

From: [Chuck Weismiller](#)
To: [Debbie Bartuccio](#)
Subject: Written statement IN FAVOR of HB2330
Date: Monday, January 23, 2012 10:53:07 AM

My name is Charles Weismiller and I support HB2330. I hope to speak in person at the hearing but that depends on me getting tomorrow off. I will call if I can make it in person. The following is my written statement.

Hello, and I would like to open by thanking the committee for holding this important hearing. My name is Charles Weismiller and I am the acting director for Free State NORML, the Kansas state chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. I come before you today representing a 58% majority of Kansans according to a 2009 poll that support medical cannabis. I am part of that majority. I support the science that has led to 16 states and Washington DC legalizing medical marijuana. The science that shows marijuana assists in the treatment of many ailments from the well known like AIDS and glaucoma, but to lesser known uses for insomnia and depression. I support the science that shows cannabis has anti tumorous properties and may assist in cancer treatment.

Consider the 2005 study performed by Raphael Mechoulam, professor emeritus of medicinal chemistry at Hebrew University in Jerusalem that shows the preventitive effects of cannabinoids against Alzheimer's disease as reported by ScienceDaily.com . To show the preventive effects of cannabinoids on Alzheimer's disease, researchers at the Cajal Institute and Complutense University in Madrid, led by Maria de Ceballos, conducted studies using human brain tissue, as well as experiments with rats. The study appears in the February 23, 2005, issue of The Journal of Neuroscience.

Cannabis has also been shown to have anti tumor properties in some cancer cases. In early March of 2011, The National Institute of Cancer admitted via their website, "In the practice of integrative oncology, the health care provider may recommend medicinal cannabis, not only for symptom management, but also for its possible direct antitumor effect." However, due to outside pressure, this reference was scrubbed. In 2000, Italian investigators at the University of Milan, Department of Pharmacology, Chemotherapy and Toxicology, reported that the non-psychoactive cannabinoid, cannabidiol (CBD), inhibited the growth of various human glioma cell lines in vivo and in vitro in a dose dependent manner.

Cannabis has lower risks associated with its use compared to pharmaceutical alternatives. Pharmaceuticals often have undesirable side effects, such as users of the synthetic marijuana derivative 'Marinol' reported feelings of being 'too high'. Medical cannabis in its natural form has less damaging side effects and is easy to dose as needed. One must also factor in the fact that there has never been a single death attributed to cannabis overdose, while pharmaceuticals for many of the ailments that marijuana could cure, kill thousands every year.

There is also the potential economic benefit to our state. While we are wasting money in an unwinnable war on a medicinal plant, other states such as Colorado and California are setting framework for taxing this new industry. Many people I talk to would not choose a black market route and would gladly pay excise taxes in order to medicate within the law.

The future is upon us, and the people have spoken. The winds of change are blowing and more people see the potential of a medical cannabis market. Outlandish claims of addiction rates and such are easily refuted when researched. Often those making the claims in the first place refer not to true studies and science

but outdated propaganda, myth, and 'junk science'.

I hope the honorable members of our Health and Human Services Committee are like the majority of their constituents and support science versus myth.

Thank you for your time.