



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

Marijuana Alert - June 3, 2021



[HB 3447](#) to reduce penalty on ALL Drugs could still be called for a vote in the Senate

House Bill 3447 would reclassify smaller amounts of drug possession, including heroin, ecstasy, fentanyl and cocaine, from a low-level felony to a misdemeanor. It would also reclassify some low-level drug dealing offenses as a Class 4 felony, from a Class 3 felony.

HB 3447 passed narrowly out of the House, by a 61-49 vote, with just one vote more than needed. The Senate did not take up the bill for a full vote. However, SB 347 could still be taken up for a vote if lawmakers return to session later this summer to address energy legislation. [Read](#)

Related: Large drug bust in Springfield

Springfield Police caught Lorenzo Moore during a traffic stop. Searches of his vehicle and home revealed approximately 468 grams of ecstasy pills, 35 grams of cannabis, \$1,612 cash, a digital scale, ammunition, and a Taurus .22 caliber handgun. [Read](#)

Pritzker will sign HB 1443, DOUBLING the number of marijuana dispensaries [Read](#)

Related: HB 1443 tries to fix marijuana social equity [Read](#)

Il Marijuana Sales Increasing

Last month, the state's 110 dispensaries sold more than 2.5 million recreational weed products. [Read more](#)

Pot interests want on-site consumption, tours, events

The prospect of allowing on-site cannabis consumption at businesses prompted spirited debates among both state lawmakers and aldermen. In the end, the state law that legalized recreational weed let localities decide whether to allow dispensaries and tobacco shops to set up consumption spaces, offering an exemption to the stringent Smoke Free Illinois Act that banned indoor

smoking at public places.

At least two such lounges have earned local approval downstate but neither has opened. And in Chicago, the City Council still hasn't set local rules. [Read](#)

NOTE: [HB 144](#) would legalize cannabis clubs, tours, and events where marijuana can be consumed. Yesterday, Rep. Ford filed [HB 4097](#) to add 30 more craft grow operations.

Editorial: Ethics Rules not strong enough for lawmakers tempted by riches

In May 2019, state Rep. Kelly Cassidy, D-Chicago, cheered approval of legalized recreational marijuana in Illinois, a policy she worked on for years before a governor friendly to legalization, Gov. J.B. Pritzker, got elected and helped speed up passage. Three months later in August, **reporters learned** Cassidy's wife, Candace Gingrich, sister of Newt Gingrich, had been **hired** as vice president and head of business development for a leading cannabis company, Revolution Enterprises, in Florida. Pritzker also **has relatives** invested in the cannabis industry.

Cassidy, for one, has continued to vote on cannabis-related legislation despite [calls for her to abstain](#), at a minimum. [Read](#)

Amazon backs legislation of marijuana – will stop screening for marijuana [Read](#)

For Immediate Action

1. **Contact your State Senator** in his/her district office to share your concerns about decreasing penalties on ALL drugs. Ask for a NO Vote on HB 3447.
 1. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
 2. **Forward to 10 others.**

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action (tax deductible)



www.ilcaaap.org
1132 W Jefferson
Springfield, IL 60702

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