

CANNABIS WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 9th



Marijuana in California: How We Got to Where We Are

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Refresher: Compassionate Use Act

What is Proposition 215?

- ▶ Ballot initiative passed by California voters in 1996.
- ▶ Created limited immunity for “qualified patients” who use or cultivate marijuana for medical purposes when such use has been recommended by a California doctor for a serious medical condition.
- ▶ Limited immunity also covers “primary caregivers.”
- ▶ Did not address local zoning laws or retail sales.
- ▶ Codified at Health and Safety Code §11362.5.

Refresher: Senate Bill 420

What is the Medical Marijuana Program Act?

- ▶ The Legislature's first attempt to regulate medical marijuana was Senate Bill 420. It took effect in 2004.
- ▶ Created a voluntary state ID card program, run by county health departments, to help identify qualified patients and primary caregivers for law enforcement.
- ▶ Extended limited immunity to include transportation and “collective or cooperative” cultivation projects.
- ▶ Established 6-plant personal cultivation threshold.
- ▶ Codified at Health and Safety Code §11362.7 et seq.

The Legislature (Finally) Acts: MMRSA

The Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act (MMRSA) was a “package” comprised of three bills:

- ▶ **Assembly Bill 243** (Wood)
- ▶ **Assembly Bill 266** (Bonta, Cooley, etc.)
- ▶ **Senate Bill 643** (McGuire)

The MMRSA bills were signed by Gov. Brown in 2015. Most of their provisions took effect on Jan. 1, 2016.

The new laws created a cannabis licensing framework with a now-looming target date of **Jan. 1, 2018**.



Proposition 64		
Result	Votes	Percentage
✔ Yes	7,979,041	57.13%
No	5,987,020	42.87%

Only 18 of 58 California counties voted **against** Proposition 64