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SINCE 1787

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November 30, 2009

Honorable Frank Louis Oliver
Chair, Health & Human Services Committee
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
34E East Wing
P.O. Box 202195
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Support for HB 1393, PN 1714, Medical Marijuana

Dear Representative Oliver:

The Pennsylvania Prison Society supports HB 1393, PN 1714 that provides for the use of marijuana for medical purposes.

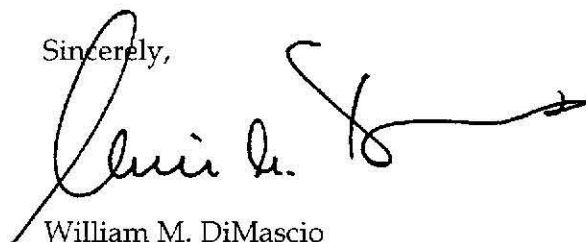
HB 1393 will allow people suffering from a number of diseases to legally obtain medication that can reduce some of their discomfort. Patients with AIDS, glaucoma, multiple sclerosis, or even certain chemotherapy regimens, for example, may benefit from a prescription by their physician for marijuana. In these limited circumstances and with the checks and balances included, HB 1393 is a measure whose positive impact far outweighs negative concerns.

Thirteen other states (roughly 25% of the United States) have already approved the use of marijuana for medical purposes. New Jersey may be the next state to support a similar measure.

We hope you will support HB 1393, PN 1714. Please contact me at 215-564-6005 x113 if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



William M. DiMascio
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Matthew Baker
The Honorable Mark Cohen