

# Ballot Measure No. 2

## An Act to Tax and Regulate the Production, Sale, and Use of Marijuana

### STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION

#### Big Marijuana. Big Mistake. Vote No on 2

Against the best interests of our State, Proposition 2 seeks to legalize, commercialize, **advertise**, and industrialize marijuana and concentrated marijuana products (such as "shatter," "butane hash oil," and marijuana "Ring Pots") in Alaska. The Initiative is costly, extreme, premature, and will unduly harm Alaskan communities, businesses, families, and our youth. We urge you to Vote No on 2 because:

1. **The Initiative is Far Too Costly.** The State of Alaska estimates that this initiative could increase costs to State Government by over \$7 million/year, including increased costs for child neglect and DUIs. Also, the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police estimates that the initiative will increase costs to small towns and cities by \$6 million. These are just the costs to state government and police. Based on evidence, **for every \$1 of taxes raised, the social, productivity, business, and health costs of substances like marijuana will be \$10.** Costs include: lost productivity, increased accidents, harm to youth, harm to families, and increased health costs.
2. **The Initiative Legalizes the Manufacturing, Advertising, Marketing, Transport and Consumption of Extreme Products like Shatter, Butane Hash Oil and Dangerous, Child-Friendly Edibles.** The Initiative specifically defines marijuana to include all marijuana concentrates and products. This would legalize the manufacturing, advertising, marketing, transport and consumption of such extreme products as 80-90% THC shatter, butane hash oil, and crumble. **We recommend all voters Google shatter and butane hash oil before voting.** Two people have already died in Colorado from child-friendly marijuana edibles, and emergency room visits have increased.
3. **The Initiative Eliminates the local option** for communities in Alaska to be dry on marijuana.
4. **This Initiative Will Not Eradicate the Illegal Trafficking of Marijuana.** If this initiative passes, there will be: illegal sales of marijuana to youth; illegal export of marijuana, and illegal sales to adults (just as there are in Colorado now after legalization).
5. **Do Alaskans Really Want Another Major Industry Promoting the Increased Use of Another Harmful Intoxicant? No.** There is so much evidence that marijuana is harmful to fetuses, developing brains, motivation, judgment (including while driving), mental health, lungs, hearts and more.
6. **Large Outside Interests are Funding the Initiative.** Follow the money. Big marijuana. Big mistake.
7. **Rates of Use by our Youth Will Increase.** Public Health science is very clear. If this initiative passes, youth use rates of marijuana, including shatter, butane hash oil, and edibles will increase.
8. **There is No Reason to Rush into Making a Mistake.** We deserve to see what happens in Colorado and make a more informed decision about what is best for Alaskans. Let's see how the **pervasive advertising of marijuana and marijuana products** works out; how many **lawsuits** there are from the marijuana industry; and what **marijuana lobbyists** do. Let's examine the increases in emergency room visits and deaths. There is no rush in Alaska to make a mistake.

**The costs of this outside-funded initiative are far too great. Vote No on 2.**

**(Please Visit the Website: <http://www.bigmarijuanabigmistake.org/> for More Information)**

Mike Williams, Akiak, Chair. Big Marijuana. Big Mistake.

Joe Byrnes, Fairbanks, Deputy Treasurer. Big Marijuana. Big Mistake.

Deborah Williams, Anchorage, Deputy Treasurer. Big Marijuana. Big Mistake

*The statement printed on this page is the opinion of the author(s) and is presented as submitted to the Division of Elections.*