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Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2016 9:11 AM

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Cc: Joan Lenes; Kate Webb

Subject: FW: S241

Good morning-

Several weeks ago, I appealed to House Committee members and other leaders to resist the strong lobby for legalization of marijuana. I have been pleased to see that since sending this appeal, and despite the clear interests of those who would legalize/commercialize this drug at a time when we are on our knees with related drug problems in Vermont, increasing numbers of House members have listened to the voices of those more concerned with public safety than legal commercialization. I realize this may be a challenging day for you all and I only want to encourage you to hold on to your beliefs about the best interests of all Vermonters on this subject and not be swayed by the unprecedented maneuvering and continual orchestration of exceptions and legislative creativity exercised by those who would ignore the doctors, psychologists, and law enforcement voices against legislation to legalize pot at this time.

There is an old saying that "when you want something really bad, you get it really bad." Please don't create "really bad" legislation and please don't forget that decriminalization of even two plants without giving law enforcement the necessary array of laws and tools required to keep our roadways safe would be a mistake. Its taken decades to provide law enforcement the tools they have now to battle DUI and they are still not effective in keeping offenders and repeat offenders off the road.

Please stay strong. Ask yourself again; "what could possibly justify the sense of urgency and extraordinary forms this legislation has taken in such a short period of time." The answer to this question should be all you need to vote no to any attempts at legalization.

Thanks you for listening

Jack Ewell

Shelburne VT

From: Jack Ewell

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:01 AM

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Subject: S241

Dear House Judiciary & Government Operations Committee Members-

Attached is a brief article from Monday's Boston Globe, reporting that the Chair of the Marijuana Legalization Study Committee for the MA legislature, democrat Jason Lewis, has withdrawn his support for legalized marijuana legislation.

As in Vermont, MA legislation was moving far too quickly through the legislative process. The Harvard educated father of two provides 5 simple reasons for not supporting legislation at this time. I have highlighted his reasoning and would ask you to read and consider his logic. For Senator Lewis, responsibility and duty to the public health and safety of citizens in his state far outweighs any need to proceed with fast track legislation until serious issues of safety and health, especially that of vulnerable youth can be addressed.

I hope you will give these 5 points consideration and reach the same conclusion on behalf of Vermonters that Senator Lewis reached on behalf of his constituents. This is not the right time for this legislation and in the interest of public health and safety the details must be fully developed before, not after, legislation is passed. As we have seen with health care legislation, there can be serious problems with complex public health policy legislation when we worry about the details later, and it's the public that suffers when we rush for no good reason.

Thank you

Jack Ewell

Shelburne, VT