

SB0396
favorable
vince mcavoy
baltimore md 21203

Senators of Senate JPR,
Since the permissive effort toward legalization in my state, Maryland and particularly the Baltimore region has seen vast changes due to use of marijuana products. Increased crime. Increased robbery and carjackings. The stench of marijuana on the roads from early in the morning to very late. Large stores we all shop in reeking after only 1 or 2 individuals exhale inside a WholeFoods or a Marshall's.



<https://www.cnn.com/2023/09/06/health/marijuana-traffic-accidents-wellness/index.html>

SB396 is a good start but the repeal should include repealing “personal amount use”. Are you senators not reading the harm this drug has caused in the past 5 years? You should be stopping harm, not just trying to walk back the worst part of a bill that was inane, pathological and against scientific fact. Marijuana is now THE number one drug of addiction in America. It is the number TWO cause of deaths on highways. This notion of “personal use amount” is in direct defiance of the U.S. Constitution and federal supremacy on such matters. I urge you to redo lines 7-10 below.

1 (2) the possession or suspicion of possession of cannabis that does not
2 exceed the personal use amount, as defined under § 5-601 of the Criminal Law Article; or

3 (3) the presence of cash or currency in proximity to cannabis without other
4 indicia of an intent to distribute.

5 (b) A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER MAY NOT INITIATE A STOP OR A SEARCH
6 OF A MOTOR VEHICLE BASED SOLELY ON ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

7 (1) THE POSSESSION OR SUSPICION OF POSSESSION OF CANNABIS
8 THAT DOES NOT EXCEED THE PERSONAL USE AMOUNT, AS DEFINED UNDER § 5-601
9 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE; OR

10 (2) THE PRESENCE OF CASH OR CURRENCY IN PROXIMITY TO
11 CANNABIS WITHOUT OTHER INDICIA OF AN INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE.

Chairman Harris Issues Statement In Response To Study Showing Recreational Marijuana Users Commonly Struggle With Cannabis Use Disorder



August 31, 2023

Washington, D.C. –Congressman Andy Harris M.D. (MD-01), Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies released the following statement in response to the Journal of the American Medical Association Network Open (JAMA) study showing 21% of recreational cannabis users struggle with cannabis use disorder (CUD) after cannabis became legal. According to the National Health Institute, clinicians characterize cannabis use disorder as a problematic use of cannabis. Common symptoms include:



1. A persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to cut down or control cannabis use.
 2. A great deal of time is spent in activities necessary to obtain cannabis, use cannabis, or recover from its effects.
 3. Craving, or a strong desire or urge to use cannabis. According to the study, recreational cannabis users experienced a more severe form of CUD whereas the disorder was still
- <https://harris.house.gov/media/press-releases/chairman-harris-issues-statement-response-studyshowing-recreational-marijuana>




Fatal crashes in the 5 years after recreational marijuana legalization in Colorado and Washington

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Abstract

Colorado and Washington legalized recreational marijuana in 2012, but the effects of legalization on motor vehicle crashes remains unknown. Using Fatality Analysis Reporting System data, we performed difference-in-differences (DD) analyses comparing changes in fatal crash rates in Washington, Colorado and nine control states with stable anti-marijuana laws or [medical marijuana](#) laws over the five years before and after recreational marijuana legalization. In separate analyses, we evaluated fatal crash rates before and after commercial marijuana dispensaries began operating in 2014. In the five

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0001457519310267>

In public, this stench serves as indicators of the products where vaping and smoking marijuana blunts occurs. Unlike decades ago, this stench is often near children now. The widespread use of marijuana places children inside vehicles and on the road at even higher risk. The health hazards which children experience would be of particular concern for most responsible adults. The White paper study attached with this testimony affirms this hazard to children which Annapolis has not yet alleviated.

Each day in Maryland, children are locked into vehicle cabins and forced to inhale marijuana. In addition to the short- and long-term physical, moral, mental and social harm being imposed on children – on MERE CHILDREN - in vehicles in which marijuana is being smoked, this exposure to today’s extremely high-potency THC products means that children are being forced

into a moving vehicle, weighing tons with an operator who is not managing her/his life in a responsible, safe, child-centric manner.

Full length article

Non-smoker exposure to secondhand cannabis smoke II: Effect of room ventilation on the physiological, subjective, and behavioral/cognitive effects

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Cannabis is the most widely used illicit drug. Many individuals are incidentally exposed to secondhand cannabis smoke, but little is known about the effects of this exposure. This report examines the physiological, subjective, and behavioral/cognitive effects of secondhand cannabis exposure, and the influence of room ventilation on these effects.

Methods: Non-cannabis-using individuals were exposed to secondhand cannabis smoke from six individuals smoking cannabis (11.3% THC) ad libitum in a specially constructed chamber for 1 h. Chamber ventilation was experimentally manipulated so that participants were exposed under unventilated conditions or with ventilation at a rate of 11 air exchanges/h. Physiological, subjective and behavioral/cognitive measures of cannabis exposure assessed after exposure sessions were compared to baseline measures.

Results: Exposure to secondhand cannabis smoke under unventilated conditions produced detectable cannabinoid levels in blood and urine, minor increases in heart rate, mild to moderate self-reported sedative drug effects, and impaired performance on the digit symbol substitution task (DSST). One urine specimen tested positive at using a 50 ng/ml cut-off and several specimens were positive at 20 ng/ml. Exposure under ventilated conditions resulted in much lower blood cannabinoid levels, and did not produce sedative drug effects, impairments in performance, or positive urine screen results.

Conclusions: Room ventilation has a pronounced effect on exposure to secondhand cannabis smoke. Under extreme, unventilated conditions, secondhand cannabis smoke exposure can produce detectable levels of THC in blood and urine, minor physiological and subjective drug effects, and minor impairment on a task requiring psychomotor ability and working memory.

size of room, amount of cannabis consumed, duration of exposure, and frequency of such exposure are all variables that likely would influence outcomes in the real world. That said, several study participants reported previous secondhand exposure experiences that resembled the unventilated study condition, which indicates our exposure model has some degree of ecological validity. Furthermore, testing the effects of passive exposure among a balanced sample of women and men should be regarded as a strength because it speaks to the generality of our results.

In conclusion, this study indicates that absorption of cannabinoids can result from secondhand exposure to cannabis smoke. Room ventilation had a significant impact on the degree of cannabinoid absorption and on resultant pharmacodynamic effects. Nonsmokers exposed under unventilated conditions reported low to moderate levels of sedative drug effects that corresponded with minor impairment in cognitive performance, while nonsmokers exposed under ventilated conditions reported no significant subjective effects and did not have impairment in cognitive performance. These results suggest that extreme conditions like those examined in this study may result in biological exposure sufficient to produce measurable subjective effects, decreases in behavioral/cognitive performance, and could produce a positive drug test result within a short window of time following exposure.

Author disclosures

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Contributors

Authors Edward Cone, John Mitchell, George Bigelow, Charles LoDico, Ron Flegel, and Ryan Vandrey designed the study and developed the protocol. Evan Herrmann, Edward Cone, and Ryan Vandrey managed literature searches and summaries of previous work. Evan Herrmann and Ryan Vandrey undertook the statistical analysis. Evan Herrmann, Edward Cone, John Mitchell, George Bigelow, Charles LoDico, Ron Flegel, and Ryan Vandrey conducted the

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Conflict of interest

All authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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MARIJUANA NEWS

Legalizing marijuana linked to spikes in deadly car accidents in several U.S. states

JUNE 19, 2023

6 COMMENTS

by StudyFinds

CHICAGO — The legalization of cannabis in the United States appears to have a link to an increase of 22 percent in fatal road crashes in certain states, according to a startling study. Researchers from the University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health investigated seven states that permit recreational cannabis dispensaries. Their findings revealed that fatal road accidents had escalated dramatically in four of these states.

On average, fatal crashes have seen a rise of 10 percent. The researchers employed data from death certificates to contrast mortality rates in states where recreational

<https://studyfinds.org/legalizing-marijuana-car-accidents/>

Annapolis Democrats know that the truth is out there showing increased harm to children. These “lawmakers” wish to inflict addiction on our children before adults even know what

current experts are highlighting as the harm toward children. Of course, decent parents and human beings know this. They know that there is no reason to drive and smoke marijuana other than in a dope-addict, recreational-druggy context. This attraction to recreationally killing braincells and inducing marijuana psychosis gives both secular and non-secular reasons to ban the ability to drive using drugs without serious prison time. The use of marijuana brings self-damage and damage of children's lives due to drug use.

The Catechism Condemns Drug Use for Recreational Purposes

The Catechism categorically condemns recreational drug use as sinful and harmful to the individual, noting:

“The use of drugs inflicts very grave damage on human health and life. Their use, except on strictly therapeutic grounds, is a grave offense. Clandestine production of and trafficking in drugs are scandalous practices. They constitute direct cooperation in evil, since they encourage people to practices gravely contrary to the moral law”.

The Catechism's pronouncement condemning recreational drug use, calls it “a scourge”, and proclaiming that there is “no room for illicit drugs, for alcohol abuse, [or] other forms of addiction ”.

It further points out how drug addiction is “a new form of slavery”, and those who abuse drugs have “lost their freedom.” There are serious, suicide-inducing, harmful side effects from marijuana use, especially on young users. It is also prohibited by federal law. The Church unequivocally condemns the use of drugs (including marijuana) for purely recreational purposes.

humbly
~vince