

# Medical Marijuana Fact Sheet



*Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not his own facts –*  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan (U.S. Senator, ambassador, and academic)

FACT 1: The people of the state of California enacted the 1996 Compassionate Care Act to “ensure that seriously ill Californians have the right to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes.”

FACT 2: Federal law prohibits the prosecution of medical marijuana patients or distributors who are in compliance with the laws of their states.

FACT 3: The California Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act of 2015 establishes a comprehensive licensing and regulatory system for medical marijuana dispensary, cultivation, and manufacturing facilities designed to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and to protect the right of patients to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes.

FACT 4: Medical marijuana has legitimate and significant medical benefits.

FACT 5: The operation of medical marijuana facilities is legal under California state law.

FACT 6: The proposed ordinance establishes a comprehensive regulatory system only for medical marijuana facilities as allowed under state law and federal guidelines.

FACT 7: The proposed ordinance does not allow or legalize the sale, distribution, cultivation, manufacture, possession, or use of marijuana for recreational purposes.

FACT 8: The proposed ordinance does not allow or legalize the sale of marijuana to minors.

FACT 9: Allowing dispensaries will ensure patients have safe and convenient access to medical marijuana which the people of the state have declared they have a right to obtain and use.

FACT 10: Significant local revenue can be generated from sales taxes and regulatory fees.

FACT 11: The proposed ordinance will create new local, well-paying jobs.

FACT 12: Research studies have found legalizing medical marijuana does not result in increased criminal activity. Colorado experience: Decrease in violent crime, decrease in burglaries, decrease in property crimes, decrease in traffic fatalities, and no change in rate of youth marijuana use.

FACT 13: There is no credible evidence that medical marijuana facilities are detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare.

FACT 14: If a medical marijuana facility violates any requirement of the proposed ordinance or is detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare, the facility’s regulatory permit can and will be revoked and the facility closed.

FACT 15: There is a State statutory deadline to enact local cultivation regulations by March 1, 2016, or all future licensing and regulatory authority would be only by the State.