



April 2 2013

From: Stormy Ray Cardholders' Foundation

## Please support HB 3371

Hello, My name is Jerry Wade and I am here representing the Stormy Ray Cardholders Foundation.

Over the past 14 years SRCF has actively supported and defended the right to use Medical marijuana in Oregon. In 2005 we helped pass SB-1085 that dramatically improved our law by setting reasonable limits and reducing the possibility of abuse within our program.

There have been many attempts to create a supply system, or to legalize marijuana in Oregon, but until now we have been unable to support them. Past proposals have failed to protect the interests of patients. Past attempts have primarily concentrating on generating income and had not focused on providing quality affordable medicine for the patients that use medical marijuana.

HB-3371 however would not infringe on a patient's right to produce their own medicine at home. HB-3371 permits for "homegrown" marijuana to be produced allowing patients to continue to grow their own medicine. Medical marijuana can be produced at home for around \$50 per ounce. In almost every instance where medical marijuana is sold in the U.S., it averages over \$200 per ounce.

Almost 40% of the patients in our program are indigent or low income and would not be able to afford their medicine without producing it themselves. Most patients use two to three ounces of medical marijuana a month, so producing it themselves is their only option.

We also believe legalizing marijuana would also reduce the price of medicine for those that can't grow for their own. Prohibition of marijuana has artificially increased the price far more than what a free market system would have permitted.

We also believe that full legalization would help decrease the stigma associated with using medical marijuana.

God Bless,

Jerry Wade  
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**Stormy Ray** has been active in the movement to legalize marijuana for the purposes of medical treatment for over a decade in Oregon. She was a Co-Chief Petitioner for Measure 67 that became the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act (OMMA) in 1998. The Stormy Ray Cardholders' Foundation is a non-profit Oregon medical marijuana information and support organization dedicated to helping patients utilize this law. Recently retired, Stormy has served on the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP) Advisory Committee. She served on the Oregon State Rehabilitation Advisory Council for two Governors and the Federal Disabilities Determination Advisory Board for four years. She is currently the president of the Stormy Ray Cardholders' Foundation (SRCF),