

# Ballot Measure 2

Juneau Public Hearing



# Summary of Ballot Measure 2

In summary Ballot Measure 2 hopes to create a more sensible approach to marijuana and makes the private use, possession, and home growing of marijuana legal for adults 21 years or older. The initiative actively manages the marijuana industry and establishes a system where marijuana is regulated and taxed similar to alcohol.



# Campaign to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol



# Signature Drive

45,000+

Amount of signatures gathered across Alaska to qualify initiative for ballot



# About the Campaign to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol

- **Formed in 2013 to support Ballot Measure 2**
- **Grassroots organization**
- **Volunteer leadership**
- **Hundreds of activists across state**



# What will the Ballot Measure Do?

- offer Alaskans the opportunity to enact a more sensible approach to marijuana
- redirect law enforcement resources away from marijuana prohibition and towards violent crimes
- reduce youth access to marijuana
- bolster the state's economy



# Initiative framework

- **Regulate marijuana like alcohol**
- **9 month rulemaking process**
- **Advertising will be banned**
- **Child-friendly edibles will be banned**
- **Manage the industry through a regulated business environment rather than criminal underground**



# Rulemaking

## Sec. 17.38.090. Rulemaking.

(a) Not later than nine months after the effective date of this act, the board shall adopt regulations necessary for implementation of this chapter.

### Such regulations shall include:

(5) Requirements to prevent the sale or diversion of marijuana and marijuana products to persons under the age of 21;

(6) Labeling requirements for marijuana and marijuana products sold or distributed by a marijuana establishment;

(8) Reasonable restrictions on the advertising and display of marijuana and marijuana products;





# Local Control

## Sec. 17.38.110. Local control.

(a) A local government may prohibit the operation of marijuana cultivation facilities, marijuana product manufacturing facilities, marijuana testing facilities, or retail marijuana stores through the enactment of an ordinance or by a voter initiative.



# Marijuana vs Alcohol



# Marijuana vs. Alcohol



**Elise Patkotak**  
**28 year Barrow resident**

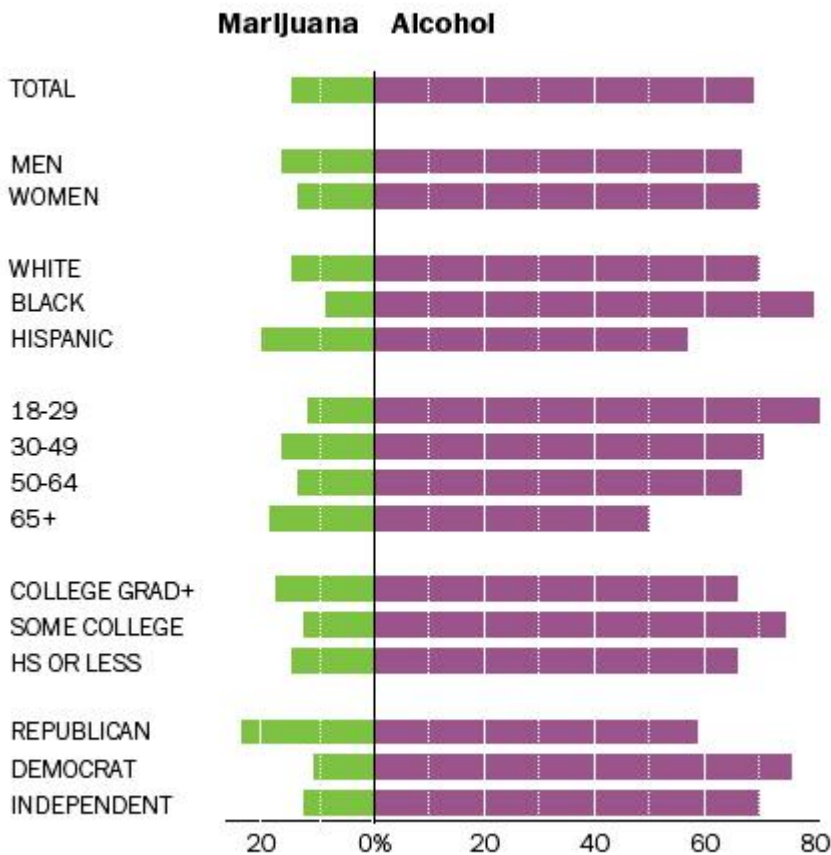
“Speak to most law enforcement officers and they will in all likelihood tell you that if people are going to use some mind altering substance, they'd prefer people use pot over alcohol every time.”



# Marijuana vs. Alcohol Public Opinion

## The era of Reefer Madness is over

*Which is more harmful to a person's health?*



SOURCE: Pew Research Center survey conducted Feb. 14-23, 2014 (n = 1,821)  
GRAPHIC: The Washington Post. Published April 2, 2014

## CNN Poll

**73% Alcohol is more dangerous**  
**12% Marijuana is more dangerous**

## Pew Research Poll

**69% Alcohol is more dangerous**  
**15% Marijuana is more dangerous**



# Marijuana vs. Alcohol

**ALCOHOL** vs **MARIJUANA**



**Does use contribute to...**

<b>YES</b>	Overdose deaths?	<b>NO</b>
<b>YES</b>	Domestic violence?	<b>NO</b>
<b>YES</b>	Sexual assaults?	<b>NO</b>
<b>YES</b>	Fights & injuries?	<b>NO</b>

*(Source: Every objective study on alcohol and marijuana)*



# Ballot Measure 2 Benefits

- **Reduce alcohol consumption**
- **Protect teens**
- **Revenue for the state**
- **Jobs for Alaskans**
- **Public safety**
- **Increased medical access**



# Reduce alcohol consumption

## LEGALIZING MARIJUANA COULD CURB DRINKING AND ITS ASSOCIATED SOCIAL COSTS

BEFORE LEGALIZATION



AFTER LEGALIZATION



ALCOHOL AND WEED ARE SUBSTITUTES, NOT COMPLEMENTS,  
ACCORDING TO SOME ECONOMISTS

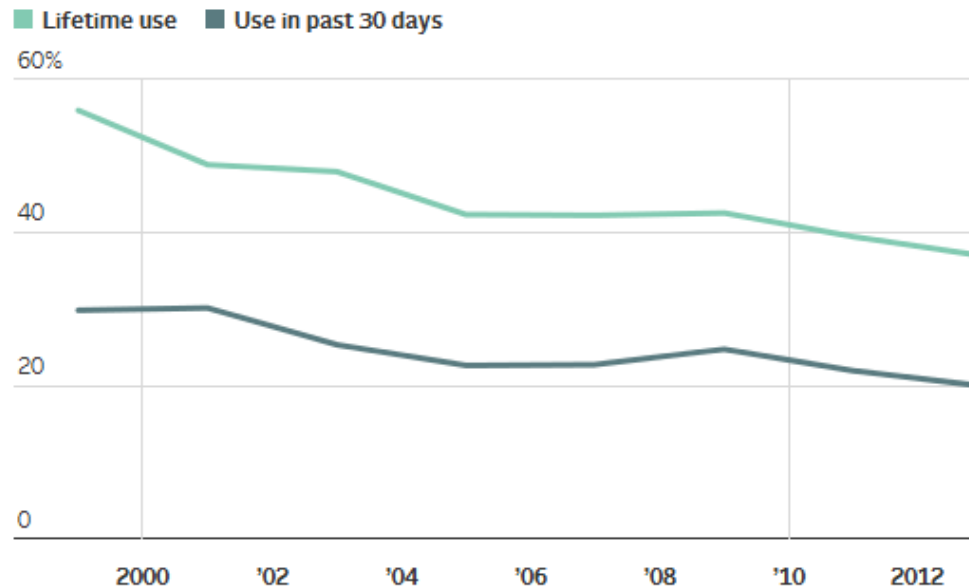
Source: "The Legalization of Recreational Marijuana How Likely is the Worst-Case Scenario?" D. Mark Anderson, Daniel I. Rees

THE HUFFINGTON POST



# Protecting Teens

## Marijuana use among Colorado high school students

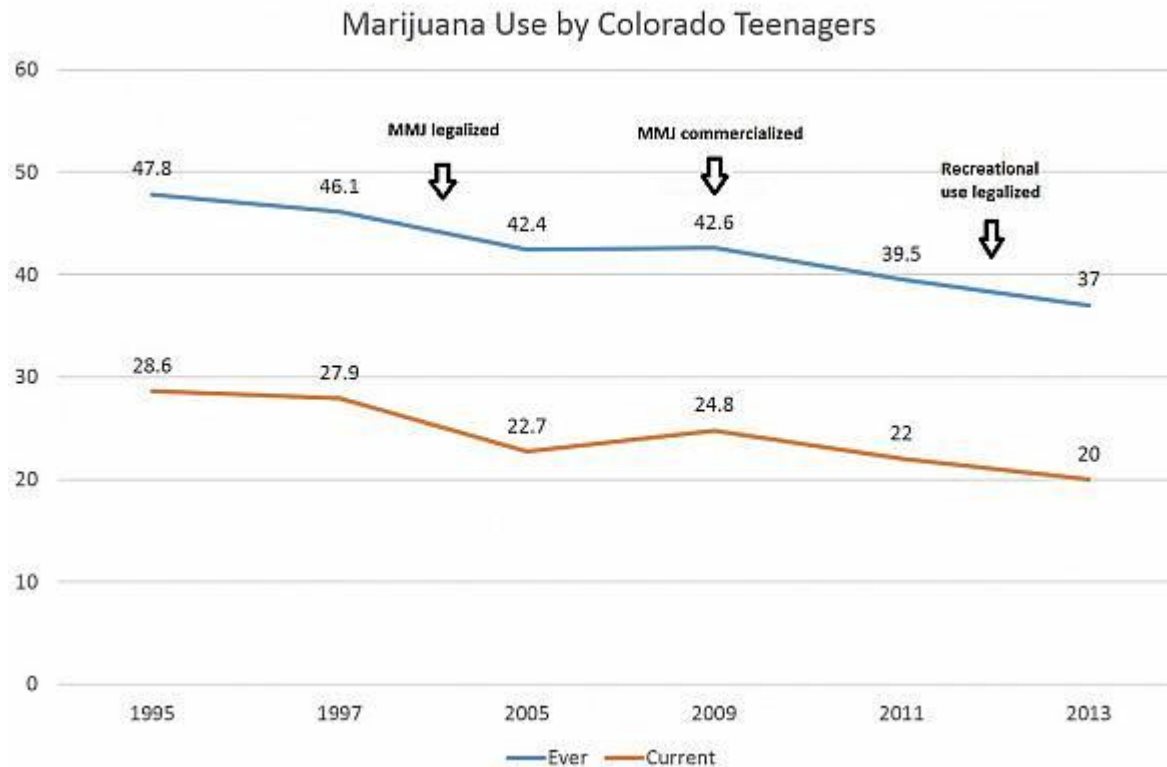


Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment survey

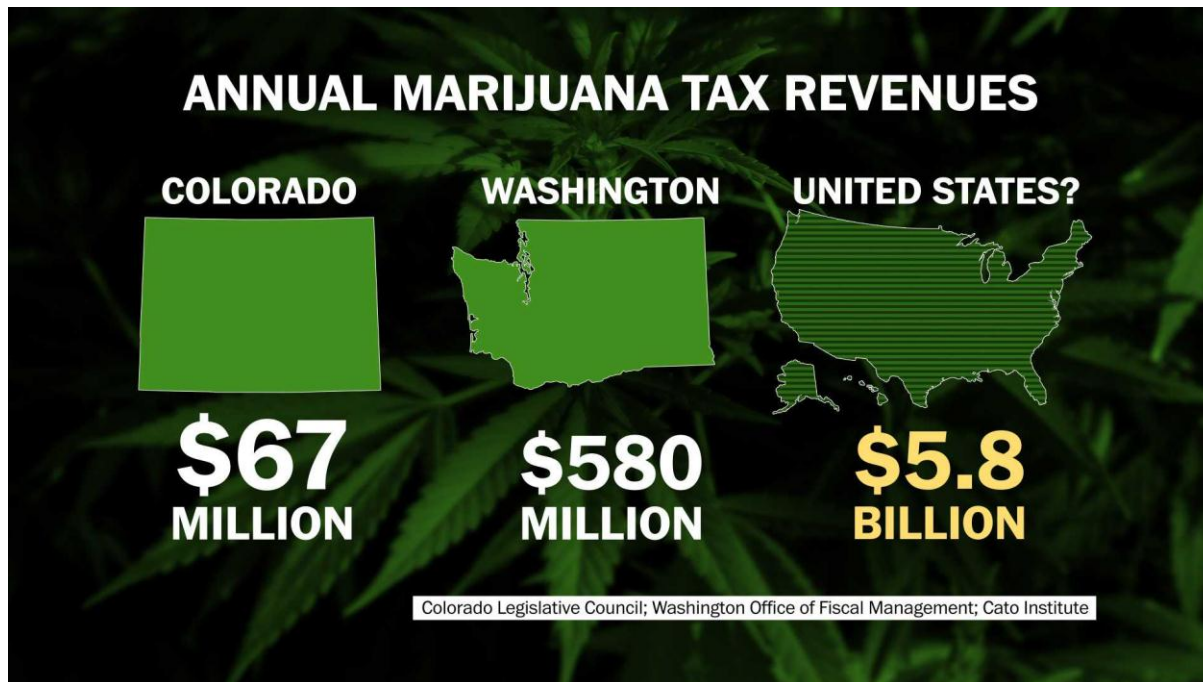




# Protecting Teens



# Tax Revenue



# Cost Savings

Enforcement of marijuana laws in Alaska costs \$8m - \$14m a year

## Cost

Money spent enforcing marijuana possession laws in 2010:

**\$8,466,300**



# Jobs for Alaskans



# Public Safety



Walter Carpeneti  
Former Chief Justice  
Alaska Supreme Court

“The danger of federal prosecution for simple marijuana possession in Alaska is vanishingly low, **whereas the danger of state prosecution for simple possession is real and substantially higher.**”



# Public Safety

A person in Alaska is arrested every 4.32 hours for having marijuana

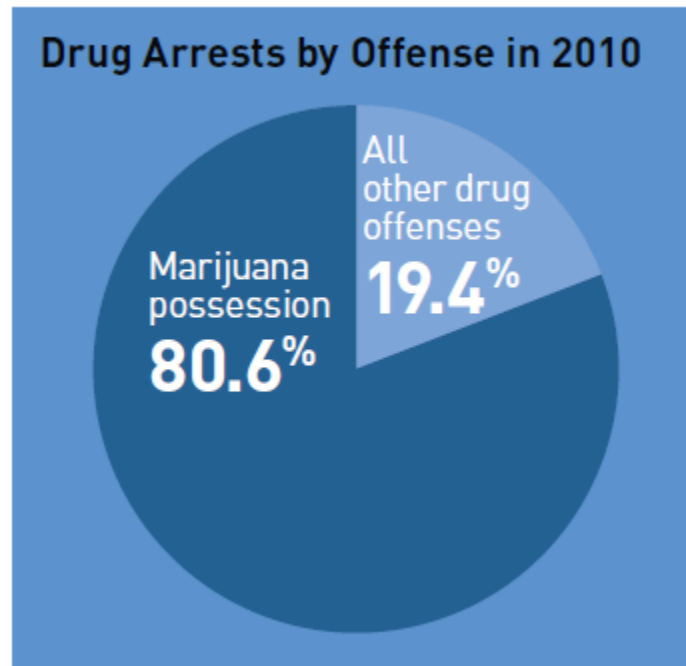


2,028 Alaskans were arrested for marijuana possession in 2010



# Public Safety

The overwhelming majority of drug arrests in Alaska are for marijuana



ACLU





# Increased Medical Access



## Measure Would Make Marijuana as Medicine More Accessible



Grace Jang, Investigative Reporter, [gjang@ktuu.com](mailto:gjang@ktuu.com)

POSTED: 11:40 PM AKDT Jun 10, 2014 | UPDATED: 12:58 AM AKDT Jun 11, 2014



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Medical Marijuana Debate





# Prohibitionists



**Harry Anslinger**  
*Federal Bureau of Narcotics*

“Marijuana leads to pacifism and communist brainwashing.”



# Prohibitionists



**Harry Anslinger**  
*Federal Bureau of Narcotics*

“...the primary reason to outlaw marijuana is its effect on the degenerate races.”



# Prohibitionists



**Harry Anslinger**  
*Federal Bureau of Narcotics*

“You smoke a joint and you’re likely to kill your brother.”



# Prohibitionists



**Michelle Leonhart**  
DEA Administrator

Holds the position that marijuana is equally as harmful as heroin, methamphetamine, and crack



# Prohibitionists



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## The Five Dumbest Arguments Made by Group Opposing Marijuana

[John Aronno](#) August 11, 2014 [John Aronno: On Politics](#) No Comments

*“One would think it would take more to legitimize the case for continued prohibition than the same tired hyperbole, misinformation, and deliberate lies that have kept such policies in place for nearly a century. However, to attendees of last week’s forum, that remains the lone argument offered by those who would like to see prohibition stick.”*



# Prohibitionists



## Reefer Madness Comes to Alaska

Posted by [Jeanne Devon](#) on Sunday, August 10, 2014 · [12 Comments](#)

*"I walked out of the auditorium a little dazed, a little overwhelmed. I wondered at the beginning of the evening how the No side was going to handle the fact that legalization was not the end of the world in Colorado or Washington, and that in Colorado the number of people who support legalization has risen 4% since the vote that legalized it in 2012. I had not expected that my answer would be this level of fear mongering and misinformation. I felt stunned."*



**More information:**

**[RegulateMarijuanaInAlaska.org](http://RegulateMarijuanaInAlaska.org)**

