Margaret L. Wescott 1140 N Franklin Street Auburn, KS 66402 March 15, 2023

Senator Mike Thompson, Chairman

Rick Kloos, Vice Chairman

Oletha Faust-Goudeau, Rankling Minority

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee Members:

There are several reasons why marijuana should not be legalized in Kansas. We had a hearing by several people in authority from states which had legalized medical marijuana and realized their mistake and the harm it did to their states. Here is the link to the hearings if you had not had the chance to hear the testimonies.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1PI8CKXJrY March 1, 2023

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee 03/02/2023 March 2, 2023

1) It has ruined OK and CO. Marijuana is antithetical to a healthy and safe society. Marijuana is antithetical to a healthy and safe society. In California it is being reviewed to ban screening of employees.

https://abc7.com > california-marijuana-testing-employers > 12243162

California weed laws: Employers will soon be banned for screening

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Sep 22, 2022 Employers in **California** will soon be banned from screening workers for **marijuana** under a new law. Assembly Bill 2188, signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, prevents employers from setting conditions of ...

- 2) Every level of our law enforcement has stood in opposition. They know! All our law enforcement in Kansas is completely against legalizing marijuana as our state will need to have more law enforcement officers in every town, city and county and our State Troopers just to handle traffic accidents and other crimes these addicted people will do to get money to pay for their habit.
- 3) Medical marijuana is a ruse. The cabal's plan is recreational marijuana and to addict our society, particularly, our youth. It is also the beginning of allowing the cartel and any other illegal groups to do as

they want create the black market of growing and selling marijuana and providing medical marijuana cards. If we ban screening of employees, now many accidents at factories or other risky jobs will result because one or more employees are under the influence of marijuana?

- 4) Medical THC is available to every Kansas citizen via FDA approved medications available by prescription. The drugs are Marinol, Syndros, Nabilone, and Epidiolex. Also, medical marijuana is harmful to those who suffer from PTSD. As a veteran myself who had PTSD and a member of Disabled American Veterans (DAV), I have heard from those who do have PTSD and tried marijuana, it made their PTSD worse.
- 5) Today's marijuana is far more concentrated than in the 1970's.
- 6) Today's marijuana is as addictive as methamphetamines.
- 7) Marijuana is 10x worse for your lungs than tobacco.
- 8) Our society cannot handle another addictive drug. Drug abuse and overdose deaths are at all-time highs in Kansas now. If a person is on marijuana, they cannot work effectively without very possibly causing an accident which may even cause a fatality. Because they cannot work, they will be on welfare to care of them which will cost the state money and there may be no one except illegal aliens to work many jobs as there are not enough workers now for jobs in Kansas.
- 9) Kansas' greatness as a state and its economic advantage lies in our traditional values and family friendly society. Following the surrounding states in their folly is a mistake.
- 10) Any additional tax revenue from marijuana means absolutely nothing. We do not need or want this money. What money we may receive from the marijuana will be spent on law enforcement, jails, and rehabilitation for those addicted, not counting the loss of farmland to grow crops for food.

https://www.oklahoman.com > story > news > politics > government > 2023 > 03 > 13 > sq-820-oklahoma-recreational-marijuana-vote-means-tougher-iregulations-ahead-medical-cannabis > 69991145007

## <u>SQ 820 vote means tougher regulations ahead for medical marijuana</u>

1 day ago. As of Feb. 8, more than 7,000 grower licenses had been approved by the **Oklahoma Medical Marijuana** Authority, although it's unclear whether the state has that many active farms.

Thank you for reviewing my testimony. I ask that you consider the end results if marijuana is legalized in any way in Kansas. Please weigh the pros and cons. I am certain that you will find the cons outweigh the pros not only in people, but also in the dollars.

Sincerely,

Margaret L. Wescott