

Strange Bedfellows — Politics News

News about Seattle City Hall, Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn, Washington Governor Christine Gregoire, Seattle and King County government and more

Search this blog

 Posts | [Log in](#)

« Poll: McKenna leads Inslee | [Main](#) | Booze blues for Costco? Poll shows increasing opposition to privatization »

Wash. poll: Medical pot should be legal, taxed

Tweet  Share 

Voters in Washington state are split on whether marijuana should be made legal, but a big majority favor taxing the sales of medical cannabis, according to a [new poll](#).

Seventy percent think the state should tax the legal sale of medical pot, compared with 22 percent who say no and 8 percent who are unsure.

That contrasts with 46 percent who think the use of marijuana for all purposes should be OK, compared with 46 percent who say no and 8 percent who are unsure.

The poll of 500 likely voters was taken Sept. 11-14 and was paid for by the Seattle political consulting firm [Strategies 360](#).

This past weekend the Washington state Democratic Party [voted](#) to endorse Initiative 502, a proposed 2012 measure which would legalize marijuana with distribution and sales put under control of the Liquor Control Board.

Marijuana is a much-discussed topic in local politics these days. Municipalities across the state are grappling with how to deal with the growing number of medical pot shops and related enterprises.

On July 18 the Seattle City Council passed a new [law](#) that establishes a regulatory framework for the growing number of medical marijuana dispensaries in Seattle. The City Council unanimously passed its own ordinance because efforts to address medical marijuana, which is legal in Washington, foundered earlier this year in Olympia. Seattle officials will take up the issue of in-city zoning for the pot shops in the coming weeks.

Gov. Chris Gregoire, citing concerns about possible federal prosecution of state employees, earlier this year vetoed most of a medical marijuana bill that would've set up a state regulatory framework for medical cannabis, however she allowed a section permitting collective marijuana grows with up to 45 plants, serving up to 10 patients.

Evergreen State voters approved legalizing medical marijuana in 1998. Washington is one of [16 states](#) which allows marijuana use for medical purposes, but the federal government does not recognize any medicinal use for cannabis.

Tweet  Share 

Posted by [Chris Grygiel](#) on September 19, 2011 at 9:44 am | [Permalink](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Categories: [political polls](#)



Chris Grygiel

Chris Grygiel coordinates political coverage for [seattlepi.com](#). He previously worked at it... [More](#)

CONTACT:  FOLLOW: 

Comments



Latest Posts

No public events for Obama's Seattle visit
National poll: Obama still beats the '12 GOP field
Budget deficit will force lawmakers to return for special session
O'Reilly: If Obama taxes too much, I'll quit
Nickels joins board of transpo group

Categories

Select Category

Archives

▼ 2011 (1436)
September 2011
August 2011
July 2011
June 2011
May 2011
April 2011
March 2011
February 2011
January 2011
▶ 2010 (1855)
▶ 2009 (1356)
▶ 2008 (972)
▶ 2007 (659)
▶ 2006 (310)