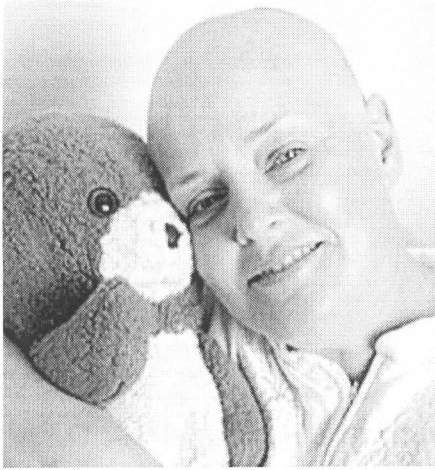


2-16-10  
Diana Gejns



*"Thank you for guiding me through this experience-it would have been very different if I had done it on my own." - Robert S.*

These CANCER  
and AIDS patients  
have suffered  
enough.....



WOULD YOU DENY THEM THEIR RIGHT TO CHOOSE MEDICINE THAT WOULD EASE THEIR SUFFERING AND PAIN?? WOULD YOU DENY THEM ACCESSIBILITY TO THAT MEDICINE?? NONE OF US ARE LEAVING THIS EARTH ALIVE—PLEASE CONSIDER THE CHOICES YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES MAY NEED TO MAKE ONE DAY!

Advocates for Disability Rights

#35

Feb 16, 2010

Dear Councilmembers,

First of all, I thank those of you who have sanely and logically deliberated the issues surrounding the medical marijuana collectives.

Mayor Foster's and City Attorney Shannon's manipulative postponement of the medical marijuana coop issue is nothing less than an insult to you and your better judgment. Coupled with bringing in prejudiced outsiders and fear mongering, it's a thinly-veiled effort to sway your vote to the detriment of your sick and disabled constituents.

DA Cooley's vendetta of banning and closing down all medical marijuana collectives in Los Angeles County has been well documented. His attitude of "to hell with and too bad for the sick and disabled" who use this medicine speaks volumes of his malice for legitimate patients.

The main issue at hand is whether to require the growing of marijuana in Long Beach. Most of the smaller collectives cannot afford to rent large warehouse facilities in order to grow the amounts they need for their patients. It would also serve to drive up the costs for patients who are already in dire need. You are inviting those with large amounts of \$\$\$ (cartels, etc) to establish themselves--just the opposite of what those with Reefer Madness say will happen with their doomsday predictions.

If you are concerned that it would come from outside the country, then require it to be grown within California or at least come from a California resident member. As a budget-impaired City with citizens being robbed, raped and gunned down on a daily basis, we cannot afford to pay our cops to watch the "grass" grow.

**My other concerns regarding this ordinance are:**

Weekly or monthly inventories should suffice.

Inappropriate actions by a regular patient member of the coop cannot be ensured.

The maximum number of members of a coop/collective exempt from this ordinance should be no less than ten.

The distance of buffer should go from the school property line to the door of the collective, not the entire shopping center.

A patient must have access to at least two-three coops to ensure their access to the appropriate medicine for their illness/disability.

The Edible Medical Marijuana definition needs to be corrected per City Attorney Memo of Feb 9, 2010.

Let's stop this "Reefer Madness" and illogical prejudice, take the baseless stigma out of this herbal medicine, display some compassion for your fellow man, craft a reasonable ordinance, and move on to more important matters.

Diana Lejins  
Advocates for Disability Rights

POB 14446  
LB, CA 90853-4446