



## County Board of Commissioners

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September 16, 2017

Dear Members of the North Carolina Legislature:

On behalf of our constituents, we write to you today to ask for your consideration of support for policies that would benefit North Carolina citizens who are suffering from medical conditions that could be positively addressed through the regulated use of medical cannabis.

Medical cannabis is legal in twenty-nine states. There is a significant evidence that cannabis can be beneficial to individuals suffering from Cancer, HIV/AIDS, Multiple sclerosis, Glaucoma, Chronic pain, Crohn's disease, ALS, Intractable epilepsy, PTSD, and terminal illness.

Numerous health organizations have endorsed the medical use of cannabis, including the American Nurses Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, Lymphoma Foundation of America, American Preventive Medical Association and American Public Health Association.

The Federal government holds patent number 6,630,507 which describes the therapeutic potential for cannabinoid chemical compounds derived from cannabis. There are no reported deaths from an overdose of cannabis.

Considering the therapeutic benefits, combined with its illegal status, there is an urgent need for the North Carolina Legislature regulate cannabis as medicine. The criminal penalties on patients who use medical cannabis are unreasonable and costly. According to the United States Sentencing Commission, ninety-nine out of every one-hundred cannabis arrests in the United States are made under state law. Changing State law will have the practical effect of protecting from arrest the vast majority of seriously ill people who have a medical need to use cannabis.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration of this letter and for your service to the people of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

