News, Announcements and Information from

NAACP Passes Resolution Calling For An End To The 'War On Drugs'

the Eugene, Oregon affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

Los Angeles, CA, USA: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) passed a resolution this week calling for an end to America's so-called 'war' on drugs.

The resolution, enacted Tuesday during the organization's 102th annual convention in Los Angeles, alternative calls for to incarceration for non-violent offenders and drug acknowledges that existing policies disproportionately sanction minorities.

"Studies show that all racial groups abuse drugs at similar rates, but the numbers also show that African Americans, Hispanics and other people of color are stopped, searched, arrested, charged, convicted, and sent to prison for drugrelated charges at a much rate," stated Alice higher Huffman, President of the California State Conference of the NAACP. "This dual system of drug law enforcement that serves to keep African-Americans and other minorities under lock and key and in

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DEA Responds To Nine-Year-Old Mariiuana **Rescheduling Petition:** Maintains That Cannabis **Lacks Medical Utility**

Washington, DC, USA: The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) on Friday formally denied a nine-year-old petition calling on the agency to initiate hearings to reassess the present classification of marijuana as a schedule I controlled substance without any 'accepted medical use in treatment.'

A coalition of public interest organizations, including **NORML** and California NORML, filed a comprehensiv

RX Medical Can

e rescheduling petition with the DEA on October 9, 2002. This past May, the coalition filed suit in the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to compel the Obama administration to respond to their petition to reclassify marijuana under federal law.

Philadelphia: City Saves Millions By Ceasing Criminal Marijuana Prosecutions

Philadelphia, PA, USA: The city of Philadelphia saved an estimated \$2 million last year by ceasing criminal prosecutions for minor marijuana offenses, according to comments made last week by District Attorney Seth Williams to the Philadelphia Daily News.

April 2010, Williams In publicly announced а citywide policy change whereby law enforcement officials would issue а summons rather than arrest criminally and prosecute minor marijuana offenders. Philadelphia NORML had actively lobbied for the policy change after finding that the punished city minor marijuana violations more severely than manv neighboring counties. Α February 2010 Philly NORML report also found significant racial disparities in the city's marijuana prosecutions --

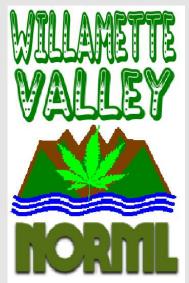
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THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY NORML NEWS REPORT *



The Willamette Valley NORML News Report is an all-volunteer, not-forprofit project to record and broadcast news, announcements and information about cannabis law reform.

The W-V-NORML News Report is produced by the Eugene, OREGON chapter of NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

----- Making contact ------

You can Snail Mail: The W-V-NORML Newsletter team by writing to -

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or phoning: 541-517-0957

Check 'em out on-line! visit:

WillametteValleyNORML.org

A Voice for Responsible Marijuana Smokers

Since its founding in 1970, NORML has provided a voice in the public policy debate for those Americans who oppose marijuana prohibition and favor an end to the practice of arresting marijuana smokers. A nonprofit public-interest advocacy group, NORML represents the interests of the tens of millions of Americans who smoke marijuana responsibly. During the 1970s, NORML led the successful efforts to decriminalize minor marijuana offenses in 11 states and significantly lower marijuana penalties in all others.

The oldest and largest marijuana legalization organization in the country, NORML maintains a professional staff in Washington, DC, and a network of volunteer state and local <u>NORML Chapters</u> across the country. Check 'em out, and find the one nearest you!

The NORML mission is to move public opinion sufficiently to achieve the repeal of marijuana prohibition so that the responsible use of cannabis by adults is no longer subject to penalty.

When marijuana is enjoyed responsibly, subjecting users to harsh criminal and civil penalties provides no public benefit and causes terrible injustices. For reasons of public safety, public health, economics and justice, the prohibition laws should be repealed to the extent that they criminalize responsible marijuana use. **NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws – is located at** 1600 K Street, NW, Suite 501, Washington, DC 20006-2832. Phone (202) 483-5500, Fax: (202) 483-0057 or visit: **www.norml.org**

Willamette Valley NORML is your local network in the fight to reform state and federal marijuana laws, whether by voter initiative or through the elected legislatures. W-V-NORML will serve as an informational resource to media on marijuana-related stories, providing a perspective to offset the <u>anti-marijuana propaganda</u> from the government; lobby state and federal legislators in support of reform legislation; publish a regular <u>newsletter</u>; host an informative web site; and serve as the umbrella group for a regional network of citizen-activists committed to ending marijuana prohibition and legalizing marijuana.

Along with their parent organization, W-V-NORML will sponsor public advertising campaigns to better educate the public about marijuana and alternatives to current marijuana policy; provide legal assistance and support to victims of the current laws; and promote relevant research.

W-V-NORML supports the right of adults to use marijuana responsibly, whether for <u>medical</u> or <u>personal</u> purposes. All penalties, both civil and criminal, should be eliminated for responsible use. W-V-NORML also advocates the legalization of <u>hemp</u> (non-psychoactive marijuana) for industrial use. **To find out more, like how you can help, call, write or visit our website. You'll be glad you did!**

* W-V-NORML * P.O. Box 10957, EUGENE, OREGON, 97440 *

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<continued 1="" from="" naacp,="" page=""> prison must be exposed and eradicated." Last fall, the California NAACP expressed its "<u>unconditional support</u>" for Proposition 19: The Regulate, Control & Tax Cannabis Initiative, which sought to legalize and</continued>	A subsequent petition was filed by former NORML Director Jon Gettman in 1995, but was rejected by the DEA in 2001. For more information, please contact Allen St.
regulate marijuana in a manner similar to alcohol.	Pierre, NORML Executive Director, or Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500.
Once ratified by the board of directors in October, the resolution will encourage the more than 1200 active NAACP units across the country to organize campaigns advocating for changes in state and federal drug policies.	
Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization.	The new enforcement policy <u>took effect</u> in June 2010.
The full title of the NAACP's resolution is "A Call to End the War on Drugs, Allocate Funding to Investigate Substance Abuse Treatment, Education, and Opportunities in Communities of Color for A Better Tomorrow."	Approximately 4,160 defendants were diverted under the program, called the SAM (Small Amount of Marijuana) program, during its first year, the <i>Philadelphia Daily News</i> <u>reported</u> . Defendants in the program pay a \$200 fine and must attend a three- hour drug awareness class. Those who complete the
<pre><continued 1="" dea,="" from="" page=""> DEA administrator <u>Michele Leonhart</u> posted a <u>letter</u> denying the petition</continued></pre>	class and pay the fine do not have to appear in criminal court and will not have a criminal record.
in the July 8, 2011 edition of the Federal Register. Leonhart stated that cannabis has "a high potential for abuse; no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States; [and] lacks accepted safety for use under medical supervision."	Previously, minor (under 30 grams) marijuana possession offenders in Philadelphia were criminally prosecuted with a misdemeanor offense punishable by up to 30 days probation or jail time, a \$500 fine, and a criminal record.
She added: "[T]here are no adequate and well- controlled studies proving (marijuana's) efficacy; the drug is not accepted by qualified experts At this time, the known risks of marijuana use have not been shown to be outweighed by specific benefits in well-controlled clinical trials that scientifically evaluate safety and efficacy."	"There's no reason to waste tax dollars on harsh prohibition enforcement," said Chris Goldstein, media coordinator for Philly NORML and publisher of <u>FreedomIsGreen.com</u> . "Removing the criminal penalties for marijuana possession helps to pay for firefighters, ambulances, and other necessary services. It's that simple."
Responding to the DEA's rejection, NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano said: "The DEA is predictably maintaining its decades-old 'flat Earth' position in regards to the otherwise well- acknowledged therapeutic properties of cannabis. It	For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483- 5500, or Chris Goldstein, Philly NORML Media Coordinator at: <u>media@phillynorml.org</u> .
is a shame to see an administration that <u>pledged to</u> <u>be guided by 'scientific integrity'</u> engage in such blatant politicization."	Washington: Tacoma Voters To
Coalition advocates will be <u>appealing</u> the decision in federal court.	Decide On Marijuana 'Deprioritization' Measure
NORML had previously filed a similar rescheduling petition with the DEA in 1972, but was not granted a federal hearing on the issue until 1986. In 1988, DEA Administrative Law Judge Francis Young <u>ruled</u>	Tacoma, WA, USA: Tacoma voters <u>will decide</u> this November on a municipal initiative that seeks to make marijuana law enforcement the city's "lowest priority."
that marijuana did not meet the legal criteria of a Schedule I prohibited drug and should be reclassified. Then-DEA Administrator John Lawn rejected Young's determination, a decision the D.C.	Proponents of the measure submitted over 4,000 valid signatures from registered municipal voters to qualify the measure for the 2011 ballot.
Court of Appeals eventually affirmed in 1994.	<continued next="" on="" page=""></continued>

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<continued from previous page> The proposal (Tacoma Initiative 1) seeks to make cannabis possession related offenses "the lowest enforcement priority of the City of Tacoma."

The initiative is modeled after a similar measure that was <u>enacted by Seattle voters</u> in 2003. A <u>review</u> of that measure in 2008 reported that implementation of the ordinance was associated with a reduction in local law enforcement costs and "no evident increase in marijuana use among youth and young adults."

Proponents in Portland, Maine have <u>also turned in</u> <u>signatures</u> to place a similar measure on the November city ballot, but those signatures have yet to be officially certified by city officials.

<u>Previous</u> 'deprioritization' measures have been approved by voters nationwide, including voters in <u>Oakland</u>, California and <u>Denver</u>, Colorado.

Proponents in Miami Beach have also <u>turned in</u> <u>signatures</u> for a citywide ordinance that seeks to reduce penalties for marijuana possession to a fine only. For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500.

Indiana: State To Study Sentencing Reforms For Marijuana

Indianapolis, IN, USA: A special General Assembly committee is slated to <u>hear testimony</u> this summer regarding whether state lawmakers should significantly <u>liberalize criminal penalties</u> pertaining to the possession of marijuana for medicinal or recreational purposes.

Members of the interim study committee on Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy will review the issue and make policy recommendations. The committee's <u>first</u> <u>scheduled meeting</u> on the issue is slated for late-July.

To date, <u>sixteen states</u> and the District of Columbia have passed laws allowing for the limited use of medical marijuana under state law. <u>Fourteen states</u> have adopted separate laws reducing the personal possession of small amounts of cannabis for nonmedical purposes to a fine-only infraction or misdemeanor.

Under present Indiana <u>law</u>, minor marijuana possession is classified as a criminal misdemeanor offense punishable by up to one year in jail, a \$5,000 fine, and criminal record.

NORML previously <u>testified</u> in February in favor of establishing the marijuana study committee.

For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director or Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500, or visit Indiana NORML on Facebook here: http://www.facebook.com/IndianaNORML.

Connecticut: Marijuana Infraction Measure Signed Into Law

Hartford, CT, USA: Democrat Gov. Dan Malloy <u>signed legislation</u> into law on Thursday, June 30 'decriminalizing' the possession of small, personal use amounts of marijuana by adults. The new law, <u>Senate Bill 1014</u>, <u>took effect</u> on Friday, July 1.

Senate Bill 1014 reduces the penalties for the adult possession of up to one-half ounce of marijuana from a criminal misdemeanor (formerly punishable by one year in jail and a \$1,000 fine) to a noncriminal infraction, punishable by a \$150 fine, no arrest or jail time, and no criminal record. The new law similarly reduces penalties for the possession of marijuana paraphernalia.

Connecticut's new law is similar to the existing 'decriminalization' laws in <u>California</u>, <u>Colorado</u>, <u>Maine</u>, <u>Massachusetts</u>, <u>Nebraska</u>, <u>New York</u>, and <u>Oregon</u> where private, non-medical possession of marijuana is treated as a civil, non-criminal offense.Five additional states -- <u>Minnesota</u>, <u>Mississippi</u>, <u>Nevada</u>, <u>North Carolina</u>, and <u>Ohio</u> -- treat marijuana possession offenses as a fine-only misdemeanor offense. <u>Alaska</u> law imposes no criminal or civil penalty for the private possession of small amounts of marijuana by adults.

Lawmakers in <u>California</u> and <u>Kentucky</u> previously enacted laws this year reducing penalties for marijuana possession. For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500, or Erik Williams of Connecticut NORML at (860) 805-3243 or via email at: <u>ewilliams@campaignswon.com</u>.

Long-Term Marijuana Use Not Associated With Deficits In Cognitive Performance, Study Says

"[A]fter controlling for education and other characteristics, there were no significant differences associated with cannabis consumption"

Melbourne, Australia: The consumption of cannabis, even long-term, <u>poses few</u> adverse effects on cognitive performance, according to clinical trial <u>data</u> to be published in the scientific journal *Addiction.* <**continued on next page**>

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<continued from previous page> Investigators at the
University of Melbourne and the Australian National



University, Center for Mental Health Research assessed the impact of cannabis use various measures of on memory and intelligence in over 2,000 self-identified marijuana consumers and non-users over an eight-year period. Among cannabis consumers, subjects were

grouped into the following categories: 'heavy' (once a week or more) users, 'light' users, 'former heavy' users, 'former light' users, and 'always former' – a category that consisted of respondents who had ceased using marijuana prior to their entry into the study.

Researchers reported: "Only with respect to the immediate recall measure was there evidence of an improved performance associated with sustained abstinence from cannabis, with outcomes similar to those who had never used cannabis at the end point. On the remaining cognitive measures, after controlling for education and other characteristics, there were no significant differences associated with cannabis consumption."

They concluded, "Therefore, the adverse impacts of cannabis use on cognitive functions either appear to be related to pre-existing factors or are reversible in this community cohort even after potentially extended periods of use."

Separate studies have previously reported that longterm marijuana use is <u>not associated with residual</u> <u>deficits</u> in neurocognitive function. Specifically, a 2001 <u>study</u> published in the journal *Archives of General Psychiatry* found that chronic cannabis consumers who abstained from the drug for one week "showed virtually no significant differences from control subjects (those who had smoked marijuana less than 50 times in their lives) on a battery of 10 neuropsychological tests. ... Former heavy users, who had consumed little or no cannabis in the three months before testing, [also] showed no significant differences from control subjects on any of these tests on any of the testing days."

Additionally, studies have also implied that cannabis <u>may be neuroprotective</u> against alcohol-induced cognitive deficits. A 2009 <u>study</u> by investigators at the University of California at San Diego reported that binge drinkers who also used cannabis experienced significantly less white matter damage to the brain as compared to subjects who consumed alcohol alone.

For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: <u>paul@norml.org</u>. Full text of the study, "Cannabis use and cognitive function: eight year trajectory in a young adult cohort," is available online from the journal Addiction.

Stimulation Of Marijuana Receptor Reduces Cocaine Consumption, Study Says

Baltimore, MD, USA: The stimulation of a specific endocannabinoid receptor by a synthetic cannabinoid agonist significantly <u>reduces the desire</u> <u>for cocaine</u>, according to preclinical <u>data</u> published online in the scientific journal *Nature Neuroscience*.

Investigators at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Intramural Research Program reported that activation of the CB2 receptor via the administration of a selective cannabinoid agonist reduced intravenous cocaine administration in mice by up to 60 percent.

Researchers concluded, "These findings suggest that brain CB2 receptors modulate cocaine's rewarding and locomotor-stimulating effects, likely by a dopamine-dependent mechanism."

<u>Separate studies</u> have previously documented that THC is associated with <u>reduced sensitivity</u> to opiate dependence and that moderate cannabis use may <u>improve retention</u> to naltrexone treatment among opiate-dependent subjects. For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: <u>paul@norml.org</u>. Full text of the study, "Brain cannabinoid CB2 receptors modulate cocaine's actions in mice," appears online in the journal Nature Neuroscience.

New Jersey Medical Marijuana Law Finally To Be Implemented



Trenton, NJ, USA: Governor Chris Christie announced at a press conference on July 19

he is now ready to reverse his suspension of the program and allow six state-licensed medical marijuana dispensaries to move ahead with their operations.

After discussing the various potential conflicts between state and federal laws Christie told the AP,

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<continued from previous page> "I have instructed the Commissioner of Health to move forward as expeditiously as possible to implement the [program]."

"We welcome Governor Christie's new commitment to getting the medical marijuana program up and running," said <u>New Jersey NORML</u> spokesperson Chris Goldstein. "This wait has been long and painful for patients. If he is sincere, then the next step is for the Christie administration to finalize some workable regulations."

Medical marijuana advocates have been arguing for the need to revise the medical marijuana regulations previously issued by the administration. "The physician registry is unnecessary and will disgualify numerous patients. Plus the cap on THC level is arbitrary and home delivery is not being permitted. These are all roadblocks to patient access that we hope the Christie Administration will reconsider," according to Ken Wolski, a registered nurse and executive director of the Coalition for Medical Marijuana New Jersey (CMMNJ). For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500 or New Jersev NORML's Chris Goldstein at: chris@norml.org

Pot Compounds Offer 'Promising' Treatment Option For Neurodegenerative Disorders, Study Says

Madrid, Spain: Cannabis' active components show promise in halting the progression of certain neurodegerative disorders and should be evaluated in clinical trials, according to <u>a review</u> published online in the *British Journal of Pharmacology*.

An international team of researchers from Spain and Israel assessed the potential of cannabinoids to moderate Huntington's disease (HD) and Parkinson's disease (PD), two degenerative brain disorders that are mostly unresponsive to conventional treatment therapies.

"Cannabinoids are promising medicines to slow down disease progression in neurodegenerative disorders including Parkinson's disease (PD) and Huntington's disease (HD), two of the most important disorders affecting the basal ganglia," authors reported.

Researchers noted that both THC and cannabidiol (CBD) have been demonstrated to "protect nigral or striatal neurons in experimental models of both disorders." Investigators added that the separate "activation of CB(2) [cannabinoid] receptors leads to a slower progression of neurodegeneration in both

disorders." Authors concluded, "[T]he evidence reported so far supports that those cannabinoids having antioxidant properties and/or capability to activate CB(2) receptors may represent promising therapeutic agents in HD and PD, thus deserving a prompt clinical evaluation."

In June, a team of investigators from Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom reported in the *Journal of Neuroscience Research* that the administration of THC and CBD-rich botanical extracts <u>delays the</u> <u>progress of Huntington's disease</u> in laboratory animals.

Separate studies have also indicated the potential of cannabinoids to moderate additional neurodegenerative diseases, including Lou Gehrig's <u>disease</u> and <u>Alzheimer's</u>. For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: <u>paul@norml.org</u>. Full text of the study, "Prospects for cannabinoid therapies in basal ganglia disorders," appears in the British Journal of Pharmacology.

Montana: Judge Halts Imposition Of New Restrictions On Medical Marijuana Doctors And Providers

Helena, MT, USA: A District Judge on Thursday <u>issued a temporary injunction</u> barring the enforcement of several new, restrictive provisions in the state's medical marijuana law.

In May, Democrat Gov. Brian Schweitzer <u>allowed</u> Senate Bill 423 to become law without his signature. The new law, which legislators enacted with the <u>intent</u> of significantly reducing the existing number of state authorized patients, took effect on July 1.

However, several of the more restrictive provisions in the law will not go into effect. Specifically, Helena District Judge James Reynolds <u>enjoined</u> the requirement that advising physicians be reported to the state Board of Examiners if they recommend cannabis to more than 25 patients per year. Other restrictions limited marijuana providers to distributing to a maximum of three patients, allowing for unannounced searches of providers, and barring them from receiving anything of value for their product were also struck down.

John Masterson of <u>Montana NORML</u> said of the ruling, "This is a victory for all Montanans, regardless of your position on marijuana policy. It

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<continued from previous page> means that ideologue legislators should think twice before overturning the will of the people with unconstitutional and capricious new legislation."

State medical marijuana advocates are also <u>moving</u> <u>forward</u> with a referendum to allow voters to decide in 2012 whether *any* provisions of SB 423 should remain law. In June, the Secretary of State's office approved the language of the proposed petition. Advocates have until September the gather the necessary number of signatures from registered voters. Doing so will block the entirety of the law from taking effect pending a vote of the people in 2012.

Montana NORML will be hosting a fundraising concert, Marijuana Aid 2011, to help offset legal and campaign costs on July 23, 2011. More information about this event is available online at: http://www.marijuanaaid.org/. For more information, please visit Montana NORML online at: http://www.montananorml.org.

White House Report Acknowledges Few Scientists Permitted To Assess Cannabis Use In Humans -- Only 14 researchers approved to study 'smoked marijuana on human subjects'

Washington, DC, USA: Only fourteen researchers in the United States are legally permitted to conduct research assessing the effect of inhaled cannabis in human subjects, according to data included in the White House's 2011 National Drug Control Strategy, released last week.

In a section of the report entitled 'Medical Marijuana,' the administration states, "In the United States, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has approved 109 researchers to perform bona fide research with marijuana, marijuana extracts, and marijuana derivatives such as cannabidiol and cannabinol." However, it later clarifies that of these 109 scientists, only fourteen "are approved to conduct research with smoked marijuana on human subjects."

Among those scientists licensed to work with either cannabis or its constituents -- primarily in animal models -- most are involved in research to assess the drug's "abuse potential, physical/psychological effects, [and] adverse effects," the report stated.

In 2010, a spokesperson for the US National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) -- the federal

agency that must approve any US clinical trial involving marijuana -- told the New York Times: "[O]ur focus is primarily on the negative consequences of marijuana use. We generally do not fund research focused on the potential beneficial medical effects of marijuana."

Earlier this month, DEA Administrator Michele Leonhart denied a nine-year-old petition seeking to initiate hearings regarding the federal classification of cannabis as a schedule I substance, stating in part, "[T]here are no adequate and well-controlled studies proving efficacy."

Commenting on the report, NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano said: "Only in an environment of absolute criminal prohibition would this or any administration purport to the public that it is acceptable to allow no more than fourteen researchers to clinically study a substance consumed by tens of millions of Americans for therapeutic or recreational purposes. This acknowledgement illustrates once again the administration's supposed commitment to 'scientific integrity' does not apply to cannabis."

For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500 or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director at: paul@norml.org.



DOJ Revises Administration's Position Regarding State Medical Marijuana Laws

Washington, DC, USA: The United States Department of

Justice issued a memorandum to US Attorneys last week revising the administration's position regarding the use of federal resources in states that have enacted laws allowing for the use of distribution of medical cannabis to authorized patients. It is the <u>second such memo</u> issued by the Obama administration.

The DOJ memo seeks to clarify the administration's stance after US Attorneys this spring sent letters to several state lawmakers <u>threatening to prosecute</u> medical marijuana providers, or in some cases state employees who licensed such providers, even in instances where such conduct was in strict

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News From your local affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

<continued from DOJ REVISES ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION REGARDING STATE MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAWS, previous page> compliance with state law. According to the latest memorandum, dated June 29 and signed by Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole, the warnings issued in the previous US Attorney letters are "entirely consistent" with DOJ policy.

The memo states, "[I]t is likely not an efficient use of federal resources to focus enforcement efforts on individuals with cancer or other serious illnesses who use marijuana as part of a recommended treatment regimen consistent with applicable state law." By contrast, the DOJ notes that "Persons who are in the business of cultivating, selling, or distributing marijuana, and those who knowingly facilitate such activities, are in violation of the Controlled Substances Act, regardless of state law."

To date, three states -- Colorado, New Mexico, and Maine -- have allowed for the operation of statelicensed medical marijuana producers and providers. Five additional states -- Arizona, Delaware, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont -- as well as the District of Columbia have similar laws, but have either suspended or not yet implemented their medical marijuana distribution programs.

Governors Jan Brewer (Republican, Arizona), Chris Christie (Republican, New Jersey), and Lincoln Chafee (Independent, Rhode Island) -- each of whom had elected to halt their state's medical marijuana dispensary programs in recent months -have yet to issue public statements in response to the DOJ memo.

As a candidate, President Obama had pledged that he would "not ... be using Justice Department resources to try to circumvent state laws on this (the medical marijuana) issue." For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500, or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the Cole memorandum available online is at: http://www.freedomisgreen.com/full-textdepartment-of-justice-memo-on-medicalmariiuana/.

* <u>NOTE</u>! The Willamette Valley NORML Member meeting happens every 2nd Sat. of the month and will be at The Voter Power Office. For more info on meeting visit: <u>http://w-v-</u> norml.org/Members/meeting.html



The Willamette Valley NORML Public meeting happens (most!) every 4th Sat. of the month

(Excepting Holidays - Nov., Dec. - when it takes place 3rd Sat.!)

and will also be at The Voter Power Office at 687 River Av, Eugene, Oregon * For more info on meeting call: 541.517-0957 –or- visit: http://w-v-norml.org/meeting.html

Toasted h'ERb'S Kitchen, 1210 Willamette St, Eugene *It's One Hell of A Joint!* call: 541.343-2845 -or- visit:



http://toastedherbs.com/ - and see!

* THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY (W-V) NORML NEWS REPORT > * P.O. Box 10957, EUGENE, OREGON, 97440 * PH: (541) 517-0957 * EMAIL: newsroom@willamettevalleynorml.org * or VISIT: www.WillametteValleyNORML.org