

Reps. Stallworth, Hummel, McConico, Hunter, Reeves, Cheeks, Hardman, Stahl, Hager, Newell, Bisbee, Sheen, Vander Veen, Voorhees, Moolenaar and Hoogendyk offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 226.**

A resolution to express opposition to efforts to circumvent the federal drug approval process for the consideration of medical uses for marijuana.

Whereas, The Michigan Legislature supports the goal of safe and drug-free communities; and

Whereas, Substantial scientific evidence shows that smoked marijuana is harmful and offers no medical benefit to suffering patients; and

Whereas, The Michigan Legislature strongly denounces any attempt to exploit the suffering of sick people by deceptive media campaigns; and

Whereas, Medical policy should be set for the state of Michigan by Michigan lawmakers working in conjunction with federal and state officials and not by judges, celebrity spokespeople, or public relations efforts; and

Whereas, The National Cancer Institute has found that inhaling marijuana smoke for any purpose is a health hazard, because it contains over 400 potential carcinogens and delivers up to five times the amount of tar and carbon monoxide to the body as cigarette tobacco; and

Whereas, Studies by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases reveal that HIV-positive marijuana smokers progress to full-blown AIDS twice as quickly as nonsmokers and have an increased incidence of bacterial pneumonia; and

Whereas, There are safe and effective medicines, including chemical derivatives of the beneficial components of marijuana, that can help control and lessen symptoms of persistent nausea, vomiting, wasting syndrome, or loss of appetite from AIDS, chemotherapy, or radiation treatment, as well as medications available for multiple sclerosis, glaucoma, and other medical conditions; and

Whereas, Statistics on drug use document that when teen perception of risk decreases, due to mixed messages sent by adults, teen use of marijuana increases; and

Whereas, Marijuana is a gateway drug, as illustrated by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, which found that teenagers who smoke marijuana are 85 times more likely to use cocaine than those who do not; and

Whereas, The following medical organizations are opposed to making smoked marijuana available for medical use:

American Medical Association  
American Cancer Society  
National Multiple Sclerosis Association  
National Eye Institute  
National Cancer Institute  
National Institute on Dental Research  
National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke

; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we express our opposition to any efforts to circumvent the federal drug approval process for the consideration of medical uses for marijuana; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the scientific community to continue its efforts to discover and test safe and effective medicines for people who are seriously ill, including potential medicines containing synthesized components of marijuana, including Marinol and Sativex; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.