

Chairperson Murphy Committee Members;

My Name is Collette Guyott-Hempel. I live in Brooklyn Park Minnesota and want to express my opposition to Legalizing Marijuana in Minnesota. I have a B.A. Degree from the University of Minnesota with a Major in Psychology and Minor in Child Psychology. I was a Special Education Paraprofessional in one of the five largest school districts in Minnesota for 25 years and another 10 years in other social service providing positions.

I want to explain why I oppose the legalization.

*The mental health components paranoia is common long term effect as well as increase permanent schizophrenia 4 times as general genetic levels. Psychotic episodes at emergency rooms increase.

*The increase in car accidents and permanent injuries 50 % of all accidents have drugs involved and the majority are not alcohol but THC and Marijuana now.

*Domestic Abuse cases increase. So now what-elder abuse and child abuse as well as wife/girlfriend abuse do we really need to risk injuries to vulnerable people.

*Homelessness Increase. This will cause more children to live on the streets not less. Employment and food security impact more than the user.

*Addiction 10% of all adults over 26 that use marijuana. Addiction for those under 26 when starting use have a 16.7% addiction rate. Who will pay for the addiction treatment and recovery help.

*Crime/theft/gun use all are linked to marijuana and other drug use. The Black Market will sell to minors and robberies of stores will occur. Many suburbs and outstate areas have also seen an increase in crime.

^PCAs, Bus drivers, school staff, city staff driving under the influence will cause accidents. Taxpayers will be liable. Four children in Cottonwood area were killed by a marijuana high driver. Let us not forget their names. Hunter and Jesse Javens, Emilee Olson and Reed Stevens as well as ten others hospitalized from the

same accident. So who pays for injuries and hospitalizations. There is no definitive field test at this point or even blood test

^Several medications negatively interact with THC and Marijuana. How will this impact, blood donations and organ transplants.

^What about city parks and recreation Centers, and how close these stores are together. Osseo Party Bus incident took five Police agencies to get under control 150 people smoking pot and drinking in the park. CCX media reported the marijuana smell was so bad that the residents across the street could smell the marijuana in their homes had strangers in their yards and police got 5-6 guns off the street.

^What about the state fair, The Winter Carnival, The Minneapolis Aquatennial, Brooklyn Park's Tator Days or any other community event by the Government, church or even county fairs. Great smoking marijuana around hay bales and someone's pride and joy animals in barns.

^Two ounces of marijuana anywhere in public is enough for 56 joints or literally enough to make 14-19 people high based on three joints, the five pounds in your home is enough for one person to get high every day for two years. Does the ability to give to others mean they can have a trunk full of two oz bags to hand out or sell or give away one at a time.

^Now consider small towns with colleges and their small town police departments and dependency on the sheriffs department. Consider Morris a town of 5000 that has a University of Minnesota Campus that is disbanding the police department due to lack of police applicants. No one wants the job of dealing with drugs, car wrecks, domestic abuse, mental health, and crime due to drugs and disrespect from politicians and the attitude of defunding.

If you are passing this then please require:

- 1) Zero tolerance of possession and use in all parks state, regional, county or city parks and school properties/athletic fields or events like the Excel etc at tournament time..

2) Increasing school calendars by 10 days to provide 30 hours of drug/crime prevention every year and 30 hours to deal with the mental health issues and community building in schools. Fully funded by the drug selling license fund or do taxpayers have to payout.

3) Do not fund any business grants for selling this drug or THC as it is still considered a schedule 1 Drug with severe consequences for users, family members and law abiding citizens.

4) If Minnesota cannot stop taxing Social Security, increase homestead deductions, pay all adults including disabled individuals/dependents at a minimum of \$2000 a piece to tax filing U.S. Citizens, pay for the housing programs to pay for rent reduction, then honestly how do you justify spending millions to support the sales and creating another state agency for an illicit drug. Senior Citizens and working poor should not have to pay for drug use that is harmful when they already struggle on fixed incomes.

5) I encourage all of you to read visit and read the attached article links that include supporting data for my opinions.

Thank you for reading this letter and doing a full investigation of the harm before voting on this bill.

Collette Guyott-Hempel

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Reference list of Research against Marijuana legalization.

International Academy on the **Science** and Impact of Cannabis and its research library.

<https://iasic.1.org>.

<https://iasic1.org/library/>

MINNESOTANS AGAINST MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

<https://www.minnesotansagainstmarijuanalegalization.org/>

U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory: Marijuana Use and the Developing Brain

<https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/reports-and-publications/addiction-and-substance-misuse/advisory-on-marijuana-use-and-developing-brain/index.html>

The Surgeon General's Warning on Marijuana

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00001143.htm>

Surgeon General Sounds Alarm On Risk Of Marijuana Addiction And Harm

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/08/29/755423290/surgeon-general-sounds-alarm-on-risk-of-marijuana-addiction-and-harm>