

Brian Glaeske  
403 11th AVE S  
Fargo, ND 58103

Dear Members of the House Human Services committee,

I would like to express my support for HB 1420, which legalizes the personal use of marijuana, and urge the members of this committee to provide a DO PASS recommendation.

Throughout most of my adult life, I have been anti-drug. It is only recently that I have seen that the effects of alcohol are much worse than those posed by marijuana. Marijuana has almost none of the long-term health consequences that alcohol pose such as weight gain, addiction, aggressiveness, liver and heart damage, and many more. Further, marijuana has a decreased risk of death due to overdose.

There is also the fact that as an unregulated substance, marijuana is more likely to be consumed by minors and of course the illegal market promotes crime and criminal activity. With a regulated industry, that has a competitive pricing structure, the illegal market for marijuana evaporates and it is less likely that minors will be able to purchase and consume.

The one concern I have with this bill is that it leaves much to the state health department to figure out. When this last happened with medical marijuana we were left with rules that nearly nobody could implement in a cost effective manner. I could never figure out why dispensaries needed higher security than a typical pharmacy. I'm also concerned that the tax rate on marijuana may be too high. It should be tied to the sales tax rate and by no more than double the sales tax rate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Glaeske', written in a cursive style.

Brian Glaeske