



**KELDA HELEN ROYS**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY

December 22, 2011

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Dear Mr.

Thank you for contacting my office regarding your support for medical marijuana legislation. I always appreciate hearing from citizens, especially about such important issues.

Rigorous scientific studies show that medical marijuana can be useful not only as part of a palliative care regimen, but also by facilitating the safe treatment of nausea and appetite stimulation for many patients in poor health. Medical marijuana has been shown to help treat illnesses including multiple types of cancer, glaucoma, HIV/AIDS, and Alzheimer's disease. I agree that current prohibitions on medical marijuana impose a heavy and unnecessary burden on the chronically or terminally ill. In addition, they divert scarce public safety resources that could be better spent on treating drug addiction and crime prevention.

Many other states have come to the same conclusion that organizations such as the American College of Physicians, American Nurses Association, and the American Public Health Association had already reached: that medical marijuana should be decriminalized, and penalties for its use abolished. I will continue to support the decriminalization of medical marijuana.

Our bill is supported by several organizations, including the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) and the Wisconsin Nurses Association (WNA). Similar bills have passed in other states and municipalities ranging from Michigan to California; the most recent being Washington, D.C. I am a proud co-sponsor of this bill and have supported it in the past. This time, it is crucial the RJMMA passes so we can start providing effective relief to patients who need it.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts with me. If I can ever be of assistance to you in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

My Best,

Kelda Roys  
State Representative  
Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair