



Nurses Associations on Medical Marijuana

Alaska Nurses Association

"The Alaska Nurses Association supports the passage of Ballot Measure #8 [which] ... allow[s] patients to use marijuana as a medicine if they have a debilitating disease and an authorization from their doctor."

Reference: *ANA Resolution: September 1998*

American Nurses Association

"The American Nurses Association will: ... Support the right of patients to have safe access to therapeutic marijuana/cannabis under appropriate prescriber supervision. Support the ability of health care providers to discuss and/or recommend the medicinal use of marijuana without the threat of intimidation or penalization. Support legislation to remove criminal penalties including arrest and imprisonment for bona fide patients and prescribers of therapeutic marijuana/cannabis. "

Reference: *ANA Resolution: June 2003*

California Nurses Association

"The California Nurses Association supports AB (Assembly Bill) 1529 which would eliminate California's prohibition against possessing marijuana or growing marijuana for individuals using marijuana for medical purposes. ... This measure is a compassionate alternative for patients ... to obtain relief."

Reference: *Letter from CNA President Kurt Laumann, RN, to Gov. Pete Wilson (September 21, 1995)*

Colorado Nurses Association

"The Colorado Nurses Association recognize[s] the therapeutic use of cannabis [and] support efforts to end federal policies which prohibit or unnecessarily restrict marijuana's legal availability for legitimate health care uses. ... Marijuana must be placed in a less restrictive Schedule and made available to patients who may benefit from its use."

Reference: *Colorado Nurses Association 1995 Conventional Directory and Book of Reports*

Connecticut Nurses Association

"[P]atients [should] have safe access to therapeutic marijuana/cannabis under appropriate prescriber supervision."

Reference: *CNA Resolution: October 2004*

Hawaii Nurses Association

"[The HNA] support legislation to remove state level criminal penalties for both bona fide medical marijuana patients and their healthcare providers."

Reference: *HNA Resolution: adopted October 21, 1999.*

Illinois Nurses Association

"It is the position of the Illinois Nurses Association to: Support the right of patients to have safe access to therapeutic cannabis under appropriate prescriber supervision; ... [to] support legislation to remove criminal penalties including arrest and imprisonment for bonafide patients and prescribers of therapeutic cannabis; [and to] support federal and state legislation to include cannabis classification as a Schedule III [non-prohibited] drug."

Reference: *INA Position Statement: December 2004*

Mississippi Nurses Association

"The Mississippi Nurses Association support all reasonable efforts to end federal policies which prohibit or unnecessarily restrict marijuana's legal availability for legitimate medical uses; and be it Resolved that the Mississippi Nurses Association provide education to the nurses of Mississippi about the therapeutic use of marijuana and federal prohibition of its use; and be it Resolved that the Virginia Nurses Association encourage other health care provider organizations to support medical access to marijuana."

Reference: *Resolution for Marijuana Access for Therapeutic Use, adopted by the MNA House of Delegates: October 27, 1995*

National Nurses Society on Addictions

"The National Nurses Society on Addictions urges the federal government to remove marijuana from the Schedule I category immediately, and make it available for physicians to prescribe. NNSA urges the American Nurses' Association and other health care professional organizations to support patient access to this medicine."

Reference: *"Position Paper: Access to Therapeutic Cannabis," approved by the NNSA Board of Directors: May 1, 1995*

New Jersey State Nurses Association

"The NJSNA recognizes the therapeutic value and safety of medically recommended marijuana and ... supports legal access to medically recommended marijuana for patients in New Jersey who are under the care of a licensed health care provider."

Reference: *New Jersey State Nurses Association Press Release (March 25, 2002)*

New Mexico Nurses Association

"NMNA has voted to endorse the concept of allowing the therapeutic use of marijuana in a variety of disease states ... when conventional treatments are ineffective."

Reference: *Letter from NMNA President Ginny Guido (July 28, 1997)*

New York State Nurses Association

"Marijuana has been found to be effective in the treatment of glaucoma by reducing intraocular pressure and in reducing nausea and vomiting caused by chemotherapy. Marijuana has also been effective in stimulating the appetite of AIDS patients suffering from the wasting syndrome, controlling spasticity in spinal cord injury patients, and in controlling seizures for persons suffering from epilepsy and for persons with multiple sclerosis. ...The NYSNA Peer Assistance Committee agrees with the intent and content of the resolution 'Legalizing Marijuana for Medical Purposes.'"

Reference: *"Position Statement on Medicinal Marijuana," passed by the NYSNA Board of Directors: June 7, 1995*

North Carolina Nurses Association

"NCNA urges the Administration and Congress to make cannabis available as a legal medicine where shown to be safe and effective and to immediately allow access to therapeutic cannabis through the Investigational New Drug Program."

Reference: *"Position Statement on Therapeutic Use of Cannabis," adopted by the NCNA: October 15, 1996*

Rhode Island State Nurses Association

"[We support] legislation to remove criminal penalties including arrest and imprisonment for bona fide patients and prescribers of therapeutic marijuana/cannabis."

Reference: *Press release ("Two Rhode Island Medical Groups Endorse Medical Marijuana") of the Marijuana Policy Project: April 6, 2004*

Virginia Nurses Association

"The Virginia Nurses Association support all reasonable efforts to end federal policies which prohibit or unnecessarily restrict marijuana's legal availability for legitimate medical uses; and be it Resolved that the Virginia Nurses Association provide education to the nurses of Virginia on the therapeutic use of marijuana and federal prohibition of its use; and be it Resolved that the Virginia Nurses Association encourage other health care provider organizations to support medical

access to marijuana."

Reference: *Resolution passed by the VNA Delegate Assembly: October 7, 1994*

Wisconsin Nurses Association

"The Wisconsin Nurses Association urges the Governor of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Legislature to move expeditiously to make cannabis available as a legally prescribed medicine where shown to be safe and effective."

Reference: *Resolution adopted by WNA: October 29, 1999*

Congress of Nursing Practice

"The Congress of Nursing Practice ... support education for RN's regarding current evidence based therapeutic uses of cannabis, [and] support investigation of therapeutic efficacy of cannabis in controlled trials."

Reference: *Motion passed by the CNP: May 31, 1996*