

Arizona H.I.D.T.A. Demand Reduction Office

Marijuana Initiatives/Legislation 1970s to the Present

Revised 3/15/2006

Thirteen states—Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington—have enacted laws allowing the use of marijuana for ‘medical’ purposes with a doctor's recommendation or prescription.

2006 Activity: There have been 16 bills introduced in the 2006 legislative sessions; 1 confirmed ballot initiative (NV); 5 proposed ballot initiatives (CA local communities, CO, MI) yet to qualify; 1 Joint Measure (WA) and 10 ordinances. Actions to closely follow: The 2006 San Diego and other CA counties law suit against the state of CA regarding implementation of a card-holder system. The ACLU and others have now filed to insert themselves into the law suit as defendants along with the State of California.

Of the 2006 introduced bills: 0 have passed; 8 are open, and 8 failed to pass.

Of the 10 ordinances introduced: 4 are open and 6 have passed: 4 have passed that prohibit marijuana dispensaries (San Marcos, Riverbank, Pico Rivera and Lake Elsinor CA); 1 has passed (Santa Cruz City CA) to create a ‘Compassionate Use Office’ and 1 has passed (Lawrence KS) decriminalizing marijuana possession.

Alabama

Convenes quadrennially on the second Tuesday in January and shall not remain in session longer than sixty days at the first session held under the Constitution, nor longer than fifty days at any subsequent session.

2005	HB 703 Med. marij. for debilitating medical condition(postponed indef.)	FAILED
1979	SB 559 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED

Alaska

The legislature shall convene in regular session each year on the fourth Monday in January. The legislature shall adjourn from regular session no later than one hundred twenty consecutive calendar days from the date it convenes except that a regular session may be extended once for up to ten consecutive calendar days. Reconvene Jan. 9-May 9, 2006

2006	HB 149 to re-criminalize marijuana (to conference process 2/2)	OPEN
2005	SB 74/HB 96 to re-criminalize marijuana (open 2005) [2003 AK Appeals Court struck down 1990 ballot measure to re-criminalize that passed ((2003 WL 22026345 (Alaska App.)); AK Supreme Ct. Upheld Appeals Ct. 2004]	FAILED
2004	Ballot Measure 2** Alaska Cannabis Decrimin. & Regulation Act	FAILED
2000	Ballot Measure 5 §11.71.090; 17.37.010-17.37.080 (2000)	FAILED
1999	Measure 99 MNJA (To decriminalize marijuana)	PASSED
1998	Ballot Measure 8 An Act* Relating to the Medical Use of Marijuana for Persons Suffering from Debilitating Medical Conditions (58% supported)(Senate amended under SB 94)	PASSED
1990	Ballot Measure (to re-criminalize personal marijuana use)	PASSED
1982	Marijuana use for therapeutic research session law §5 ch. 45 (Repealed 1986)	PASSED

- A legislative bill to allow marijuana possession of up to 4 ounces *PASSED*
- 1975 Decriminalized marijuana possession (rescinded 1990)(Act of Sept. 2, 1975, ch. 110, 1975 Alaska Sess. Laws.) *PASSED*
- Alaska Supreme Court ruling- may possess up to 4 oz. marijuana for home use by adults. [Ravin v. State, 537 P.;2d 494 (Alaska 1975)]

Arkansas

The Arkansas General Assembly convenes in regular session on the second Monday in January of every odd-numbered year. A session lasts for 60 days unless the legislature votes to extend it.

- 2004 Measure: Arkansas Medical Marijuana Act (not qualified for ballot) *FAILED*
- 2003 HB 2596 Decriminalize 1 oz. or less (voice voted down) *FAILED*
- HB 1321 Decriminalize for patients *FAILED*
- 2000 Measure 99-299 (To decriminalize marijuana) *FAILED*
- 1999 Measure 99-415 Arkansas Medical Marijuana Act *FAILED*
- 1999 Measure 99-419 (To decriminalize marijuana) *FAILED*
- 1981 HB 171 Medical marijuana via capsules, pills, injections (Repealed 1987) *PASSED*

Arizona

The legislature shall assemble on the second Monday of January each year and adjourn sine die no later than the Saturday of the week in which the 100th day of session falls.

- 2002 Proposition 203* (To decriminalize marijuana) *FAILED*
- 2000 Proposition 201* The Drug Medicalization, Prevention, and Control Act of 2000. (Original was withdrawn by supporters, picked up by Plants are Medicine group and did not get to ballot.) *FAILED*
- 1998 Proposition 300* An initiative to reinstate certain provisions of Proposition 200 which the Legislature modified (in 1997 bills) *PASSED*
- 1998 Proposition 301* Permits physicians to prescribe marijuana without FDA approval and without DEA reclassifying marijuana from Sch. I *PASSED*
- 1996 Proposition 200* The Drug Medicalization, Prevention, and Control Act of 1996 (65% of the vote) *PASSED*

California

The Legislature shall convene in regular session on the first Monday in December of each even-numbered year and each house shall immediately organize. Each session of the Legislature shall adjourn at midnight on November 30 of the following even-numbered year.

- 2006** -AB 1147 Industrial Hemp Bill (from 2005) Passed House *OPEN*
- Los Angeles County Ordinance to allow dispensaries in unincorp. areas to allow pot-laced food, marijuana paraphernalia, cannabis seedlings, allow smoking & eating marijuana products on site. *OPEN*
- Lompoc moratorium prohibits medicinal marijuana dispensaries in town expires April 17 requiring Council action *OPEN*
- Mountain View (Santa Clara Co.) Ordinance consider allowing cannabis dispensaries *OPEN*
- Porterville consideration of extending hold on med. marij. dispensary permits for additional 10 months and 15 days *OPEN*
- Santa Cruz City ballot initiative (need 5,000 signatures by 4/20/06) to make adult marij. use lowest law enforcement priority; *OPEN*

	-Santa Barbara ballot initiative drive (similar to Santa Cruz City)	OPEN
	-West Hollywood ballot initiative drive (similar to Santa Cruz City)	OPEN
	-Riverbank (Modesto area) temporary ban on marijuana dispensaries	PASSED
	-Lake Elsinore Ordinance to ban marij. dispensaries	PASSED
	-Pico Rivera Ordinance temporary ban on marijuana dispensaries	PASSED
	-San Marcos Ordinance outlawing businesses from distributing medical marijuana. One existing dispensary allowed to continue	PASSED
	-Santa Cruz City Ordinance creates Office of Compassionate Use	PASSED
2005	Clovis Ordinance allows cultivation, formation of a cooperative, outdoor smoking out of public view, outdoor growing, takes effect Jan. 5, 2006	PASSED
	West Hollywood Ordinance for medical marijuana	PASSED
2004	Berkley Measure 11: Patients Access to Medical Cannabis Act	FAILED
	Oakland Measure Z***: Cannabis Regulation and Revenue Ordinance	PASSED
	SB 131 Reduce criminal penalty for marijuana possession	FAILED
	Proposition 66* Three Strikes law amendment	FAILED
	SB 1494 Allows 'patient' up to 8 oz. marijuana (Gov. vetoed)	FAILED
	AB 2223 Reduce Penalty Cultivation of Marijuana for Personal Use	FAILED
2003	AB 1534 Legalize marijuana paraphernalia (died in Assembly)	FAILED
	AJR 13 Resolve US Congress allow states rights on medical marijuana	PASSED
	SB 131 Reduce criminal penalty for marijuana possession	FAILED
	SB 295 Authorize Univ. Of Calif. 3-year medical marijuana research	PASSED
	SB 420 Medical Marijuana ID Card System	PASSED
2002	Proposition S (San Francisco only) City to explore growing/dist. Marij.	PASSED
2000	Proposition 36* The Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000	PASSED
2000	Measure G (Mendicino Co. only) Decriminalize Possession/Cultivation	PASSED
1999	SB 847 Medical cannabis research	PASSED
1997	SB 535 Marijuana Research Act of 1997	FAILED
1996	Proposition 215* The Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (56%)	PASSED
1993	SJR 8 Non-binding urging federal government to allow med. marijuana	PASSED
1979	SB 184 Marijuana for therapeutic use program (expired 1989)	PASSED
1975	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of July 9, 1975, ch. 248, 1975 Cal. Stat. 641.)	PASSED
1972	Marijuana legalization on ballot (66%-34%)	FAILED

Colorado

Convene no later than the second Wednesday of January of each year and regular sessions shall not exceed one hundred twenty calendar days.

2006	Petition drive: Alcohol-Marijuana Equalization Initiative-legalize 1 oz. marijuana (Needs 68,000 petition signatures)	OPEN
2005	I-100 Denver ballot init. to legalize 1 oz. marijuana (54%)	PASSED
	Question 200 Telluride ballot proposal: possession of 1 oz. or less marijuana at 18 or older lowest law enforcement priority (332-308)	FAILED
2001	HB 01-1371 Authorizes and clarifies rules for Amendment 20	PASSED
2000	Amendm. 20* Medical Use of Marijuana Article XVIII §14 (54%)	PASSED
1998	Initiative 40* Medical Use of Marijuana for Person Suffering from Debilitating Medical Conditions (Court Nullified Reinstated	

	to ballot 2000)	<i>FAILED</i>
	Amendment 19 Medical Use of Marijuana (Per CO Supreme Court, not enough petition signers and vote invalidated)	<i>FAILED</i>
1979	HB 1042 Marijuana for therapeutic use program	<i>PASSED</i>
1975	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of July 1, 1975, ch. 115, 1975 Colo. Sess. Laws 433.)	<i>PASSED</i>

Connecticut

Convene the Wednesday following the first Monday of the January and adjourn each regular session not later than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in June.

2005	SB 124/HB 6578 for medical use of marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
2004	HB 5355 Medical Use of Marijuana-passed house; tabled for calendar	<i>FAILED</i>
2003	HB 5100 Medical Use of Marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
2002	HB 5055 Medical Use of Marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
2001	HB 5666 Medical Use of Marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
1997	SB 1263** Medical Use of Marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
	SB 1259 Decriminalization measures	<i>FAILED</i>
1981	HB 5217 Marijuana by prescription	<i>PASSED</i>

District of Columbia

2002	Initiative 62 Treatment, not Jail (Passed, Congress blocked)	<i>FAILED</i>
2000	Bill 13-240 Scheduling of marijuana for medical use to Sch. III	
1998	Initiative 59 Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment (Vote nullified by Congress & prohibited from release)	<i>FAILED</i>
1981	Bill 4-123 Reschedules marijuana when for medical use to Sch. V	<i>PASSED</i>

Florida

Convenes on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each odd-numbered year, and on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March, or such other date as may be fixed by law, of each even-numbered year. A regular session of the legislature shall not exceed sixty consecutive days, and a special session shall not exceed twenty consecutive days, unless extended beyond such limit by a three-fifths vote of each house.

2004	Tallahassee: Proposed amendment to city charter Practical Law Enforcement Amendment (court ruled against being on the ballot)	<i>FAILED</i>
	Ballot Initiative on Right to Treatment for Nonviolent Drug Offenses to amend FL constitution (not activated for 2004)	<i>N/A</i>
2001	An Initiative Petition Right to Treatment and Rehabilitation for Nonviolent Drug Offenses (for 2002 ballot) Supreme Ct. ruled too late for 2002 ballot, group vowed to get on 2004 ballot.	<i>FAILED</i>
2000	An Initiative* Freedom to Use Medicinal Marijuana for Specific Certified Medical Purposes (Under challenge in Fl Supreme Court)	<i>FAILED</i>
	An Initiative The Legalization of Cannabis Sativa L. for All Purposes	<i>FAILED</i>
1998	Petition for ballot initiative Medical Marijuana (did not qualify)	<i>FAILED</i>
1978	HB 1237 Establishes therapeutic research program for those suffering from cancer chemotherapy (Repealed 1984)	<i>PASSED</i>

Georgia

Annual sessions begin on the 2nd Monday in January and run for 40 Legislative days.

1997	HB 370 To repeal HB 1077	FAILED
1982	Marijuana legalized on condition regulations be written (not done, therefore no effect from the law)	PASSED
1980	HB 1077 Marijuana for therapeutic research	PASSED

Hawaii

Convenes annually in regular session on the third Wednesday in January and adjourns in sixty days. Special sessions shall be limited to a period of thirty days. Any session may be extended a total of not more than fifteen days.

2005	SCR 197/HCR 230 Request legislative reference bureau conduct study re: appropriate placement of the medical marijuana program	ADOPTED
	SCR 197 SD1 Request Director of Health convene medical marijuana working group recommend improve HI's med. marij. program	ADOPTED
	SB 1354/HB 398 Designates entities to dispense marijuana	FAILED
	SB 128/HB 1046 Raises limit of marijuana 'patient' may possess	FAILED
	SB 1056/HB 1751 Decriminalizes possession less than 1 oz. marijuana	FAILED
2004	SB 2641 Administration of medical marijuana program	FAILED
	HB 2669/SB 3139 Medical marijuana distributors	FAILED
	HB 1218 Remove registry fee cap; exclude certain 'patients'	FAILED
	SB 1389 Place limitations on medical marijuana statute	FAILED
	SB 2029 To eliminate the affirmative defense for 'patients'	FAILED
2003	HB 1218 Remove registry fee cap; exclude certain 'patients' (to 2004)	FAILED
	SB 1389 Place limitations on medical marijuana statute (to 2004)	FAILED
2002	HB 57 Hemp bill (privately funded research) (Sunsets Jun 2005)	PASSED
	SB 1182/HB 707 Medical marijuana users, medical conditions	FAILED
	SB 1231 Amends definitions of supply, written certification	FAILED
	SB 2502/HB 1805 Medical marijuana distributors	FAILED
2001	SB 1182/HB 707 Medical marijuana users, medical conditions (to 2002)	FAILED
	SB 1231 Amends definitions of supply, written certification (to 2002)	FAILED
2000	SB 862/HB 1157 Medical use of marijuana	PASSED
1999	Hemp production (received DEA approval to now grow hemp)	PASSED
1997	HB 604 Allows marijuana by prescription	FAILED
	HCR 62 Asking federal government to permit research on therapeutic effects of marijuana	FAILED

Illinois

The General Assembly convenes each year on the second Wednesday of January.

2006	SB 2568 Medical Cannabis	FAILED
2005	HB 407 Medical Cannabis	FAILED
2004	SB 2440/HB 4868 Medical Cannabis Act (no action taken)	FAILED
1979	HB 366 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED
1978	HB 2625 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED

Iowa

The general assembly shall meet in session on the second Monday of January of each year. The first session of a General Assembly is held in odd-numbered years and lasts for approximately 110 calendar days. The second session is held in even-numbered years and lasts for approximately 100 calendar days.

2005	Senate File 64 Legal protection for med. marij. patients	FAILED
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	Iowa City Ballot Initiative: Med. Marijuana (did not qualify for ballot)	<i>FAILED</i>
2003	SF 234 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	<i>FAILED</i>
2001	HF 658 Medical marijuana decriminalization	<i>FAILED</i>
	SF 113 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	<i>FAILED</i>
2000	SF 2076 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	<i>FAILED</i>
1997	HF 422 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	<i>FAILED</i>
1991	HF 1187 Allows prescriptions for marijuana	<i>PASSED</i>
1979	SF 487 Reschedules marijuana if for medical use; allows marijuana use for therapeutic research (therapeutic research removed 1987)	<i>PASSED</i>

Kansas

2006	Ordinance: Lawrence decreases 1 st time marijuana possession court penalty, but increased the fines	<i>PASSED</i>
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Louisiana

In even-numbered years, a general session convenes on the last Monday in March to extend for no longer than 60 legislative days during a period of 85 days. In odd-numbered years, a limited jurisdiction session convenes on the last Monday in April for no longer than 45 legislative days during a period of 60 days.

1997	HB 2492 Establish Advisory Committee on Pain	<i>PASSED</i>
	HB 226/SB 1139 Drug Dealer Liability Act	<i>PASSED</i>
1991	HB 1187 Legalizes controlled substances by prescription	<i>PASSED</i>
1978	SB 245 Legalizes controlled substances by prescription (repealed 1989)	<i>PASSED</i>

Maine

Convenes first Wednesday of December following the general election in what shall be designated the first regular session of the Legislature; and shall further convene on the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday of January in the subsequent even-numbered year in what shall be designated the second regular session of the Legislature and adjourns 120 days later.

2005	LD 1538 To increase amount of marijuana possessed to 8 oz.	<i>FAILED</i>
2001	LD 611 Doubles amount of marijuana possessed to 2 ½ oz.	<i>PASSED</i>
2000	LD 2580 to implement LD 2109 (Title 22, §2383-B(5))	<i>PASSED</i>
1999	Question 2/LD 2109*: Medical Marijuana Act of 1998 (61% yes)	<i>PASSED</i>
1997	LD 1059 Exempt medical marijuana from criminal penalties	<i>FAILED</i>
	LD 1006 Re-establish a therapeutic research program	<i>FAILED</i>
1991	Marijuana use for therapeutic research; distrib. at pharmacies	<i>FAILED</i>
1983	HB 1025 Marijuana use for therapeutic research (sunsets 1987)	<i>PASSED</i>
1979	HB 665 Marijuana use for therapeutic research (sunsets 1981)	<i>PASSED</i>
1975	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of Mar. 1, 1976, ch. 499, 1975 Me. Laws 1273, 1368)	<i>PASSED</i>

Maryland

Convenes the second Wednesday of January annually and is in regular session for 90 days.

2003	SB 502/HB 702 Darrell Putman Compassionate Use Act	<i>PASSED</i>
2002	HB 0504 Affirmative Defense	<i>FAILED</i>
	HB 1222 Darrell Putman Compassionate Use Act	<i>FAILED</i>
	HB 0024 Medical necessity defense	<i>FAILED</i>
2001	SB 705/HB 940 Darrell Putman Compassionate Use Act	<i>FAILED</i>

2000	FHB/THB 1250 Industrial Hemp Pilot Program	<i>PASSED</i>
	HB 308 Darrell Putman Compassionate Use Act	<i>FAILED</i>
1997	SB 72 To increase marijuana possession penalties	<i>FAILED</i>

Massachusetts

The legislative body (The General Court) convenes annually on the first Wednesday in January for annual sessions.

2006	HB 2742 Medical Marijuana bill (@ 3/8 H4734 created authorizing committee on Public Health to investigate & study a certain House document concerning the medical use of marijuana - reported favorably)	<i>OPEN</i>
	SB 1151 Decriminalize marij (less than 1 oz.)(held in committee)	<i>FAILED</i>
2005	HB 2742 Regulating use of Med. Marijuana (did not leave committee)	<i>FAILED</i>
	SB 1151 Decriminalize possession of marij. -civil fine	<i>FAILED</i>
2004	Non-binding questions on local ballots in 11 legislative districts	<i>PASSED</i>
	PPQ 1** Worcester/Norfolk med. marij. 69-31% in favor	
	PPQ 3** 3 rd Berkshire med. marij. 72-28% in favor	
	PPQ 1 2 nd Essex decrimin. of marij to civil 63-37% in favor	
	PPQ 1 3 rd Essex/Middlesex decrimin. of marij to civil 66-34% in favor	
	PPQ 2** 1 st Hampshire Legalize marij for adults 58-42% in favor	
	PPQ 1** 24 th Middlesex med. marijuana 80-20% in favor	
	PPQ 1** 6 th Norfolk med. marijuana 71-29% in favor	
	PPQ 1 10 th Norfolk decrimin. of marij to civil 60-40% in favor	
	PPQ 1** 3 rd Plymouth decrimin. of marij. to civil 69-31% in favor	
	PPQ 1** 7 th Plymouth med. marij. 70-30% in favor	
	PPQ 1** 6 th Worcester decrimin. of marij to civil 63-37% in favor	
	PPQ 2** 12 th Worcester decrimin. of marij to civil 68-32% in favor	
2003	SB 207 (HB 2392 Companion bill) Decriminalization (4/04 in committee)	<i>FAILED</i>
	HB 2965/SB 676 Decriminalize (re-filed as HB 2742 @2005)	<i>FAILED</i>
2002	Marijuana decriminalization local ballots (42 towns) Non-binding	<i>PASSED</i>
2000	Petition P* An Act to Expand the Scope of the Commonwealth's Drug Treatment Program and Provide Funding Through Fines for Drug Violations and the Forfeiture of Assets	<i>FAILED</i>
1997	SB 473 Expand Therapeutic uses of marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
1996	H. 2170 Marijuana Therapeutic Medical Research (expanded)	<i>PASSED</i>
1995	Marijuana Therapeutic Medical Research (Gov. did not sign)	<i>FAILED</i>
1993	Attempt to get sponsors for 4 ACLU marijuana bills	<i>FAILED</i>
1991	SB 1582 Marijuana use for therapeutic research; authorizes prescriptions	<i>PASSED</i>

Michigan

Convenes the second Wednesday in January of each year. Each regular session shall adjourn on a day determined by concurrent resolution. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.

2006	Petition drive in effect for ballot initiative to amend state constitution to legalize marijuana, authorize liquor retailers to sell marijuana	<i>OPEN</i>
	HB 5470 (Intro. 12/1/05) Med. marij./property non-forfeiture	<i>OPEN</i>
2005	Ferndale Proposal D Med. marij. users legal protection (61%-39%)	<i>PASSED</i>
	Traverse City Proposal 3 Med. marij. users legal protection (63%-37%)	<i>PASSED</i>
	Flint Petition for ballot proposal rejected on technicality	<i>FAILED</i>

2004	Ann Arbor Proposal C** Medical Marijuana (74%-26%)	PASSED
	Detroit Proposal M** Medical Marijuana (August, 59% to 41%)	PASSED
	Petition to Regulate Cannabis Grown in Michigan (did not qualify)	FAILED
2003	Marijuana possession/drug treatment decriminalization	FAILED
2002	Diversion to treatment initiative* (Did not qualify for ballot 2002)	FAILED
2000	PRA 2000 Personal Responsibility Amendment (did not qualify)	FAILED
1996	Traverse City Ballot Proposal to decriminalize possession 1 oz. of marijuana(58% to 42%)	FAILED
1994	Traverse City Petition for ballot initiative (City Commissioners rejected but the measure did make the 1996 ballot)	FAILED
1982	SB 816 Reschedules marijuana for therapeutic research (sunsets 1987)	PASSED
	SR 473 Non-binding urging federal government to allow med. marijuana	PASSED
1979	SB 185 Marijuana for therapeutic research (sunsets 1982)	PASSED

Minnesota

Convenes in regular session each odd numbered year on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January. In the even numbered years, it convenes on a date set by joint agreement of both bodies. The state constitution limits the Legislature to meeting 120 legislative days during each biennium. In addition, the Legislature may not meet in regular session after the first Monday following the third Saturday in May of any year.

2006	SF 1973/HF 2171 Medical Marijuana (carried forward from 2005)	FAILED
2005	SF 1973/HF 2171 (carried fwd. into 2006)	
2004	Minneapolis Charter: Amend for Distribution of Medical Marijuana** (Not on 2004 ballot-City Council did not allow)	FAILED
2003	HF 1440/SF 1328 Compassionate Use Act (decriminalize)	FAILED
1999	Bill allowing hemp production	PASSED
	Bill Decriminalize for Medical Marijuana Users (dies in Legislature)	FAILED
1997	HB 1025 Allow prescriptions for marij. & medical necessity defense	FAILED
	Bill To Study Feasibility of Industrial Hemp Crops (Governor vetoed)	PASSED
1980	HF 2476 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED
1976	Decriminalized marijuana possession(Act of Mar. 11, 1976, ch. 42, 1976 Minn. Laws 101)	PASSED

Mississippi

Convenes the Tuesday after the first Monday of January annually, unless sooner convened by the Governor; provided, however, that such sessions shall be limited to a period of one hundred twenty-five (125) calendar days for regular session and every fourth year thereafter, but ninety (90) calendar days for every other regular session.

2006	HB 53 Medical Marijuana	FAILED
	HB 581 Decriminalize marijuana possession	FAILED
2005	HB 147 Medical Marijuana	FAILED
2004	HB 84 Medical Marijuana	FAILED
2003	HB 1044 Medical Marijuana	FAILED
1977	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of July 1, 1977, Ch. 482, 1977 Miss. Laws 922)	PASSED

Missouri

Convenes the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January after adjournment at midnight on May thirtieth of the preceding year.

2004	Columbia: Ballot Init. Medical Marijuana, Prop. 1** (69%-31%)	PASSED
	Columbia: Ballot init. Smart Sentencing, Prop. 2** (61%-39%)	PASSED
	Columbia: Medical Marijuana Ordinance (August)	FAILED
	HB 1348 Medical use of marijuana	FAILED
2003	Columbia, MO Proposition 1	FAILED
	HB 644 Medical marijuana	FAILED
1997	HB 601 Medical use of marijuana	FAILED
1994	SR 14 Non-binding urging federal government to allow med. marijuana	PASSED

Montana

The legislature shall meet in January of each odd-numbered year in regular session of not more than 90 legislative days.

2004	Ballot Init. #I-148** Medical Marijuana (63%-37%)	PASSED
2003	HB 506 Medical Marijuana	FAILED
2001	SB 26 Authorizing commercial hemp production	PASSED
1979	HB 463 Reschedule marijuana if federal gov't. allows prescriptions	PASSED

Nebraska

Convenes the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January of each year. The duration of regular sessions held shall not exceed ninety legislative days in odd-numbered years.

1997	LB 845 Re-criminalize marijuana possession	FAILED
1978	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of Apr. 20, 1978, No. 808, 2, 1978 Neb. Laws 817)	PASSED

Nevada

Convenes biennially on the 1st Monday of February following the election of members of the Assembly and shall adjourn sine die each regular session not later than 120 calendar days following its commencement.

2006	I.P. 3 Legalize marijuana** (ACLU suit placed on 2006 ballot)	OPEN
2004	Ballot Question-Full Legalization of marijuana** (did not qualify)	FAILED
2003	AB 362 Rebut driving under influence	FAILED
	AB 130 Add D.O.s to qualified physicians; fee guidelines	PASSED
2002	Question 9* Legalization of up to 3 oz. Marijuana	FAILED
2001	AB 453 Decriminalization	PASSED
2000	Question 9* (Medical Marijuana Initiative--2nd vote 65%)	PASSED
1998	An Initiative* Medical Marijuana Initiative (1 st of 2 parts to amend state constitution)	PASSED
1979	SB 470 Therapeutic research program (repealed 1987 by AB 695)	PASSED

New Hampshire

Convenes annually on the first Wednesday following the first Tuesday in January and shall dissolve on the first Wednesday of December.

2005	HB 0197 Decriminalization of marijuana	FAILED
1998	HB 1563 Allow physicians to prescribe FDA approved cannabis	PASSED
	Attempt to legalize cultivation of marijuana	FAILED
	HB 118 Decriminalize possession of 1.5 oz. marijuana	FAILED
1981	SB 21 Allows pharmacist to dispense marijuana (318-B:9)	PASSED

New Jersey

Convenes the two-year legislative term on the second Tuesday in January of each even-numbered year.

2006	S 88/A 933 Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act	OPEN
2005	S 2200 Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act	FAILED
1981	AB 819 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED

New Mexico

Convenes in January of each year and runs 30 days in even-numbered years, 60 days in odd-numbered years.

2006	SB 258 Lynn Pierson Compassionate Use Act (Senate passed 34-6)	FAILED
2005	SB 795 Lynn Pierson Compassionate Use Act (Senate passed 27-11)	FAILED
	SB 891 Med. Therapeutic Use of Cannabis Act (Senate passed 29-11)	FAILED
	SB 492 Compassionate Use Med. Marij. Act (Senate passed 31-9)	FAILED
2003	HB 242 Compassionate Use Act Defeated on House floor 20-46	FAILED
	SB 365 Treatment in lieu of jail Defeated on Senate floor 20-46	FAILED
	SB 889 Same as 365 (Dummy Bill) Did not survive Committee	FAILED
2002	6 Bills Medical use of marijuana; reforms in correctional and judicial systems; judicial discretion in sentencing, instead of mandatory prison time; civil penalties for basic marijuana possession; protection from civil-asset forfeiture for innocent property owners; offenders who have completed their drug sentences to apply for federal benefits that could provide economic stability and reduce the chances for repeat offenses. (Did not make it out of committee)	FAILED
2000	State Senate condemns Gov. Gary Johnson for pro-legalization stance	PASSED
1982	SM 42 Non-binding urging federal government to allow med. marijuana	PASSED
1978	HB 329 Lynn Pierson Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED

New York

Convenes first Wednesday in January and adjourns in June.

2006	SO 1062/AO 8265 Medical Marijuana (re-introduced)	OPEN
	SO 5040 Medical Marijuana Certification (re-intro.:Health Comm.)	OPEN
2005	SB 1062 Medical Marijuana (open 2005)	N/A
	SB 5040 Medical Marijuana Certification of users (open 2005)	N/A
2004	SB 4805/AB 5796A Medical Marijuana	FAILED
2003	AB 5796 Medical Marijuana Use (newer vers. Intro. 2004)	FAILED
	SB 4805 Medical Marijuana Use (to 2004)	FAILED
2002	Attempt to get on ballot with an initiative	FAILED
1997	AB 6407 Allow possession of 8 oz. marijuana for medical use and authorize NY Dept. Of Health or others to sell marijuana	FAILED
1980	SB 1123-6 Marijuana use for therapeutic research	PASSED
1977	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of June 29, 1977, ch. 360, 1977 N.Y. Laws)	PASSED

North Carolina

Biennially on the third Wednesday after the second Monday in January.

1979	HB 1065 Allows physicians to prescribe marijuana (repealed by HB 878 in 1987)	PASSED
1977	Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of July 1, 1977, ch. 862, 1977	

North Dakota

The North Dakota Legislative Assembly meets biennially, from approximately the second week in January to mid-April in each odd-numbered year.

1999 HB 1428 Bill allowing hemp production PASSED

Ohio

Convenes on the first Monday of January in the odd-numbered year, or on the succeeding day if the first Monday of January is a legal holiday, and in second regular session on the same date of the following year.

2005 SB 74 Ohio Medical Marijuana Act (no action 2005 per sponsor) FAILED

2002 Issue 1* Amend state constit. for treatment, not incarceration FAILED

1996 SB 2 to repeal 1995 SB 2 medical necessity defense PASSED

1995 SB 2 Medical necessity legal defense (repealed 1997) PASSED

1980 SB 184 Marijuana use for therapeutic research (expired 1984) PASSED

1975 Decriminalized marijuana possession (Act of July 1, 1976, No. 300, 1,
1975-1976 Ohio Laws 2311, 2323-24) PASSED

Oklahoma

Convenes the first Monday in February each year and the regular session shall be finally adjourned sine die on the last Friday in May of each year.

2003 SB 779 Penalty reduction for marijuana (Passed Senate, not House) FAILED

Oregon

The assembly convenes every two years in regular session on the second Monday in January during odd-numbered years. Oregon Constitution does not specify a limitation on session length, however most sessions last approximately six months.

2005 SB 1085/HB 2693 Increases quantity of marijuana to possess PASSED

SB 772 Authorizes grow sites to produce marijuana for 7 persons
(in committee when adjourned) FAILED

2004 Ballot Initiative #33** Medical Marijuana Act (58%-42%) FAILED

2003 HB 2939 Exclude 'patients' w/prior drug conviction; req. education FAILED

2002 Initiative Petition #4 Marijuana/Hemp penalty reductions (not on ballot) FAILED

Initiative Petition #41 Use, possession, cultivation marij. (not on ballot) FAILED

Initiative Petition #174 OR Cannabis Initiative (not on ballot) FAILED

Initiative Petition #180 Amends Med. Marijuana Act (not on ballot) FAILED

2000 Ballot Measure 3* The Oregon Property Protection Act Art. XV, §10 PASSED

Initiative Petition #s 19, 42 The Oregon Cannabis Tax Act (not on ballot) FAILED

Initiative Petition #1 Oregonians for Personal Privacy (not on ballot) FAILED

1998 Measure 8 An Initiative Oregon Medical Marijuana Act of 1998 PASSED

Measure 67* Physician approval to use marij. authorize supplies (55%) PASSED

Measure 57 Re-criminalize marij. possession, overturn HB 3643 (67%) FAILED

1997 HB 2900 Allows growing of marijuana with permit FAILED

HCR 11 Urges federal government to allow prescription marijuana FAILED

HB 3643** Re-criminalized marijuana possession PASSED

1986 Marijuana legalization on ballot (26% for) FAILED

1979 HB 2267 Marijuana by prescription for glaucoma and chemotherapy

- (repealed 1987 by SB 160) *PASSED*
- 1973 Decriminalize marijuana possession (Act of July 22, 1973, ch. 680, 1973 Or. Laws 1521.) *PASSED*

Rhode Island

Convenes first Tuesday of January in each year and adjourns in early July.

- 2005 SB 710/HB 6052** Rhode Island Medical Marijuana Act (Passed, Governor vetoed, Senate and House overrode veto 1/3/06) *PASSED*
- 2004 HB7588/H 7588a Rhode Island Medical Marijuana Act/Commission (Session adjourned, no action until next session, H 7588a committee recommends passage to create a commission to study proposal) *FAILED*
- SB 2357 Medical Marijuana *FAILED*
- 2003 SB 725 Decriminalize *FAILED*
- 2002 HB 7430/SB 2627 Makes marijuana possession a misdemeanor *FAILED*
- 2001 HB 5979 Reduce penalty for marijuana in certain circumstances *PASSED*
- 1998 HB 7555 Reduce penalty for possession of hypodermic needles *FAILED*
- 1997 SB 0555 Compassionate Use of Marijuana Act *FAILED*
- 1980 HB 79.6072 Marijuana use for therapeutic research *PASSED*

South Carolina

Convenes the second Tuesday in January for 40 days.

- 1980 S 350 Marijuana use for therapeutic research *PASSED*

South Dakota

Convenes on the second Tuesday of January annually. Regular session in each odd-numbered year shall not exceed forty legislative days and regular session in each even-numbered year shall not exceed thirty-five legislative days.

- 2005 HB 1109 Medical marijuana *FAILED*
- 2002 Had 2 ballot measures (Industrial hemp/Justice amendment) *FAILED*
- 2000 HB 1267 Hemp bill *FAILED*
- 1991 Re-criminalized marijuana *PASSED*
- 1990 Decriminalized marijuana *PASSED*

Tennessee

Convenes second Tuesday in January for organizational sessions and is in session for 90 days, excluding the organizational period.

- 2006 Strike-all amendment (SA 0442) using SB1942/HB968 creating joint committee to study medical marijuana. Must issue report 2/15/06 and committee expires that date *FAILED*
- 2005 SB 1942/HB 968 Medical Marijuana *FAILED*
- 1998 HB 2576/2575 and SB 2650/2543 *FAILED*
- 1981 HB 314 Marijuana use therapeutic research (SB 1818 repealed in 1992) *PASSED*

Texas

Meet every two years and no Regular Session shall be of longer duration than one hundred and forty (140) days.

- 2005 HB 658 Medical Marijuana *FAILED*
- 1997 San Marcos Proposition 1 to allow law enforcement discretion *FAILED*
- HB 2213 To prohibit localities from adopting policies allowing marijuana *PASSED*

1979 SB 877 Marijuana use for therapeutic research PASSED

Utah

Convenes the third Monday in January and no annual general session may exceed 45 calendar days.

2000 Initiative B* Utah Property Protection Act PASSED

Vermont

Meets biennially on the first Wednesday next after the first Monday of January through late April - generally 16-17 weeks in session.

2005 H 441 Med. Marij bill to amend existing law FAILED

H390 Legalize up to 1 oz. marijuana FAILED

2004 S 0076 Medical Use of Marijuana (establishment and participation) PASSED

H0 111 An Act Relating to Medical Marijuana (decriminalize) FAILED

JRH 070 Resolution Urging Congress to reschedule marijuana FAILED

H0 752 Advance Directive for Health Care, Pain Management . . . PASSED

Burlington: Question 9** decriminalize for seriously ill (83-17%) PASSED

2003 SB 0076 Decriminalize FAILED

1981 H 130 Allows physician prescription for marijuana PASSED

Virginia

Convenes annually the second Wednesday in January. No regular session of the General Assembly convened in an even-numbered year shall continue longer than sixty days; no regular session of the General Assembly convened in an odd-numbered year shall continue longer than thirty days.

1999 Resolution urging allowing of experimental hemp production PASSED

1997 HB 1621** Repeal 1979 law allowing marijuana by prescription FAILED

1979 SB 913 Allows physician prescription for marijuana PASSED

Washington

Regular sessions convene on the second Monday in January. During each odd-numbered year, the regular session shall not be more than one hundred five consecutive days. During each even-numbered year, the regular session shall not be more than sixty consecutive days.

2006 SB 5943 amend med marijuana law to protect users (to 2nd reading) FAILED

SJM 8028/HJM 4028 Requesting Congress to allow states to decide whether marijuana should be used legally for medicinal purposes.

(to 2nd reading) FAILED

2005 SB 5943 amend existing med marijuana law to protect users (open 2005) N/A

2003 I-75 Seattle ballot initiative to ease enforcement against adults possessing 40 grams or less marijuana for personal/medical use. PASSED

SB 5947 Authorize state dept. of health adopt rules to implement medical marijuana law FAILED

2002 SB 5176 Authorize state dept. of health adopt rules to implement medical marijuana law FAILED

2000 Initiative I-746 §69.51 A.005 to 69.51.A. 902 PASSED

SB 5704 Authorize state dept. of health adopt rules to implement medical marijuana law FAILED

1998 Initiative 692* Medical Use of Marijuana Act (59% yes) PASSED

1997	Initiative 685* Sched. 1 Drugs Medical Use/Sentencing	<i>FAILED</i>
1996	Budget allocation for researching feasibility of state cultivating marijuana & the therapeutic potential (study-not feasible to cultivate)	<i>PASSED</i>
1979	HB 259 Marijuana therapeutic research program	<i>PASSED</i>

West Virginia

Convenes the second Wednesday of January of each year and does not exceed sixty calendar days.

2002	SB 447 Authorizing commercial hemp production	<i>PASSED</i>
1979	SB 366 Marijuana therapeutic research program (repealed 1997 by HB 2161)	<i>PASSED</i>

Wisconsin

Convenes first Monday in January.

2006	AB 740 Medical necessity defense (carried over from 2005)	<i>OPEN</i>
2004	AB 892 Decriminalize	<i>FAILED</i>
2002	Assembly Bill 715 Medical Use of Marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
1997	AB 560 Reschedule THC from I to III; est. medical necessity defense	<i>FAILED</i>
1987	AB 662 Allows possession of THC if by prescription	<i>PASSED</i>
1982	LB 697 Medical marijuana prescriptions allowed	<i>PASSED</i>
1979	AB 279 Medical marijuana	<i>FAILED</i>
	AB 107	<i>FAILED</i>

Wyoming

The Wyoming Legislature meets for not more than 40 days in odd numbered years in General Session. General Sessions convene on the second Tuesday in January. It meets for approximately 20 days in even numbered years for a Budget Session. The legislature cannot meet for more than 60 days every two years, e.g. if it meets for 38 days in a General Session, it can meet for up to 22 days in a Budget Session.

2003	SF 44 Decriminalize	<i>FAILED</i>
1997	SF 132 Reschedule marijuana to support medical use	<i>FAILED</i>

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** Funded or assisted directly by the Marijuana Policy Project

[Note: The Latin *sine die* literally means “without a day”. To adjourn sine die means “to adjourn indefinitely, without naming a day for reconvening.”]

C. E. Edwards

Director, Demand Reduction Office

877-817-6809

azhidta@earthlink.net

