



**Illinois
Cannabis
Patients
Association**

Illinois Cannabis Patients Association
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Another Reason to Vote Yes on Senate Bill 1381

Dear Illinois State Representative,

As a 55-year-old survivor of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma who watched his brother-in-law succumb to lung cancer in 2002 and his wife, sister, brother and 28-year-old daughter all wage their own horrendous battles with cancer over the last 15 years, I desperately hope our lawmakers will summon the courage to pass a medical cannabis law in Illinois.

Though we risked imprisonment, my wife and I benefited greatly from the clinically proven medicinal properties of cannabis during our cancer treatment. I can't emphasize enough how painful cancer treatment can be, and how effective cannabis was at relieving that pain.

My brother-in-law had no such relief during his seven-month struggle. He was a Lake County Sheriff's Deputy for 29 years, and preparing for retirement when he was diagnosed. We never told him of our cannabis use, partly because of his position as a police officer, partly out of fear for legal consequences. I will forever live with guilt over my inaction during his last painful moments.

I will also never forget holding my 28-year-old daughter's hair as she started the long journey of nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite and fear that accompanies cancer treatment. She was afraid to bring cannabis into her home because she has two young children. Her first prescription anti-nausea drug cost \$320 for 15 pills and was useless. The next two weren't any better. It's very difficult to watch your child suffer, especially when you know there's a safe and effective alternative.

Fourteen other states have taken steps to make sure patients like us won't live in fear of arrest and will get the medicine we need.

Why can't Illinois?

Sincerely,

Rob Robinson
Fox Lake, IL

The Illinois Cannabis Patients Association – because patients are not criminals