

Bill would clamp down on DEA raids

Contributed by Alan Bock, OC Register editorial writer
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A little later this month, when the appropriations bill for the Justice Department comes up, the Hinchey-Rohrabacher amendment, proposed by Democrat Maurice Hinchey of New York and Republican Dana Rohrabacher of Huntington Beach, will be offered again. It would specify that no money could be used by the DEA to go after patients in states with medical marijuana laws.

It should be a no-brainer for conservatives who claim to believe in states-rights, but in years past (of course) it has gotten little Republican support. It has, however, gotten more votes each year it has been introduced. It hasn't received as much publicity as in some previous years, but I would expect at least more votes for genuine compassion this year than last year.

Tell your U.S. Representative to support this amendment that, if adopted, will do two things:

- (1) Conserve taxpayers' money by eliminating funding for DEA raids aimed at state-certified medical cannabis patients and caregivers.

- (2) Protect legal medical cannabis patients from having their homes and workspaces raided by the DEA.

For phone numbers of your representatives go to: www.house.gov and type in your zip code, or call the congressional switchboard at: (202) 224-3121. You can also lobby from online via this portal:

<http://capwiz.com/norml2/issues/alert/?alertid=11280351&type=CO>