

Why Are the “Yes on Prop. 19” People Telling Everyone to Just Ignore All the Problems with 19 and Vote Yes Anyway?

Maybe it's because they're afraid that if you take the time to really find out what Prop. 19 says and actually means, you won't want to vote yes. Really.

What they say: Prop. 19 won't affect medical marijuana patients.

FACT: Prop. 19 is specifically worded so as to remove medical marijuana patients' existing rights to cultivate as many plants as they need to treat their particular ailments and their rights to share and distribute medication collectively. Under Prop. 19, patients will be able to possess and consume more than non-patients, but they will be limited, like non-patients, to growing whatever can be grown in a square that's 5 feet on each side -- about the space occupied by a school desk & chair. Patients will be able to possess more than an ounce, but patients who can't grow will not be able to share collectively. Cities will be able to ban collectives. See <http://thehive.modbee.com/node/20404#comment-160964>

What they say: Prop. 19 will let everyone grow marijuana legally.

FACT: Prop. 19 gives each and every city the right to control and regulate this alleged “right” to grow. So, for example, one city has already put into place rules like: your outdoor “garden” must be at least 10 feet away from every boundary fence. If you grow indoor, you can't use more than 1200 watts. If you rent, you must have written permission from your landlord and apartment owners must first submit the apartments to an inspection. If any of your under-21-y.o. kids have access to your backyard, the garden must be in a *separately* fenced and locked area. You are only allowed one plant outdoors and two indoors, regardless of square footage.

Any violation of such ordinances is a public nuisance, with fines of up to \$1,000.00 per day. Cities can get administrative search warrants to investigate what you're doing. And anyone who grows for personal use must pay the city a tax (in an amount left up to each city) on whatever they grow, even though they grew it and didn't buy it! See an example at <http://www.cityoffranchocordova.org/index.aspx?recordid=2378&page=351>

What they say: Prop. 19 will legalize marijuana.

FACT: Prop. 19 gives every city the right to make whatever rules it wants to “control, regulate and tax” marijuana. The only exceptions from total city control are (1) anyone 21 and older can possess 1 ounce legally, and (2) “anyone” can grow in a 5 by 5 by 5 by 5 foot “garden” -- *if* they can meet the city's cultivation criteria, *if* renters get written permission from landlords, and *if* they pay any tax the city sets on cultivation. Cities can make sales and distribution *illegal* within their borders. See text of Prop. 19.

What they say: Prop. 19 will bring down the price of marijuana.

FACT: There's no guarantee prices will drop. Prop. 19 will make pot much more costly for medical patients who've been growing and sharing medication. It will limit competition. Cities will be able to give monopolies to cultivators/distributors with high priced permits. Costs will be passed on to consumers. Lack of competition = higher, not lower, prices.

TURN THIS FLIER OVER TO READ MORE OF THE TRUTH ABOUT PROP. 19

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What they say: Prop. 19 is the best you're going to get, so vote yes no matter what.

FACT: More and more people are accepting the fact that marijuana is a potent medication (as well as a relaxing recreational drug). More and more people have been obtaining medical recommendations to use it. The support to *truly legalize* marijuana -- instead of to just “control, regulate and tax it,” is growing.

Based on growing support following the adoption of the Compassionate Use Act, long-time activists had already planned to put a *true* legalization measure on the ballot in 2012. <http://www.jackherer.com/initiative.html> Prop. 19 is just a cynical effort to beat true legalization and to *scare* pro-pot voters into quickly giving a monopoly on California pot to a few wealthy entrepreneurs via the initiative process -- a process which makes it *extremely difficult to change the law once it is adopted*. By using a method that will be very difficult to change, the “Weed Barons” plan to cement their control over California marijuana just before marijuana becomes not only legal, but is in growing demand as more people want to use it as medication in addition to using it as a recreational drug.

What they say: The No on Prop. 19 people are running around, scared for no reason, don't understand Prop. 19, and are lying about what it will do.

FACT: It's easier to engage in generalized criticisms and call your opponents liars than it is to specifically address, point by point, detailed legal analyses or face up to concrete ordinances adopted in anticipation of Prop. 19 passing. To see specific analyses of the very real, bottom-line problems with Prop. 19, check out these websites:

Stoners Against the Prop. 19 Tax Cannabis Initiative

<http://votetaxcannabis2010.blogspot.com/2010/07/why-pro-pot-activists-oppose-2010-tax.html>

“WHY PRO-POT ACTIVISTS OPPOSE PROP. 19: 19 REASONS TO VOTE KNOW”

<http://votetaxcannabis2010.blogspot.com/2010/07/why-pro-pot-activists-oppose-2010-tax.html>

8 ISSUES PROP. 19 SUPPORTERS REFUSE TO ADDRESS

<http://votetaxcannabis2010.blogspot.com/p/8-issues-prop-19-supporters-refuse-to.html>

California Cannabis Hemp & Health Initiative 2012, also aka the Jack Herer Initiative.

<http://www.jackherer.com/initiative.html> Highlights of this alternative to Prop. 19 include:

--The freedom to grow up to 99 plants—per adult, 21 years of age and older—for personal use. (Prop. 19 allows only what you and your roommates can fit in a 5'x5' space--3-6 plants--because that grow allotment is per residence, not per person). Cannabis taxes shall not exceed \$10.00 per ounce. (Richard Lee said the “recommended” tax for legalized cannabis will be \$50, although other researchers estimate it could be more in the neighborhood of \$70 per ounce.)

Remember: “Prop. 19 is not our only chance to vote yes to legalization, but it may be our only chance to VOTE NO to the corporatization of cannabis.”

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