



April 9, 2021

The Honorable C. Scott Grow  
The Honorable Gayann DeMordaunt  
The Honorable Brent Crane

Senator Grow, Representative DeMordaunt, and Representative Crane,

Family Policy Alliance of Idaho has reviewed House Joint Resolution 4. We offer our full support for the proposed constitutional amendment.

Seventeen states have legalized recreational marijuana as the movement to relax drug restrictions has swept our nation. Even casual observers know that the results from this ongoing social experiment have been disastrous. Marijuana use among youth is rising faster in those states that have legalized recreational marijuana than in states that have not. Drug-related DUIs and traffic fatalities are skyrocketing. Positive workplace drug tests have increased, as have workplace accidents, absenteeism, and disciplinary problems, all contributing to higher business expenses. While the societal costs of legalizing recreational marijuana have been high, the promised tax windfalls were much less than projected.

The first two states that legalized recreational marijuana (Washington and Colorado) now have more marijuana businesses than McDonald's or Starbucks locations. Voters in the neighboring State of Oregon recently passed – with a bare majority – a ballot initiative to decriminalize possession of small amounts of all drugs. This is not the future we want for Idaho or for the families who call our great state “home.”

HJR 4 empowers Idaho voters to decide whether the threshold for legalizing controlled substances should be raised to a supermajority vote of both legislative chambers. We hope that the people of Idaho will see the value of adopting this constitutional safeguard as an essential means of protecting the “Idaho Way.”

Thank you for your leadership on this important matter for Idaho families.

Sincerely,

Blaine Conzatti  
Executive Director  
Family Policy Alliance of Idaho

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