

## History and Accomplishments

CA NORML sponsored the state's landmark de-criminalization law, the Moscone Act of 1975, which reduced penalties for possession of one ounce from a felony to a minor misdemeanor.

CA NORML was one of the original sponsors of California's Proposition 215, legalizing medical marijuana in 1996. We are co-sponsors of the current DEA petition to reschedule marijuana for medical use.

CA NORML sponsored ground-breaking "adult use" marijuana initiatives in Mendocino Co. (Measure G, 2000) and Oakland (Measure Z, 2004).

CA NORML is an original sponsor of the first full-scale legalization bill, the "Marijuana Control, Regulation, and Education Act" by Tom Ammiano.

CA NORML holds statewide conferences and has free email alert lists for Northern and Southern Calif.

CA NORML pioneered website listings of medical marijuana collectives and physicians, and maintains the most respected list on the web, as well as links to laws and other information and resources.

In 2010, CA NORML joined Tehama County patients to file suit against a county ordinance that limits their right to grow marijuana at home. We work with local officials, patients and activists to protect medical marijuana cultivation rights across the state.

CA NORML publishes reports on the economics of prohibition and the tax benefits of legalization; on the numbers of marijuana arrestees and prisoners in the state; and on drug testing and vaporization.

CA NORML has a legal committee of lawyers across the state with expertise in marijuana law. Members receive a free initial legal consultation.

## War on Pot? Just Say **NORML!**

Cal NORML is the only state organization devoted to lobbying for the right of all adults to use marijuana. Members receive California NORML newsletter; free advice on drug testing, legal and health issues; announcements of meetings and events; and legislative alerts. Our membership list is held strictly confidential.

\_\_\_ \$100 Peace Dove    \_\_\_ \$50 Supporting Membership  
\_\_\_ \$30 Regular Membership  
\_\_\_ \$15 Low-income newsletter subscription

### 6-Color T-SHIRTS (Check Size)

\_\_\_ \$25 CA NORML on Black 100% cotton  
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\_\_\_ \$35 "Seal of California" 55% Hemp/45% cotton  
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### BOOKS

\_\_\_ \$25 "Marijuana Medical Handbook" by Dale Gieringer  
Ph.D., Ed Rosenthal and Gregory T. Carter, M.D.

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Mail check or money order to: Cal NORML,  
2261 Market St. #278A, San Francisco CA 94114

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## California NORML National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

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[www.canorml.org](http://www.canorml.org)

Fighting for Californians'  
rights since 1972



California NORML, a state chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, is a non-profit organization dedicated to reforming California's marijuana laws. Founded in 1972, our mission is to establish the right of adults to use cannabis legally. We are the only state organization devoted specifically to marijuana reform. We publish a newsletter, lobby lawmakers, sponsor events, offer legal, educational, and consumer health advice, and sponsor scientific research. Cal NORML maintains a separate membership and financial base from national NORML.

### CALIFORNIA NORML'S GOALS

- Legalize, tax and regulate marijuana for adult use in California like alcohol.
- Implement Prop. 215's goal of establishing a "safe and affordable" distribution system for medical marijuana.
- Completely decriminalize personal use and cultivation, as recommended by the State Research Advisory Panel in 1990.
- Stop marijuana urine tests, which have no bearing on job performance, and other forms of baseless discrimination against responsible marijuana users.

## Marijuana Prohibition is Costly and Unjust

Marijuana accounted for 17,008 felony and 61,164 misdemeanor arrests in California in 2009, at a cost to the state of \$200 - \$400 million.

Over 1,400 inmates are in state prison for marijuana offenses—up 1,500% since 1980. Many more are in county jails and federal prisons. Blacks are five times more likely to do time for marijuana crimes than whites.

The CAMP (Campaign Against Marijuana Planting) helicopter program eradicated a record 4.4 million plants in 2009, at an estimated value of over \$15 billion — enough to qualify as a major economic disaster.

The California Board of Equalization reports

that the state is collecting \$50 - \$100 million in sales taxes from medical marijuana, confirming an economic analysis by California NORML.

Californians consume about \$3 - \$6 billion worth of marijuana yearly. It is estimated that a legally taxed and regulated market could generate over \$1 billion in direct tax revenues, and \$12-18 billion with spin-off industries.

The war on marijuana has disrupted the peace of our wilderness and driven the market into the hands of criminal dealers and narco-traffickers.

The war on marijuana has deprived us of an economically valuable crop, cannabis hemp, a productive source of oil, fiber, protein and biomass.

## California's Failed War on Pot

California first outlawed cannabis or "Indian hemp" in 1913. Since then, the number of users has increased from a mere handful to some 3 million Californians, and over 2 million marijuana arrests have been recorded in the state.

Marijuana arrests soared in the 1960s, leading the legislature to partly decriminalize possession by the Moscone Act in 1976. The number of felony arrests promptly plummeted, saving the state an estimated \$100 million per year in enforcement costs.

In 1983 the state launched the CAMP (Campaign Against Marijuana Planting) helicopter eradication program to stop outdoor cultivation. The price of marijuana doubled, encouraging the disastrous crack epidemic.

In its 1990 annual report, the California

Research Advisory Panel recommended that personal possession and cultivation of marijuana be made legal. The panel stated:

*An objective consideration of marijuana shows that it is responsible for less damage to society and the individual than are alcohol and cigarettes.*

California became the first state to re-legalize medical marijuana when voters approved Proposition 215, the Compassionate Use Act of 1996. Contrary to the predictions of opponents that Prop. 215 would encourage teen drug abuse and "effectively legalize" marijuana, youth marijuana use declined in California after passage of 215—but arrests have continued unabated.

**Read more at: [www.CaNORML.org](http://www.CaNORML.org)**