

Dear Senators,

I am the executive director of Oregon NORML and the only Latina on the board of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws in Washington D.C. As a retired correctional officer, I am concerned about public safety and equity in law enforcement.

Nearly 10 years ago I opened the first cannabis cafe in the United States, the World Famous Cannabis Cafe. We have been closed since 2016 and I would like to re-open as a licensed business.

I strongly urge you to pass S.B. 639 and, unless amended, oppose H.B. 2223. H.B. 2233 retains the current position we are in. Under this proposed legislation we will be left exactly where we are - out in the cold. As you know, it rains and snows more than half the year here and we have [put our patients in an untenable situation](#). H.B. 2233 does not fix the recent change made to the Indoor Clean Air Act that would prohibit the existence of these cafes. This is why we must pass S.B. 639.

This isn't just an issue of dysfunctional laws that allow adults living or visiting Oregon to purchase cannabis but not legally consume it, it is an issue of discrimination and equal rights because whenever you pick a certain group and treat them differently, that is discrimination. Medical marijuana patients, renters, the poor, people of color and women are often the least likely to not have a safe legal space to consume legally purchased or possessed cannabis.

I urge you to pass S.B. 639 in the interest of equity and respect for our patients and renters.

Thank you,

Madeline Martinez

103 SE 136th Ave
Portland, Oregon 97233