

Blanchard, Deborah

From: Jonathan Zalaski <jzalaski@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2018 2:08 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Testimony re: Raised Bill No. 487

Dear Esteemed Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing you today in support of Raised Bill No. 487 An Act Concerning the Legalization Taxation and Regulation of the Retail Sale and Recreational Use of Marijuana and Concerning the Production and Regulation of Hemp.

According to a Quinnipiac Poll taken on 1/11/18, voters favor the legalization of Cannabis for adult use 58% to 36%.

Why is Cannabis illegal in the first place? Cannabis is not illegal for health concerns. Henry Anslinger's war on Cannabis was based on demonizing immigrants and people of color in the 1930's. The word Marijuana itself was used to link Cannabis with Mexicans.

Richard Nixon made Cannabis a Schedule One Drug to put Hippies and people of color in prison. Not for health concerns. Still today, African-Americans are 3.73 more likely to be arrested for Cannabis than their white counterparts according to the ACLU. This statistic is no different in Connecticut.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Zalaski
366 Park Ave.
Naugatuck, CT 06770
Sent from my iPad