



June 23, 2015

Chairman Bill Quirk
Assembly Committee on Public Safety
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 212 (Mendoza): Concentrates of cannabis - OPPOSE

Dear Chairman Quirk,

Americans for Safe Access (ASA), the nation's leading medical cannabis patients' advocacy organization, opposes SB 212 (Mendoza). This bill would allow for increased sentencing when concentrates of cannabis are manufactured less than 300 feet from a residence, even if no injury or property damage has occurred.

Many legal medical cannabis patients get relief from concentrated forms of cannabis, including kief (resin), hashish, tinctures, and extracts. Making most concentrates is completely safe. However, there is a higher degree of risk when making concentrates of medical cannabis using volatile solvents, like butane.

We appreciate the need to protect medical cannabis patients and providers from accidents related to volatile solvents. Increasing penalties for this type of offense is unlikely to deter individuals behaving in an unsafe manner, but legal patients and primary caregivers may be adversely affected. We hold that a piecemeal approach to regulation is less effective than a comprehensive science-based approach. Sensible regulations for manufacturing concentrated cannabis using volatile solvents should be addressed in a comprehensive medical cannabis regulatory bill.

ASA urges you to reject SB 212 and work with the Author and your other colleagues to find a more effective and complete solution.

Thank you,

Don Duncan
California Director

cc. Senator Tony Mendoza

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