

Chuck Ream – speech to Ann Arbor council Medical Marijuana Public Hearing 4/19/11

Thank you for your work, but tonight I speak ^{full of anger} ~~with~~ full of fury. We are not asking you to do what you want to do. We are begging you to do what your voters ^{told} ~~want~~ you to do. ^{right in the charter.} Not a single councilperson supported me in any way in 2004 when I put Medical Marijuana on the Ann Arbor ballot, and we gathered 74.22% of the vote. ~~We know that council doesn't really support what the voters demanded, but~~ this is a time where council must do what the voters demanded in the ballot box.

~~No person of good faith wants anything about cultivation cluttering up this dispensary ordinance and making it an evil, repressive thing.~~ We absolutely cannot have *lists*, which the feds could successfully get from you. Anything about cultivation must be removed from this ordinance. A full regulatory framework for caregivers has *already been outlined under state law*. ~~NOTHING MORE IS DESIRED BY Ann Arbor voters.~~ ^{Now} (Recordkeeping requirements for dispensaries must also be tightened up, since they put caregivers in unnecessary danger.)

If council thumbs its nose at the will of the voters we will have to go ^{to voters} with a third referendum - which would put the full text of the State law into the Ann Arbor city charter, ~~with some requirement that the words be interpreted according to the dictionary.~~

This ordinance puts our lives on the line, not your lives –it makes us like fresh fruit hanging from a tree, ~~begging to be picked by the feds.~~ ~~Ann Arbor voters don't want this!~~

~~The question here is exactly the same as the one that Council voted on earlier: whether or not you are going to try to harass and inspect~~

~~regular state licensed caregivers.~~ How did Mr. Postema reframe this so that he ~~somehow~~ has the advantage? What did he tell you?

You voted months ago about exactly this. You voted to uphold the confidentiality in the state law by a terrifyingly close vote – 4 of you voted to defy state law and invade ~~caregivers~~ homes. We need a ~~unanimous vote of Council~~ ^{must uphold} ~~to uphold~~ the state law, and reject the home invasion and cost that are part of a “zoning compliance permit”.

A law like this was passed in Grand Rapids. ^{Just about} ~~One person applied for the permit and was turned down...~~ ^{Nobody applied} so hundreds of G R growers have now been driven back “underground”, and could be arrested. Even the conservative “Ann Arbor.com” newspaper said that council *did the right thing* by not setting up a whole new layer of bureaucracy and fees to harass local ~~(state licensed)~~ caregivers.

The struggle here is whether or not Mr. Postema can get you to buy into blatantly breaking the law or not. The ~~only~~ question is whether the wishes of Ann Arbor voters are going to be overwhelmed by the battering ram of the DEA and the MML lawyers association, with whom Mr. Postema has conspired. They want power and money for cities. Their disgusting “White Paper” by Gerald Fisher, is the source of this conspiracy to invade people’s homes. It is nonsense, dont buy into it.

Mr. Fishers analysis determines that the *DIRECT PROHIBITION* OF ANY TYPE OF SEARCH OR INSPECTION (in the state law) actually means that cities have a *duty to search and inspect*. It is straight up “newspeak” from George Orwell and 1984. Don’t buy into ~~absolute~~ nonsense.

This prostituted “analysis for cash” hurts democracy itself; when we see that ~~democracy doesn’t work because very powerful men will twist the~~

~~meaning of very simple words to get power and cash.~~ Councilmembers have *no idea* how serious this question really is. Even IF some mold got into a house somewhere it would not be as bad as the destruction and robbery of hundreds of Michigan families by the ~~federal~~ *feds*, ~~government.~~

AND PLEASE

~~People have been growing more than 72 plants in Ann Arbor for decades. There is nothing new here. THERE IS NOTHING SIGNIFICANT ABOUT REGULATING THE NUMBER OF PLANTS!!~~ A LARGE GROW LIGHT CAN EASILY GROW 72 PLANTS, OR ONE PLANT. *Plant count has nothing to do with anything.*

~~The feds build data over years (as they collect their salary and benefits from tax dollars). You may feel bad when the good people on your growers list or your dispensary suppliers list have their lives totally destroyed 3 years from now. You will say "I'm so sorry, I didn't think the feds would really invade Ann Arbor".~~

We cannot accept an illegal ordinance in Ann Arbor. ~~If I have to put up a new referendum and it fails we will move to Seattle.~~

Your proposed illegal ordinance would be devastating for poor people since it so strongly incentivizes selfishness. *Growers who wanted to help others would have to be on a supremely dangerous list* ~~Patients can grow for themselves as free citizens, but if they want to help others they have to~~ *No medicine would be there for poor people* ~~be on a supremely dangerous list, pay still more fees, and suffer an annual home invasion (and make all the upgrades that are demanded). (Nothing changes about homeowners having to get inspections if major changes are made in wiring.) No medicine will be left for poor people.~~

DEA/mml Plot to *inspect and make money.*

Please don't be taken in by this ~~Dutch Svengali/Rasputin figure~~, Please SUPPORT the law that your citizens voted *79%* for! Nothing is gained

for health, safety and welfare by trying to make these lists that are so dangerous to caregivers. ~~Please do the right thing.~~

Thank you for your work, but tonight I speak against this. We are not asking you what you want to do. We are begging you to do what your voters want you to do. Not a single person supported me in 2013 when I put Medical Marijuana on the Ann Arbor ballot and we gathered 74% of the vote. ~~What do you want to do?~~ ~~What do you want to do?~~ ~~What do you want to do?~~

~~What do you want to do?~~ ~~What do you want to do?~~ ~~What do you want to do?~~ We absolutely cannot have "tiers", which the feds could successfully get. ~~Anything about it must be removed from the~~

~~city charter and state law.~~ ~~Recordkeeping requirements for dispensaries must also be tightened up, since they put caregivers in unnecessary danger.~~

If cannot shove its nose at the will of the voters, we will have to go to the polls with a third referendum - which would put the full text of the State law into the Ann Arbor city charter.

This ordinance puts our lives on the line, not your lives. It makes us like a fish hanging from a tree.

Imagine the pain and suffering on the one side. ~~Imagine the pain and suffering on the one side.~~ ~~Imagine the pain and suffering on the one side.~~