



Dear Fellow Republicans,

We are Mississippi Republicans asking for your support of Initiative 65 on the November 2020 general election ballot to establish a conservative medical marijuana program to help ease the suffering of Mississippi patients.

Recent polling shows that 76% of Mississippi Republicans support providing patients access to medical marijuana. If approved by the voters, **Mississippi would join 34 other states**, including Arkansas, Louisiana and Florida, that allow physicians to recommend the use of medical marijuana by patients who suffer from cancer, seizures, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, PTSD, chronic pain, and similar illnesses.

President Trump has stated his complete support for medical marijuana. For the last two years, he has signed legislation **offered by Republican Senators** to prevent his Department of Justice from prosecuting medical marijuana businesses in states that have legalized its use. As a result, 3.5 million patients in those 34 states are using medical marijuana, under the care of their doctors, to relieve pain and other symptoms of debilitating medical conditions.

As supporters of less intrusive government, we believe doctors and their patients should have the freedom to choose medical marijuana to ease the suffering caused by specific debilitating medical conditions, all under the strict regulation of the Department of Health. These patients include our Mississippi veterans who defended our freedoms in combat.

As conservatives, we value individual responsibility, limited government, low taxes, personal freedom and privacy. Initiative 65 promotes those principles and includes constitutional protections to preserve the rights of employers, schools and property owners to prohibit use on the job or on their property. **We urge you to join with us, three former Chairmen of the Mississippi Republican Party and the overwhelming majority of Mississippi conservatives in voting for Initiative 65.**

Please be aware that there will also be an alternative on the ballot, "65A," which does not include conservative principles or strict regulation. 65A would amend the State Constitution like Initiative 65, but unlike Initiative 65, it would allow for Mississippi taxpayers to subsidize the program and for unlimited new taxes on patients' medicine. 65A also contains no list of qualifying medical conditions required for a program participant who could even bypass medical doctors to obtain medical marijuana under the alternative. Finally, 65A contains no limits on quantities obtained or a ban on public smoking, no zoning restrictions to keep sales away from schools and churches, and provides no protections for our businesses, schools and property owners from lawsuits. **Don't be fooled by the Alternative, 65A is wrong for Mississippi.**

Sincerely,

Barbara Allen
Secretary, Harrison County
Republican Club, Cancer
Survivor

Ken Ashmore II
Veteran, Senior Jumpmaster
82nd Airborne Division

William M. Billingsley
Retired Home Health Care
Executive; Veteran, Officer in the
Army Medical Service Corps.

Nathan Boyd
Veteran, Operation
Iraqi Freedom

Angie Calhoun
Rankin County Republican Club,
Mother of Patient

Shea Dobson
Mayor of Ocean Springs,
Mississippi

Spence Flatgard
MS Delegate to 2016 Republican
National Convention

Franc Lee
Mississippi Republican Party
Executive Committee

Billy Mounger, Jr.
Telecom Entrepreneur

Abb Payne
Home Health and Hospice Care
Executive

**President Trump Supports
Medical Marijuana ... and
allowing states to decide
on the issue.**

*"Medical marijuana is
another thing ... I think
Medical Marijuana 100%."*

– June 23, 2015 at
Conservative Political
Action Conference (CPAC)

*"We are allowing states to
make that decision ... a lot
of states are making that
decision."*

– August 30, 2019



MISSISSIPPI CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT INITIATIVE 65

In November, Mississippi voters will have two options for a medical marijuana program: Initiative 65 and Alternative 65A (“A” for the alternative).

Initiative 65 is the only conservative option:

Initiative 65	Comparison	Alternative 65A
Yes	Amends State Constitution	Yes
22 Named Diseases	Specific List of Qualifying Conditions	None
Medical Doctors	Certification for Patients	“Health Practitioners”
Required	In Person Examination	Silent
None	New Taxes on Patients’ Medicine	Permits unlimited taxes for general fund spending
Self-Funded by User Fees	Taxpayer Funds	Permits funding with your tax dollars
Yes	Zoning Restrictions	Silent
Protected	Lawsuit Protection	Provides no protections for employers, property owners & schools
Illegal	Public Smoking	Silent
Expressly Prohibited	Impaired Driving	Silent
Limited	Amount to purchase	No Limits
“Regulation/Rule” appears 33 times	Strict Regulation	None. No mention of “Rules” or “Regulations.”

Initiative 65 is for conservatives.

Alternative 65A is wrong for Mississippi.

www.MedicalMarijuana2020.com

Paid for by Mississippians for Compassionate Care