Citizens' Review Statement

This Citizens' Statement, authorized by the 2009 State Legislature, was developed by an independent panel of 24 Oregon voters who chose to participate in the Citizens' Initiative Review process. The panelists were randomly selected from registered voters in Oregon and balanced to fairly reflect the state's voting population based upon location of residence, age, gender, party affiliation, education, ethnicity, and likelihood of voting. Over a period of five days the panel heard from initiative proponents, opponents, and background witnesses. The panelists deliberated the measure and issued this statement. This statement has not been edited, altered, or approved by the Secretary of State.

The opinions expressed in this statement are those of the members of a citizen panel and were developed through the citizen review process. They are NOT official opinions or positions endorsed by the State of Oregon or any government agency. A citizen panel is not a judge of the constitutionality or legality of any ballot measure, and any statements about such matters are not binding on a court of law.

Citizen Statement of a Majority of the Panel

Key Findings –The following are statements about the measure and the number of panelists who agree with each statement.

- The language of the measure lacks clarity on regulation, operation, and enforcement. (23 agree)
- Medical marijuana provides recognized benefits for many serious conditions, some of which may not respond to other treatments. (21 agree)
- Dispensaries are non-profit entities licensed to possess, produce, sell, transport, and supply medical marijuana to cardholders and other dispensaries. (23 agree)
- Oregon Health Authority, with input from an advisory committee and public hearings, shall develop administrative rules. (21 agree)
- The program is financially self-sustaining and may provide funds for research. (22 agree)
- The measure shall provide an assistance program for low income cardholding patients to obtain medical marijuana. (21 agree)

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Shared Agreement Statement

Public policy impacts all citizens—we have had the opportunity to closely review material not readily available to voters—and have tried to examine both sides of this measure in an unbiased manner.

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Citizen Statement in Favor of the Measure

POSITION TAKEN BY 13 OF 24 PANELISTS

We, 13 members of the Citizens' Initiative Review, support Ballot Measure 74 for the following reasons:

- Implements a dispensary system for patients to acquire medical marijuana in a timely manner
- Provides improved access to safe, alternative treatment of serious medical conditions while reducing harmful side effects and addiction from opiates
- Generates jobs for residents providing a boost to Oregon's economy
- Self-sustaining program with potential to increase state revenue without imposing new taxes
- Introduces additional regulations and control to an existing program previously approved by Oregon voters
- Statewide public hearings allow for actual voter input in the rule making process

Summary: Measure 74 creates a safe, compassionate and prompt access program for Oregon medical marijuana patients, introduces regulation, and is financially sound.

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Citizen Statement Opposed to the Measure

POSITION TAKEN BY 11 OF 24 PANELISTS

We, 11 members of the Citizens' Initiative Review, oppose Ballot Measure 74 for the following reasons:

- Proponents are saying "trust us" before rules are made.
- Oregonians will not have a vote on such critical details as: maximum number of dispensaries, purchase limit for individuals in a given time period, penalties for infractions, and statewide recordkeeping for cardholders.
- Convicted felons can become dispensary directors or employees five years after conviction.
- Dispensary directors and their employees are exempt from prosecution for marijuana related activities when in "substantial compliance."
- "Substantial compliance" is not defined or enforceable according to district attorneys and law enforcement.
- Availability of marijuana will increase, inviting illegal activity.

Summary: Measure 74, a thinly veiled attempt to legalize marijuana, has a high probability of being abused!

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