



# Remembering ADAM

Telling Our Story So No More Die

Honorable Frank Oliver  
34E East Wing  
PO Box 202195  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2195

Dear Representative Oliver:

I am writing concerning HB 1393, providing for the medical use of marijuana. I would like my letter submitted as written testimony for the hearing on HB1393 on December 2, 2009. To "legalize" marijuana for medical use would be doing a great disservice to the entire state of Pennsylvania. Every day more and more of our youth become addicted to illicit drugs and they all begin this addiction with the three gateway drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana. As a person involved in substance abuse prevention we send a very clear message to the youth we educate that the use of marijuana can lead to the use of other illegal substances.

I do not understand why this issue is being addressed by our state legislators. If marijuana is to be used for medical purposes shouldn't the FDA make this decision? Aren't they responsible for controlling what drugs are safe? I have never heard anyone say that "smoking" is good for anyone's health especially when they are suffering from other illnesses. Is this a ploy for this to be the first step in legalizing all drugs? Who will regulate this "so called" drug, making sure it's "safe" for the user? When did our legislators become experts in the medical field? Why do we even need the FDA?

Preventionists have worked diligently for years throughout Pennsylvania educating youth on the dangers of marijuana use. Now we are going to "take it all back" and call it medicine??? My husband and I have owned a small town pharmacy for over 30 years and never once did one of our cancer patients have the need for marijuana. Those requesting marijuana be made legal so it can be used for critically ill patients is just a ploy to have easy access to a very addictive dangerous drug. Don't be fooled by this; don't bring pot houses to the great state of Pennsylvania.

Where do you plan on drawing the line? When do you say enough is enough? When will the real truth behind marijuana use be brought to the forefront? Please protect my family, my community, and the citizens of Pennsylvania and do not legalize marijuana.

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Fowler  
President