



Please vote YES on SB 15-14

Regulatory Oversight of Medical Marijuana Caregivers

Sponsor: Sen. Aguilar/Rep. Singer

Medical marijuana caregivers are the last unregulated high-volume growers and suppliers of marijuana in Colorado. Established by the passage of Amendment 20 back in 2000, caregivers have been operating for more than a decade with little to no oversight by state and local authorities. Many of these caregivers are operating within the parameters set forth in Amendment 20, and are providing an important service to patients who are suffering from a variety of debilitating illnesses, including cancer, HIV/AIDS and seizures.

However, there have been an increasing number of cases where illegal cultivation operations were being run under the auspices of the caregiver label. Local law enforcement has been stymied by an inability to properly investigate and prosecute these suspected illegal grow operations because of protections put in statute for caregivers across the state. There are over 3,000 caregivers in Colorado, but local governments do not have access to information about these caregiver operations, including their location or how many plants they are legally supposed to be growing.

SB 14 brings the caregiver community under the umbrella of regulatory oversight and will allow local law enforcement to differentiate between legitimate caregivers and illegal grow operations that are perverting the intent of Amendment 20. The bill requires all caregivers to register with the state and makes this information available to local governments and local law enforcement agencies, empowering them to verify not only that caregivers are properly registered with the state, but also that caregivers are not growing excess plants for black market sale.

CCI strongly urges your support of this legislation to protect legitimate caregivers around the state and empower local law enforcement to go after illegal grow operations masquerading as caregivers.

CCI asks for your YES vote on SB 15-14

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