

Denise: Please post. Thank you. Maida

From: Dave Silberman <dave.silberman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 8:39 PM
To: Maida Townsend
Cc: Janssen Willhoit
Subject: H.819 Odor Nuisance

Dear Madam Chair Townsend,

I read with interest the new article on Digger about Rep. Willhoit's marijuana odor nuisance bill (<https://vtdigger.org/2018/03/12/pot-odor-bill-doesnt-survive-crossover-sponsor-still-hopeful/>) -- which included details of demonstrably false claims made by one of the witnesses you heard from.



Pot odor bill doesn't survive crossover, but sponsor still hopeful - VTDigger

vtdigger.org

Police chiefs testified in support of the bill, which was introduced months ahead of the partial legalization of recreational marijuana in July.

Chief Whipple was reported to have testified that breathing in marijuana smoke exhaled by a neighbor will have "immediate" and "mind altering" effects. This is simply not true.

In two peer-reviewed studies published in [2014](#) and [2015](#), scientist at Johns Hopkins University attempted to discern the impact of second-hand smoke on cognitive abilities. They conducted an experiment where a regular marijuana user and a person who has never used marijuana sat next to each other for an hour, while the user smoked ten (10) joints (that's is a lot!). Half the sessions

were conducted in a sealed chamber with no ventilation, and the other was conducted with normal ventilation.

None of the subjects exposed to marijuana smoke in a normally ventilated room showed any signs of intoxication, and their blood tests all came back negative for THC. A minority of the subjects exposed to marijuana smoke in a sealed chamber showed signs of "mild" intoxication, with only one subject had THC detected in their blood.

While it's disheartening that Chief Whipple, after actively lobbying against legalization for three consecutive years now, continues to ignore the science of cannabis, I'm deeply concerned that legislators are getting false information from "trusted" sources.

The concept of "contact high" is a myth. We should not base our laws on known falsehoods. I hope you will share this information with your committee.

With best regards,
Dave

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