



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL
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May 4, 1993

TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR

Ladd Huffman
210 South 2nd Street
Box 102
Calumet, Iowa 51009

Dear Mr. Huffman:

Thank you for your most recent letter in which you provided additional comments regarding efforts to make marijuana available for medicinal purposes.

While I have upmost respect for Senator Grassley, I disagree with the suggestion made in his letter to you that a change in Iowa law is necessary to allow use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. As you and I both know, Iowa law does allow use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Persons who have been authorized by the federal government for medical marijuana use, like Barbara Douglas of Storm Lake, have not experienced problems as a result of Iowa law. My response to you was not intended to just "pass the buck," but rather to assist you, based on my reading of the law.

Again, I would encourage you to continue your discussions on this matter with your federal elected officials, Senators Grassley and Harkin, and your Congressman. You should also communicate directly with the Clinton administration, even before the naming of the new Surgeon General. The sooner officials in Washington become educated about your concerns, the sooner you can expect some action.

Thank again for writing to Governor Branstad.

Sincerely,



Paula S. Dierenfeld
Administrative Counsel

PSD:clr