

hb0217
favorable
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Delegates of House Judiciary,
Since the permissive effort toward legalization in my state, Maryland and particularly the Baltimore region has seen vast changes due to use of marijuana products. Increased crime. Increased robbery and carjackings. The stench of marijuana from early on the roads to very late. Large stores we all shop in reeking after only 1 or 2 individuals exhale inside a WholeFoods or a Marshall's. In public, this stench serves as indicators of the products where vaping and smoking marijuana blunts occurs. Unlike decades ago, this stench is often near children now. The widespread use of marijuana places children inside vehicles and on the road at even higher risk. Please vote favorably on Delegate Bob Long's HB0217, which an extremely reasonable bill to help keep children safer.

The health hazards which children experience would be of particular concern for most responsible adults. That is, if there were spot-a-pots at an event – say the annual Baltimore City marathon – which were not being used as bathrooms but rather clouded with marijuana smoke, no sane adult would allow children to sit inside such an enclosure. No sane adult would allow children to sit in a 10 x 10 foot tent (see White paper study attached with this testimony), in which marijuana was being smoked. And yet, each day in Maryland, children are locked into vehicle cabins and forced to inhale marijuana. In addition to the short- and long-term physical, moral, mental and social harm being imposed on children – on MERE CHILDREN - in vehicles in which marijuana is being smoked, this exposure to today's extremely high-potency THC products means that children are being forced into a moving vehicle, weighing tons with an operator who is not managing her/his life in a responsible, safe, child-centric manner.

Annapolis Democrats know that the truth is out there showing increased harm to children. These "lawmakers" wish to inflict addiction on our children before adults even know what current experts are highlighting as the harm toward children.

Chairman Harris Issues Statement In Response To Study Showing Recreational Marijuana Users Commonly Struggle With Cannabis Use Disorder

Only a few months ago, Doctor and Congressman Andy Harris M.D., Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies highlighted the cult-like efforts Marylanders have toward marijuana use & intoxication.

The House Appropriations committee released the following statement in response to the Journal of the American Medical Association Network Open (JAMA) study showing 21% of recreational cannabis users struggle with cannabis use disorder (CUD) after cannabis became legal.

According to the National Health Institute, clinicians characterize cannabis use disorder as a problematic use of cannabis. Common symptoms include:

1. A persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to cut down or control cannabis use.
2. A great deal of time is spent in activities necessary to obtain cannabis, use cannabis, or recover from its effects.
3. Craving, or a strong desire or urge to use cannabis.

According to the study, recreational cannabis users experienced a more severe form of CUD.

<https://harris.house.gov/media/press-releases/chairman-harris-issues-statement-response-study-showing-recreational-marijuana> August 31, 2023

What Rep. Andy Harris, M.D. didn't point out was that these people exposed to this disorder are prone to marijuana-driven psychosis, yet may be driving children around in a marijuana-fogged vehicle, harming those children. This excellent video tape recently covers a great many issues surrounding marijuana use.

<https://youtu.be/Kii94hG9jSQ&t=1010>

This psychosis is increasing are instances of drug-induced murder, suicide, violence, increased autism, higher lung damage, and intolerance/allergic reactions to weed smoke.

Delegate Long's bill does not solve the wider array of problems which have been unleashed due to permissive attitudes relating to THE NUMBER ONE DRUG CAUSING ADDICTION IN AMERICA TODAY. His bill will, however, help save lives, reduce harm to children and keep marijuana from becoming the Number #1 killer on America's roads. Marijuana is currently the #2 killer on America's roads.

Your attention to the increasing and mounting problems of drug use are not solved by racial virtue-signaling prompted by Speaker Adrienne Jones' racial hysteria because there are people in your district who canNOT seem to do without marijuana. In most of mankind's history, we called that attribute "addiction"...we call that attribute something that should **end**. The fact that marijuana is always among the top 3 characteristics defining black people according to Speaker Adrienne Jones' "black agenda" should impel your Committee to get a handle on this. (And let her know that weed or smoking weed isn't a positive, it's a negative.)

humbly

~vince