

YES ON MEASURE Z

FACT SHEET

Measure Z: Oakland's Alternative to the Drug War

Measure Z: Oakland's Alternative to the Failed War on Drugs

The federal government's war on drugs has been costly, ineffective, and unjust. Criminalizing cannabis (marijuana) has unfairly imprisoned thousands of non-violent offenders, including a disproportionate number of people of color. Measure Z would make private adult marijuana offenses the lowest police priority in Oakland, and directs the city to support changes in public policy regarding marijuana with the aim of regulating, licensing and taxing its sales to adults as soon as possible under California law.

Measure Z: Improving Law Enforcement, Reducing Crime

Measure Z allows Oakland police to focus their time and resources on fighting violent crime and reducing the murder rate, instead of wasting it on adult nonviolent marijuana offenses. Measure Z would help break the hold that drug traffickers have on our neighborhoods by allowing marijuana to be sold by licensed businesses, keeping it off the streets, and out of the hands of dangerous criminals. Reducing law enforcement costs and time spent on busting small time marijuana users means increased attention and funds dealing with the serious threats facing our community.

Measure Z: Raising City Revenue by Ending the 'Wasteful War on Drugs'

Every year California spends \$150 million to arrest, prosecute and imprison marijuana offenders. It makes more economic sense to raise money by taxing and regulating the adult use of marijuana, instead of spending money to criminalize it. Revenue raised will help pay for vital city services like schools, libraries, and health care. If adopted statewide, revenues raised could be up to \$2.5 billion.

Measure Z: Improving Patient Care, Increasing Public Safety

Measure Z makes it easier for medical patients to buy medical marijuana from licensed Oakland businesses. Patients deserve safe, secure and affordable access to medicine. While we can't change federal law, we can instruct our local police not to arrest or harass marijuana users. Our city deserves laws that protect its citizens, rather than those that cater to the agenda of John Ashcroft.

Measure Z: Controlling, not Criminalizing Marijuana

Measure Z controls marijuana sales; it does not legalize sales on the streets, near schools or to minors. Measure Z does not promote marijuana use, allow broadcast or billboard advertising, or smoking in public.

Measure Z: Broad Based Support for 'Solutions' Not 'Wars'

Community groups, elected officials, educators, religious leaders, and doctors all agree: Measure Z is the right thing to do. Supporters include the California Nurses Association, the Metropolitan Greater Oakland (MGO) Democratic Club, Family Council on Drug Awareness, Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, State Senator Don Perata, California Superior Court Judge James P. Gray, Alameda County Supervisors Nate Miley and Keith Carson, and Oakland City Councilmembers Nancy Nadel and Desley Brooks.

Yes on Z: Oakland's Alternative to the Drug War
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