

From: Mike Aiello [mpaiello@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 9:37 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Please support SB 175 SD1
Attachments: support-SB-175-SD1.txt

LATE

To: Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

From:
HC 2 Box 9513
Keaau, HI 96749
808-352-6451

RE: SB 175 SD1 Relating to Health
Hearing: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m., Room 211

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Hawaii Senate Bill 175 SD 1 is a decent and humane bill that would transfer jurisdiction of Hawaii's medical marijuana program from the department of public safety (DPS) to the department of health (DOH).

Eleven years ago, Hawaii became the first state to officially recognize that Cannabis is a medicine. Since then, the program has been grudgingly administered by the Narcotics Enforcement Division.

The NED's opinion of medical marijuana was revealed just recently in a pamphlet touting the dangers of the various marijuana bills currently before the state legislature. A copy of the pamphlet can be seen here: <http://copssaylegalize.blogspot.com/2011/02/police-campaign-hard-against-marijuana.html> This police flyer distributed earlier this month in Kauai and Maui shows the logo of the Narcotics Enforcement Division plus all four Hawaii police departments. The flyer states in bold letters that "Marijuana Is Not Medicine", along with other false or misleading statements. Yet Hawaii state law says that marijuana IS a medicine! How is it that enforcement agencies can get away with making official statements that contradict the law of the land?

The purpose of the police and NED are to protect the people and administer the laws of the state. Yet in this case we see that marijuana enforcement is so important to them that they must engage in propaganda and fear-mongering.

Why? Because for the NED and other enforcement agencies, marijuana is their turf and their job security.

And that's no way to run a medical program.

Please support SB 175 SD1. Medicines should be the responsibility of doctors, not policemen.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:26 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: greensaharan@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB175 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

LATE

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB175

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: rik rick
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: greensaharan@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Aloha,

In these modern times where the internet can expose the ills of any wrong doings, it really makes no (dollars) and sense for a government to continue to support a law structure that reveals the governmental departments poor judgement. With the world's (public-eye) easy access always watching through the internet, revealing the TRUTH of the situation and/or the wrong slant toward a situation will only put that government's judgement in poor light in the mind of the public reader. Along with a host of other reactions, this exposes the States ills to a global forum damaging the Governing bodies image world over. Locally, this will lead to less people moving to this State understanding that living under these archaic policies would be uncomfortable.

This equals less \$\$\$ for the State, which in these cash strapped times does not seem like a wise posture. Scientific research tells us human beings do not like "change";, though progress is defined by the very word. A prudent government will agree working against progress is not gainful for them.

Further, by not passing sb175, you are allowing the DPS to continue to impose predisposed judgement force on legal patients producing, accessing or using their legal medicine. (The People of Hawaii voted this law in) Choosing not to pass sb175 will inevitably drain States financial coffers for years bogging down the courts, creating a far larger monetary burden than merely switching control to the DPH. It is easy to substantiate this (un) natural progression. Just read the news from any of the Great States where numerous lawsuits have been and continue to be filed.

The Dept. of Public Safety is supposed to be just that. But based on all the press I have read, this dept. of the State is not living up to their SWORN PROMISE. Though we all would like to think they do and will, they are selective with whom they choose to protect and/or persecute. Articles expose the DPS working against the very laws voted in by The People of the Great State of Hawaii; In public office, there is no excuse for personal persecution just because a public servant wants to impose their personal judgement/opinion, or is not willing to concede to upholding the written law, just because they personally believe or desire the law should be different.

Police are sworn in as public servants. Think about that term for a second. Now think about how the police are handing out these "no on sb175" pamphlets (which is their personal opinion, albeit the police depts overall opinion too). But opinion is not

allowed to be payed for by tax payers money. Least not in a fair world. Site the older ACLU case.

Further, If a cancer or other sick patient has to live under this type of persecution stress, how will they ever heal or at least have a little peace of mind in their dying days.

Unfair policies will eventually remove those public servants that were once voted in. If you do not have compassion, at least be politically smart. approve sb175. Food for thought.
Ma halo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 5:30 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: eott@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB175 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

LATE

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB175

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Erik Ott
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: eott@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

I support this initiative. The bottom line is Marijuana is not dangerous but rather has benefits so any program should be run by the dept. of health. It is also obvious the dept of public safety is not equipped to handle this program as it take months to get a renewal card.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 4:33 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: andreatischler@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB175 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

LATE

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB175

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrea Tischler
Organization: Americans for Safe Access, Big Island Chapter
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: andreatischler@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

From: Andrea Tischler
Co-Chair Americans for Safe Access
Big Island Chapter

RE: SB 175 SD1 Relating to Health
Hearing: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m., Room 211

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Americans for Safe Access are writing to strongly support moving the oversight of the medical cannabis program to the Department of Health. This program is a health not a law enforcement matter. When the state passed the medical cannabis program in 2000 it was the Department of Narcotics Enforcement that had the say in who administered the program. This was a mistake from the beginning.

During the past ten years the program has been not only inefficiently run by NED but there have been some serious breaches of confidentiality that this department has violated. In 2008 the NED released all the names addresses, the location of cannabis plants and other private information to a Hilo newspaper reporter. This was only followed by an apology and a promise that it would not happen again.

Additionally, NED takes up to six months to process licensing requests leaving patients worrying that they do not have proper documentation certifying that they are legitimate patients if questioned by law enforcement.

It is the general feeling of patients that NED does not support the medical cannabis program and do all they can to undermine the program. A very good example of this is that the former chief of NED attends community meetings where he has presented power point presentations showing photos of doctors who recommend cannabis and speaks unfavorably about patient's legitimate right to medical cannabis.

Americans for Safe Access, Big Island Chapter strongly supports passage of this bill that needs to be passed during this legislative session. Please pass SB 175. Mahalo.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 7:40 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: brownpunabud@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB175 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

LATE

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB175

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Roger Brown
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: brownpunabud@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/1/2011

Comments:

"I am writing in strong support of SB 175 SD1, a bill which transfers the medical marijuana program to the Department of Health."

This program/dept. should have never been with 'Public Safety' to begin with. This is strictly a health matter. Truly Public Safety has no need being attached to this dept. whatsoever.

It's time to have medical cannabis controlled by Dept. of Health, and Public Safety, should deal exactly with that, ...public safety!

It's time local law enforcement stop all the 'BS'. Prohibition does not work!!!! All these bills need to deal with medical cannabis as a remedy, not as a poison!

mahalo,

Roger Brown