



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

Marijuana Alert - March 24, 2021



Call your Representative - Vote NO on HB 3085 and HB 3447
HB 3085 removes all criminal penalties for possession of **any amount of marijuana** and automatically expunges any criminal record for someone convicted of a similar offense.

HB 3447 reduces the penalty for possession of **ALL drugs** from a felony to a misdemeanor for possession of **40 Oxycodone, 5 Ecstasy pills, 40 LSD tablets, less than 3 grams of Heroin, Fentanyl, Meth, Ketamine, less than 4 grams of Morphine, Pentazocine, less than 5 grams of Cocaine, and ANY AMOUNT of other substances.** [Read more](#)

Pot smokers won't get vaccine priority

Under Illinois' vaccination Phase 1B+ — which took effect on Feb. 25 but hasn't been implemented locally — [smokers are among those prioritized for vaccine shots](#). However, Jordan Abudayyeh, a spokeswoman for Gov. J.B. Pritzker, said that phase doesn't include pot smokers because the state is following guidance put forth by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. While Pritzker was instrumental in leading Illinois' push to fully legalize marijuana, **cannabis is still prohibited on the federal level.** [Read more](#)

Biden White House Sandbags Staffers for Pot Use

Dozens of young White House staffers have been suspended, asked to resign, or placed in a remote work program due to past marijuana use, frustrating staffers who were pleased by initial indications from the Biden administration that recreational use of cannabis would not be immediately disqualifying for would-be personnel, according to three people familiar with the situation. . [Read more](#)

Related: Five people are no longer employed at the White House, while additional staffers are working remotely. In many of the cases involving staffers who are no longer employed, additional security factors were in play, including for some hard drug use, the official said.

Some of the country's biggest cannabis companies are

based in Chicago. [Read](#)

Prevalence of driving under the influence of cannabis in the U.S

Christopher P. Salas-Wright and colleagues analyzed data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health using a sample of adults interviewed between 2016 and 2018. They find that 4.5 percent of US adults nationwide report they drove under the influence of marijuana, ranging from 3 percent in Texas to 8.4 percent in Oregon.

But the percentages increase among frequent and daily users: **57 percent of daily users and 63.8 percent of those with a cannabis use disorder drove under the influence of the drug.** The latter also were more likely to be under the influence of other drugs, to take part in illegal behavior, and to suffer from mental distress. [Read From National Families in Action's The Marijuana Report](#)

Marijuana and Violence

Parents Opposed to Pot have compiled a listing of weed users who committed or attempted mass violence. [Check it out](#)

For Immediate Action

1. Contact your [State Representative](#) and ask him/her to Vote NO on **HB 3085** to expunge ALL marijuana criminal records and **HB 3447** to lower the penalty for possession of ALL DRUGS.
2. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to CALL and PRAY.
3. **Forward to 10 others.**

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