



Colorado Rethinks Marijuana Legislation

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New reports out of Colorado indicate that legal marijuana is posing real risks to the safety of young people. As Colorado rethinks marijuana, the rest of the nation should watch carefully this failing experiment.

Healthcare officials representing three hospitals in Pueblo, Colorado, issued a statement on April 27 in support of a ballot measure that would end Marijuana commercialization in the city and county of Pueblo. (<http://goo.gl/CeqXvQ>) "We continue to see firsthand the increased patient harm caused by retail marijuana, and we want the Pueblo community to understand that the commercialization of marijuana is a significant public health and safety issue," said Mike Baxter, president and CEO of Parkview Medical Center.

Among their concerns is a 51 percent increase in the number of children under 18 being treated in Parkview Medical Center emergency rooms. Furthermore, of newborn babies at St. Mary-Corwin Hospital, drug tested due to suspected prenatal exposure, nearly half tested positive for marijuana.

In more bad news for the pot promoters, the Denver school system has produced a video to show how marijuana tax revenues are not providing education dollars. (<http://goo.gl/wlyfLo>) This is a common rationale used by the industry to garner support for legal weed.

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Marijuana above 15% potency is considered a hard drug in the Netherlands, yet Colorado's pot is 17% and beyond.

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A bill to ban marijuana edibles which appeal to young children, such as gummy bears, is now being considered in the Colorado state legislature. It just passed the House with an overwhelming majority and is heading to the Senate.

Smart Colorado, a citizen action group concerned about marijuana's impact on youth, health and safety says that 165 cities and counties have banned marijuana sales, and yet 61% of high school seniors have already tried marijuana. (smartcolorado.org) ■

Entire article here: <http://goo.gl/IFyusq>

**The AMA and most major health organizations
oppose the legalization and medicalization of marijuana.**

