



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Boston District
585 Commercial Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
Telephone: 617-223-4425

July 1, 1983

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk
City of Cambridge
Office of the City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

I am replying to the letter you sent Mr. Carlson regarding the proposal by Dr. Humes that the Cambridge City Council adopt a resolution regarding the use of cannabis in medicine.

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is currently considered an investigational or experimental drug. Investigators holding an Investigational New Drug Application (INDA) approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may receive supplies of THC in order to conduct their research with cancer patients by applying to the National Cancer Institute. The drug can also be used legally to treat glaucoma patients only in clinical investigations approved by FDA.

Since THC is considered a controlled drug substance with potential for abuse, cancer patients undergoing experimental treatment for nausea and vomiting due to drug therapy may obtain THC through hospital pharmacies approved by the Drug Enforcement Agency. This agency is responsible for monitoring drugs with potential for abuse which are used in medical research and practice.

I know of no firm that has applied to the FDA for approval to market THC.

If we can provide any further information on this matter, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,


Louis L. Gershman
Acting District Director

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Comm. from Louis Gershman, Acting District
Director, Dept. of Health & Human Services
Re: the proposed resolution submitted by
Dr. H.L. Humes regarding the uses of cannabis
in medicine.

*Dr. Humes picked up a copy of resolution
8/12/83*

In City Council,

August 8, 1983

- 8/8/1983 -

Phredon File

Copy to Dr. Humes