Policy Reform

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Dangers Of High Potency Cannabis For Teens
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Policy Reform

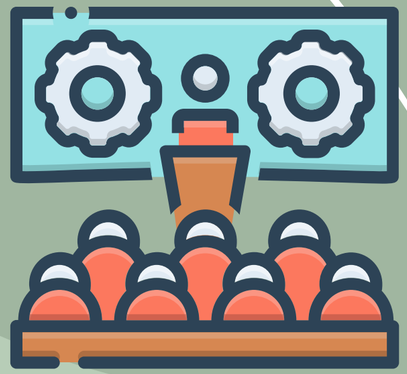
To increase the radius of marijuana dispensaries from schools, parks, and libraries in California

Cont. Policy Reform

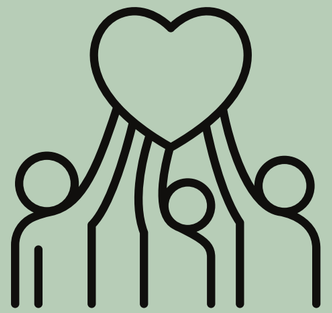
The proposed policy can help decrease the rate of marijuana use among youth in California. The goal is to have a 10 % decrease marijuana use among youth by January 2025. Tracking the process of the plan will require the following:

- Counting the number of participants in attending the workshops and city council meetings
- Developing relations with dispensaries to not sell to underage youth.
- Community Needs Assessments
- Workshops at schools or community centers for youth and parents.

We want communities and individuals to understand why cannabis dispensaries can impact youth, especially in surrounding areas where they are often present. This proposed policy can also help decrease the prevalence of marijuana use among youth who live in low-income communities.





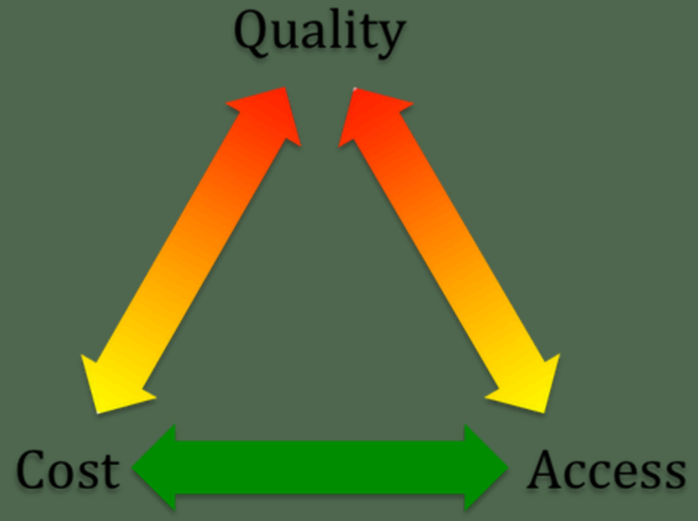


Overall impact:

This policy reform will impact youth and adults by improving their health and providing opportunities for other resources that are beneficial to the community and their health.

In relation to the Iron Triangle, this will provide better quality and access to the community.

- The community will see an increase in health outcomes in relation to cannabis use among youth because of the quality of care that prevention specialists or health educators are providing educational workshops on the dangers of cannabis use.
- This will lead to having more access to receiving care and resources due to the educational workshops that the communities are receiving.



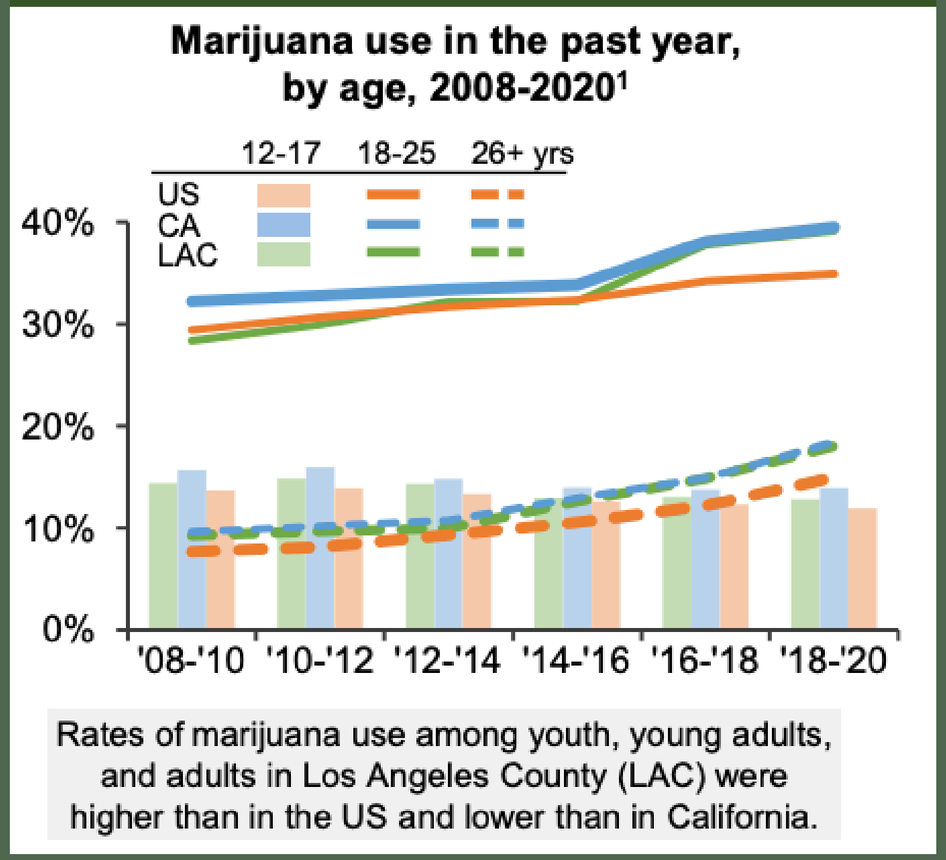
Who will be impacted

- Low-income communities (Unger et al, pg. 1, 2022)

a. Bay areas and Southern California cities to identify 1,110 cannabis retailers in California: 448 licensed and 662 unlicensed.

b. They also discovered that neighborhoods with the highest retailers in these cities were predominantly Hispanics, African Americans, and residents living below the poverty level.

- Youth and Adult Youth:
  - High School Students: 2017-2019 12.81% use cannabis in California (California Department of Public Health)
  - In LA County, from 2008-2020, there has been an increase in marijuana between the ages of 12-17 compared to the rates in California.



Rates of marijuana use among youth, young adults, and adults in Los Angeles County (LAC) were higher than in the US and lower than in California.

[3,4,7]

Advocacy Plan

Senator Alex Padilla (D)

Senator Padilla is known for his advocacy in student education and healthcare. This reform impacts these areas, which Senator Padilla has supported. Presenting data and county statistics related to how marijuana use can affect youth's brain development hindering their learning, and how underage substance use can lead to mental health issues as an adult can impact California's health care system and residents is key to getting Sen. Padilla's support

SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Adminstration

SAMHSA is an agency that promotes information and services on substance abuse and behavioral health. They provide grants to organizations to implement programs to prevent communities to have an increase in substance use/abuse. With their support, we can receive grants and materials for educational workshops on marijuana use.

RAM (Rethinking Access to Marijuana)

Collaborating with the RAM (Rethinking Access to Marijuana) Workgroup coalition, which advocates and implements campaigns to prevent underage marijuana use in Los Angeles County. They use statics from LA County of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control to validate the increased use of marijuana among youths and evidence-based interventions to promote awareness surrounding marijuana use.

[2,5,6]

Strategy for your advocacy efforts



Provide work shops to the community and youth on Cannbis



The lack of support from Despenaries and the potential growth in illegal despenaries

This proposed policy reform can impact the marijuana dispensary business creating retainment with local officials. The state may also see a decline in sales since California received a total cannabis tax revenue from the fourth quarter returns of $221.6 million

[1]

References

[1] California Department of Tax and Fee Administration. (n.d.). California Department of Tax and Fee Administration reportscannabis tax revenues for the fourth quarter of 2022. Cannabis Tax Revenues for the Fourth Quarter of 2022. https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/news/23-02.htm#:~:text=As%20of%20February%2016%2C%202023,do%20not%20include%20outstanding%20returns.

[2] Campaign partners. SAMHSA. (n.d.). https://www.samhsa.gov/talk-they-hear-you/partners

[3] Impact of marijuana use - LA county department of public health. (n.d.). http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc//MDU/MDBrief/MarijuanaBriefFinal.pdf

[4] Health, D. of P. (n.d.). California Youth Cannabis Use Dashboard. https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/sapb/cannabis/Pages/California-Youth-Cannabis-Use-Dashboard.aspx#:~:text=High%20School%20Student%20Cannabis%20Use%2C%202017%E2%80%932019,2.96%25%20reported%20heavy%20cannabis%20use.

[5] Senator Alex Padilla. (2023, January 20). https://www.padilla.senate.gov/

[6] Rethinking access to marijuana. RAM. (n.d.). https://lacountyram.org/

[7] Unger, J., Vos, R., Wu, J., Hardaway, K., Sarain, A., Soto, D., Rogers, C., & Steinberg, J. (2020). Locations of licensed and unlicensed cannabis retailers in California: A threat to health equity? Preventive Medicine Reports, 19, 101165. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmedr.2020.101165