



I am Calvina Fay, Executive Director of Drug Free America Foundation. This November, voters in three states will consider legalizing marijuana. If they do, Colorado, Oregon and Washington State will face consequences that voters may think they'll avoid with legalization.

Health professionals have linked marijuana to mental illness and violence. It interferes with an adolescent's cognitive development. Marijuana use impacts school scores and drop-out rates. It is responsible for deadly car wrecks, lost work productivity along with higher medical and treatment costs. In fact, more young people are in treatment for marijuana use than any other drug.

Many parents have come to me and admitted that they didn't give marijuana a second thought until their child wound up in drug treatment for using it.

We ask the Justice Department to take a strong definitive stance against the legalization of marijuana and to remind these states that no matter what they decide, using and possessing marijuana remains a federal crime. It needs to be made clear that enforcement of federal drug laws will be swift and aggressive for those in direct violation of the Controlled Substances Act.