

**From:** Emily Beaudin <[ebeaudin.eb@gmail.com](mailto:ebeaudin.eb@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:28 PM

**To:** Maxine Grad

**Subject:** Be Smart on Crime, Support H. 170 to Completely Decriminalize Marijuana

I'm writing to urge your support for H. 170, which seeks to amend marijuana penalties specific to the private possession or personal use quantities of marijuana by adults.

Presently, the possession of marijuana in amounts above one ounce but less than two ounces is classified as a criminal misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months in jail. Growing any amount of marijuana is similarly punishable by up to six months in jail and a criminal record.

Passage of H. 170 eliminates criminal penalties for these behaviors. Such a change will save taxpayers money and allow police and the courts to re-prioritize their resources toward addressing more serious crimes.

This change is supported by the majority of Vermont residents, over half of which believe that marijuana use by adults ought to be legal.

Minor marijuana possession offenders, many of them young people, should not be saddled with a criminal record and the lifelong penalties and stigma associated with it.

The time has finally come for Republicans and Democrats to come together for the people of Vermont.

Please support H. 170.

Thank you.

Emily Beaudin  
Duxbury, VT