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Prop 19 Unfairly Taxes the Sick and is a Big Business Grab for Profits.

Why Medicann, California's largest group of medical marijuana doctors, is against Prop 19.

It was almost 15 years ago that Californians voted on Prop 215---the Compassionate Use Act---and legalized cannabis to help sick people avoid costly and dangerous prescription drugs and use safe, effective, inexpensive cannabis instead.

As a physician I saw hope in the eyes of patients with chronic pain from conditions such as HIV/AIDS, arthritis, muscular dystrophy, neuropathy and cancer. It was a bold, brave and compassionate act on the part of Californians. Today there are more than 500,000 Californians getting relief from medicinal cannabis.

Greed, profits and taxes are driving Proposition 19

But I think people got greedy. Some saw the market success of an effective herbal remedy and chose to capitalize on it---at the expense of patients using it as therapy. When the economy collapsed, some powerful people from Oakland decided that the promise of more tax dollars for the state---and easily obtained recreational marijuana---would blind people to their real reasons and the consequences.

They created a proposition that restricted the individual grower and user and allows big business to dominate the market. Not coincidentally, the proposers of Prop 19 are the people who will immediately profit the most.

Prop 19 is called the Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act. Do you see anything about compassion or medicinal use? That's because the people who created this proposition aren't interested in anything other than profits. By promising a piece of the pie as a way to help pay off the state's deficit (as yet another tax) they hope to blind us all to the enormous profits they will make.

Haven't we all suffered enough from unbridled greed in this country? Aren't we tired of being hoodwinked by big business interests? Are they hoping we all want recreational marijuana so badly that we will vote for any legislation that makes it happen? Do they think we're that stupid?

I support legalization---but not as offered up under Prop 19. It's a seriously flawed piece of legislation. We need a proposition that protects the sick from more taxes and keeps the industry out of the hands of big business.

Do your homework. Really read the law closely. After I did I decided to vote NO.

Dr. Jean Talleyrand, Founder/CEO, MediCann

MediCann is the nation's largest provider of medical marijuana consultations with more than 200,000 patients in California.

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