

With your annual membership contribution of \$25 or more, you will receive MPP's newsletter, *Marijuana Policy Report*.

If you donate \$40 or more — or if you join our monthly donor program at a level of \$5 or more — you will also receive your choice of gift. See www.mpp.org/membershipgifts for more information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Enclosed is my one-time donation of:

\$5,000 \$1,000 \$250 \$100

\$40 \$25 \$ _____

My contribution needs to be tax-deductible.

Sign me up for MPP's e-mail alerts!

To donate via credit card, please visit
www.mpp.org/donate.

Donations to MPP, the lobbying branch of the organization, are **not** tax-deductible. In addition, we are required by federal law to tell you that any donations you make to MPP may be used for political purposes, such as supporting or opposing candidates for federal office. Donations to MPP Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, **are** tax-deductible.



Join the Marijuana Policy Project



**Marijuana
Policy Project**
P.O. Box 77492 • Capitol Hill
Washington D.C. 20013
www.mpp.org

Marijuana Policy Project

MPP is the largest marijuana policy reform organization in the United States. Since 1995, MPP has worked to remove criminal penalties for marijuana use, with a particular emphasis on making marijuana medically available to seriously ill people who have the approval of their physicians. MPP also seeks to regulate marijuana similarly to alcohol in the U.S.

MPP HAS:

- More than 27,000 dues-paying members;
- More than 100,000 e-mail subscribers;
- An annual operating budget of \$6 million;
- A separate \$400,000 grants program;
- A central office in Washington, D.C., and satellite offices in Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and San Francisco; and
- Lobbyists on retainer in eight state capitals.

MPP'S CURRENT PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- **Passing medical marijuana bills in Illinois, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and New York** through each state's legislature.
- **Passing a medical marijuana ballot initiative in Arizona** in 2010.
- **Passing marijuana decriminalization bills in Vermont and New Hampshire** through each state's legislature.
- **Increasing congressional support for medical marijuana.** MPP is lobbying the U.S. House of Representatives to pass an amendment to de-fund the DEA's raids on medical marijuana patients and providers.
- **Fighting the White House drug czar's** deceptive anti-marijuana TV ads and pursuing state and federal complaints against his illegal use of tax money to campaign against marijuana-related bills and initiatives.

- **Monitoring all marijuana-related bills** in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Congress, and sending regular e-mail alerts to members and supporters. MPP's 52 legislative Web pages make it easy for visitors to contact their elected officials via e-mail and fax.

THE PROBLEM IS WORSE THAN YOU THINK

Marijuana is the largest cash crop in the U.S., with retail sales that exceed that of corn and all vegetables combined. Making criminals out of millions of marijuana growers, distributors, and consumers has been disastrous policy.

Plus, a 2007 report estimated that prohibition costs \$41.8 billion per year by adding law enforcement costs and depriving governments of the revenue that could be gained by taxing marijuana sales.

Nearly 100 million adults in the United States have tried marijuana at least once, and 15 million use it at least monthly. Despite marijuana's widespread use, marijuana users are being arrested at an alarming rate. In 2007, nearly 873,000 Americans were arrested on marijuana charges — an all-time high in the country's history. And 89% of those were for possession, not manufacture or distribution. *That's one arrest every 36 seconds.*

Seventy-two percent of American adults believe that marijuana users should not be jailed — and a whopping 80% support legal access to medical marijuana for seriously ill patients. It's time to end marijuana prohibition.

MPP's Major Accomplishments

- **Hundreds of federal marijuana prisoners were set free early** because MPP and other organizations successfully petitioned the U.S. Sentencing Commission to change federal marijuana sentencing policies.

“They [MPP] have an unbelievably strong lobbying group.”

—Maryland Senate President Thomas V. “Mike” Miller in the *Baltimore Sun* on March 25, 2003

- **Medical marijuana patients and caregivers no longer fear arrest in Rhode Island, Hawaii, and Vermont** because MPP successfully drafted and gained passage of medical marijuana laws through these states’ legislatures.
- **Medical marijuana patients in Michigan and Montana are protected** because the states’ voters overwhelmingly passed MPP’s medical marijuana initiatives.

- **Small-time marijuana possession in Massachusetts is punishable just by a \$100 fine** because the state’s voters passed MPP’s decriminalization initiative.
- **Medical marijuana patients in Maryland are no longer subject to imprisonment** because MPP persuaded the Republican governor to sign its medical marijuana bill.
- **Two states are getting close to ending marijuana prohibition entirely**, as MPP’s ballot initiatives to tax and regulate marijuana like alcohol twice garnered the all-time biggest votes in the history of the country — 44% in both Alaska and Nevada.
- **Approximately 1.5 million Californians live in municipalities where adult marijuana offenses are the lowest priority** for local law enforcement because MPP’s grants program provided almost all of the funding to pass local ordinances through four ballot initiatives in Oakland, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Santa Monica, and through the city councils of West Hollywood and San Francisco.
- **The National Academy of Sciences recognizes marijuana’s medical value** due in large part to MPP’s efforts to provide patient and physician

perspectives to the Institute of Medicine, which issued its landmark report favorable for medical marijuana.

- **It’s harder for the federal government to seize private property for marijuana offenses** because MPP generated enough grassroots lobbying pressure to help pass an asset forfeiture bill through Congress, which was signed into law by President Clinton.

“Die-hard advocates representing various causes trail the candidates wherever they go, especially in New Hampshire. None has been more persistent than the members of the Granite Staters for Medical Marijuana [MPP’s campaign committee].”

— *National Journal*, writing about the 2008 presidential primary race on December 3, 2007

- **The federal government is spending less money on deceitful marijuana ads** because MPP helped to convince Congress to reduce the White House drug czar’s budget by 66% in recent years. MPP also influenced Congress to enact a new law prohibiting the use of these ads to support or oppose legislation or ballot initiatives.
- **MPP has debated White House officials and other prohibitionists** on national TV and radio and on the pages of almost every newspaper in the country. MPP’s accomplishments and projects have been featured on the cover of *Time* magazine; in articles in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, the Associated Press, and Reuters; and in appearances on National Public Radio; NBC’s “The Today Show”; CNN’s “American Morning”; “Crossfire”; “Headline News,” and “Lou Dobbs Tonight”; FOX News’ “The O’Reilly Factor”; CNBC’s “On the Money”; PBS’s “NewsHour with Jim Lehrer”; and Comedy Central’s “The Colbert Report.”

MPP’s Bruce Mirken weighs in on President Obama’s pick for White House drug czar on “The Rachel Maddow Show” on MSNBC.



MPP’s Aaron Smith testifies before the California state Assembly in support of a non-assistance bill.



MPP’s Aaron Houston discusses marijuana policy on Comedy Central’s “The Colbert Report.”



Katie Couric interviews MPP’s Rob Kampia about the Institute of Medicine’s landmark report on medical marijuana on NBC’s “Today Show.”

