

# No on Question 3

## MEDICAL MARIJUANA

- If approved, Question 3 would **allow marijuana shops** virtually anywhere in the state, **authorize the growing of marijuana** by both the shops and individuals, and allow a person to **possess a 60-day supply**.
- Being at least 21-year-old and have no felony drug convictions are the **ONLY** requirements to operate a marijuana shop.
- The **Massachusetts Medical Society opposes Question 3** stating that “there is insufficient scientific information about the safety of marijuana, when used for ‘medical purposes.’”
- There are FDA approved medical alternatives to marijuana that offer the same relief from pain and other medical symptoms.
- Marijuana contains 50% to 70% more **carcinogenic hydrocarbons than tobacco** and is associated with increased risk of cancer, lung damage, bacterial pneumonia, and poor pregnancy outcomes. The prescribing of marijuana by physicians may lead the public to believe that it is safe and effective.
- Medical use will increase the chances of the drug falling into the hands of children. **Youth in MA are already using marijuana 30% more than in other states.** Data from California indicate that 70% of youth using marijuana have obtained it via a ‘prescription.’
- Impaired driving under the influence of marijuana would increase, leading to a significant **public safety danger**.
- Adults who are early marijuana users are found to be 5x more likely to become dependent on any drug, 8x more likely to use cocaine, and 15x more likely to use heroin later in life.
- Marijuana use is strongly correlated with juvenile crime and contributes to delinquent and aggressive behavior. Marijuana use by teenagers has been proven to cause **long-term impairments to mental capacity, including a drop in IQ**.
- ‘Medical’ pot shops will lead to more drug consumption and abuse - and with measurable consequences. **Use of drugs leads to violence, crime and a variety of other vices.**