Internists Endorse Legal Access to Medical Marijuana

The American College of Physicians, the nation's largest organization of Internists, is calling for protection of both doctors and patients from criminal and civil penalties in states that have adopted medical-marijuana laws.

A position paper just released by their board of regents lists half a dozen diseases for which marijuana has already proven effective and they say the federal government must stop blocking promising research into this beneficial drug.*

"Evidence not only supports the use of medical marijuana in certain conditions but also suggests numerous indications for cannabinoids... The science on medical marijuana should not be obscured or hindered by the debate surrounding the legalization of marijuana for general use."

The College of Physicians now joins the ground swell of medical groups that fully or partially support research and access.

Score Card

For I Against

American College of Physicians Institute of Medicine Leukemia & Lymphoma Society American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry American Academy of Family Physicians American Academy of HIV Medicine American Nurses Association American Society of Addiction Medicine Canadian Medical Association British Medical Association American Pain Foundation American Medical Women's Association American Public Health Association The Medical Society of the State of NY Rhode Island Medical Society California Medical Association Arthritis Research Campaign **HIV Medicine Association** American Medical Students Association Lymphoma Foundation of America American Association for Social Psychiatry

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^{*} For the full report go to: www.mpp.org/acp or www.acponline.org/acp_news/medmarinews.htm