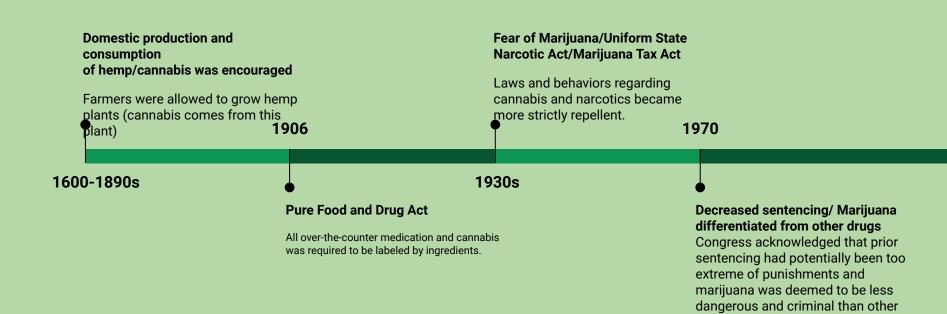
Legalization of Marijuana

By: Scarlett Feuerstein

History of Marijuana Regulation in the United States



narcotics

History of Marijuana Regulation in the United States (cont.)

Bush's War on Drugs		US House of Representatives passes a bill decriminalizing marijuana	
President George Bush declares a War on Drugs in efforts to reduce the domestic consumption of narcotics and marijuana	1996	This bill decriminalizes and removes marijuana from the list of substances under the Controlled Substances Act	October 2022
1989	California legalizes the consumption medical marijuana	April 2022	President Biden Pardons marijuana possession convictions
	Medical marijuana was legalized to provide remedies for patients of AIDS, cancer, and other serious medical illnesses.	0	Biden publicly states via Twitter that "No one should be in jail just for using or possessing marijuana. It's legal in many states, and criminal records for marijuana possession have led to needless barriers to employment, housing, and educational opportunities"

Argument in Support of the Legalization of Marijuana

Pros of Legalizing Marijuana:

- Medicinal relief/benefits
- Less dangerous than other drugs and narcotics
- Economic benefits (tax revenue placed on marijuana)
- Personal liberty (people should be able to do as they please)





Argument Against the Legalization of Marijuana

- While marijuana is considered to be safer to consume than other narcotics, it is a drug nonetheless and should not be available for domestic consumption as it does come with its dangers and behavioral consequences.
- Creates steep costs for taxpayers that outweigh the tax revenues.
- Marijuana is addictive.
- Workers become less productive when under the influence of marijuana



Where is Marijuana Legal?

Legal recreational marijuana usage has been approved in

- Missouri
- Maryland
- Rhode Island
- Connecticut
- New Mexico
- Virginia
- New York
- New Jersey
- Montana
- Arizona
- Illinois

- Guam
- Vermont
- Michigan
- Nevada
- Massachusetts
- Maine
- California
- Washington, D.C.
- Oregon
- Alaska
- Washington
- Colorado

Delaware's Stance on Marijuana

- Recreational marijuana consumption is illegal in the state of Delaware. However, medical consumption is permitted. It was legalized in 2011 under the Medical Marijuana Act
- Delaware's first effort for legalization took place in March 2022 when Rep. Ed Osienski of Newark introduced a bill to legalize it and regulate the economic taxes and principles associated with it. However, it wasn't passed due to little support from Democrats and zero support from the GOP.



Works Cited

(n.d.). Marijuana Timeline | Busted- America's War on Marijuana. pbs.org. https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/dope/etc/cron.html

(2022). *Historical Timeline-Medical Marijuana-ProCon.org*. https://medicalmarijuana.procon.org. https://medicalmarijuana.procon.org/historical-timeline/#2000-2004

(1999). H.R.3617-117th Congress (2021-2022) Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement Act. congress.gov. <u>https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3617</u>

(2018). Recreational Marijuana- Pros & Cons. marijuana.procon.org. https://marijuana.procon.org

(2015). Why Americans Support or Oppose Legalizing Marijuana. https://www.pewresearch.org. https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2015/04/14/in-debate-over-legalizing-marijuana-disagreement-over-drugs-dangers/

Hansen, C., Alas, H., & Davis, E., Jr. (2022). Where is Marijuana Legal? A Guide to Marijuana Legalization. usnews.com. https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/articles/where-is-marijuana-legal-a-guide-to-marijuana-legalization

Lennon, T. (2022). Is Marijuana Legal in Delaware? What You Need to Know. delawareonline.com. https://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/politics/2022/08/05/is-marijuana-legal-in-delaware-what-you-need-to-know/65382310007/

(2022). Is Marijuana Legal in Delaware? | DE medical marijuana laws. leafy.com. https://www.leafly.com/learn/legalization/delaware