIS
GRUENBERG
HUDSON
KOPONEN
PHILLIPS

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: FRAN AND SAM YOUNG
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 537 TOWER
CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK ZIP: 99901
PHONE: N/R-
BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS SAY MARIJUANA DAMAGES THE BRAIN. IT MAKES
SMART PEOPLE AVERAGE AND AVERAGE PEOPLE DUMB. AS PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS, WE
BEG YOU TO HELP US MAKE A CLEAR STATEMENT TO THESE CHILDREN--THAT MARIJUANA IS A
DANGEROUS DRUG. MOVE SENATE BILL 32 TO THE RULES COMMITTEE NOW!

POMID: 08142227
DATE: 03/08/88
TIME: 14:22:27
LIONAME: KETCHIKAN LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES SENATOR

SUND JONES
ADAMS
GOLL
GRUSSENDORF
BARNES
HANLEY
DONLEY
ELLIS
GRUENBERG
HUDSON
KOPONEN
PHILLIPS

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: GORDON DALE
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 900 BOUNTY
CITY: ANCHORAGE ZIP: 99515
PHONE: 345-0178
BILL NO: HB 340
SUBJECT: IMMUNITY FOR VOLUNTEER RESCUE GROUPS
MESSAGE: CONSIDER THIS IF YOU WILL. YOU HAVE STRAYED OUT OF THE SKI AREA
BOUNDARIES AND HAVE FALLEN INJURING BOTH LEGS. WOULDN'T CIVIL LIABILITY BE
LAST THING YOU WOULD WANT THE LOCAL VOLUNTARY SKI PATROL TO BE CONCERNED
AS A 17 YEAR SKI PATROL VETERAN, I HAVE BEEN THERE.

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: BERT ROMO

TITLE:

ADDRESS: 320 BAWDEN

CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK

PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99901

BILL NO: SB 32

SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

MESSAGE: WE BADLY NEED AN INJECTION OF COMMON SENSE. PLEASE SUPPORT CHANGES
IN THE LEGALITY OF MARIJUANA, A VERY DAMAGING DRUG. SEE RECENT MEDICAL RESEARCH
AND DO NOT EQUATE MARIJUANA USE WITH DRIVING OFFENSES. DON'T ANTICIPATE THE
COURTS GIVING US A LAW.

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: DUANE ANDERSON

TITLE:

ADDRESS: 4407 N. DOGWOOD

CITY: KENAI

PHONE: 283-9495

ZIP: 99611

BILL NO: SB 330

SUBJECT: ROSES INSTEAD OF THORNS

MESSAGE: RE: SB330-FROM THE KIDS, PARENTS, EDUCATORS AND SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
OUR STATE---THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: LYNDA ADAMS
TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 7171
CITY: KETCHIKAN, AK
PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99901

BILL NO: SB 32
SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: PLEASE WAIVE THIS BILL OUT OF YOUR COMMITTEE AND ON TO THE JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE SO THAT THE BILL MAY GET TO THE FLOOR SOON FOR A VOTE. WE NEED THIS
PASSED NOW. THE STREET VALUE OF 4 OUNCES OF MARIJUANA IS \$1,800. TO
REQUIRE A \$25.00 MAIL-IN BAIL IS A JOKE!

NAME: MIKE MCCORMACK
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 2830 CONCORD LANE
CITY: ANCHORAGE
PHONE: 243-7443

ZIP: 99502

BILL NO:
SUBJECT: MARICULTURE
MESSAGE: I SUPPORT UPLANDS MARICULTURE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: 1. NEW
SOURCE OF JOBS FOR ALASKANS. 2. DISCHARGE FROM FISH PENS TREATED BEFORE
RETURN TO WATER MINIMIZING DANGER OF DISEASE TO WILD STOCKS. 3. THIS IS
A NEW INDUSTRY WITH NEW MARKETS THAT DOES NOT COMPETE WITH EXISTING ALASKAN
FISHERMEN AS THE FRESH FISH MARKET IS ALREADY DOMINATED BY FOREIGN MARICULTURE
SALMON.

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PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: JOSH MOORE, PRESIDENT
TITLE: MINER'S ADVOCACY COUNCIL
ADDRESS: PO BOX 82524
CITY: FAIRBANKS
PHONE: 479-4686

ZIP: 99708

BILL NO:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF SABOTAGE
MESSAGE: ALASKA'S ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY IS SINKING INTO THE ABYSS OF
FASCISM WHEN SABOTAGE IS ACCEPTABLE. ALASKA'S PLACER MINERS WILL CONTINUE
TO PURSUE TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND THE ALASKAN WAY OF LIFE IN A LEGAL AND MORALLY
CORRECT MANNER, THROUGH THE COURTS, THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS, AND IN
COOPERATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL

PMID: 07122416

DATE: 02/16/88

TIME: 12:24:16

LIQNAME: FAIRBANKS LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENT

ADAMS	BARNES
BOUCHER	BOYER
BROWN	CATO
COLLINS	COTTEN
DAVIDSON	DAVIS
DONLEY	ELLIS
FRANK	FURNACE
GOLL	GRUENBERG
GRUSSENDORF	HANLEY
HERRMANN	HOFFMAN
HUDSON	KOPONEN
LARSON	MARTIN
MEHARD	MILLER
NAVARRE	PEARCE
PETTYJOHN	PHILLIPS
POURCHOT	RIEGER
SHULTZ	SPRINGER
SURID	SWACKHAMMI
ULMER	WALLIS
ZAWACKI	

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

NAME: BILL AND DANITA TRUDEAU
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 2275 5TH AVE.
CITY: KETCHIKAN
PHONE: N/R-

ZIP: 99901

BILL NO: SB 32

SUBJECT: PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
MESSAGE: PLEASE SUPPORT SENATE BILL 32 AS IT COMES TO THE SENATE FLOOR.
PLEASE HELP IT MOVE TO THE HOUSE FOR PASSAGE TOO. FOUR OUNCES IS FAR
BEYOND A PERSONAL CHOICE ISSUE.