



MICAP RECAP

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*Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems
Celebrating its 113th Anniversary in 2018*

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How You Can Stop Recreational Marijuana from Coming to Michigan

By: Abby Oliver, Healthy and Productive Michigan

Midterm Elections, the middle child of politics. While their implications are no less important, for many they are barely a blip on their radar. On November 6th, we have one of these midterm elections; however, this time around we cannot afford to treat it like the middle child. Those who turn out to vote will forever change the social and political fabric of our state.

One of the key issues facing Michigan's voters is: should we legalize recreational marijuana?

When you head to the ballot box, you must vote "NO". It is the right thing for Michigan, and it's the only way we can continue our comeback.

Our team is traveling across the state talking to business leaders, substance abuse coalitions, law enforcement and everyone in between, educating Michiganders on the dangers of legalization. While we are humbled by the support, we know this will not be an easy fight, and every helping hand will make a difference in November.

If you are looking to join the fight, there are plenty of ways to get involved. First, if you visit our website (healthyandproductivemi.org) or our Facebook page (Healthy and Productive Michigan), we have all the resources you need to educate yourself and your community on this issue.

Furthermore, we encourage you to speak out, talk to your family and friends, contact your local newspaper and speak with your elected officials. You can easily donate to Healthy and Productive Michigan, by going to our website.

If you feel called to join a community of fighters, or have any questions, we would love to hear from you. You can contact us at info@healthyandproductivemi.org.

Policy Issues

Article updated from *Prevention Network Spring 2018 Newsletter*
By Mike Tobias, MICAP President



The Half Mile Rule – Effective Tuesday, April 17, 2018 the half mile rule, as it is commonly known, was rescinded. Recently Judge Borello dismissed a lawsuit filed by the Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers (AFPD) and commented

that there is, “No property right to be free from increased competition.” Now that this rule is officially rescinded, the AFPD, as well as some public health advocates, are hoping that SB501 and HB4504 will put the rule back in as statute. Currently, SB501 and HB4504 are pending in the House Regulatory Reform Committee and SB501 has already passed the Senate. Supporters of the ½ mile rule contend that having the ½ mile rule will limit where retailers can be located. Over the years, as the MCRUD Coordinator, I have consistently heard from some preventionists and community leaders that their communities already have enough retailers that sell alcohol and typically aren’t looking for more alcohol outlets. The concern is that by removing the ½ mile rule, outlet density will increase, and we know from research (thecomunityguide.org) that increasing outlet density will result in more alcohol-related harm.



SB902 (Extending Alcohol Sales to 4:00 a.m.) – This bill was introduced March 14, 2018 and was re-referred from Government Operations to Senate Regulatory Reform on March 20. Senator Hertel is the primary

sponsor along with Senators Knezak, Warren, Conyers, Young II, and Gregory. Some of the provisions of the bill are below:

- Limited to a city, village, or township with a population of 600,000 or more
- Local approval would be needed
- Retailers could sell from 2:00 a.m. – 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sunday, or on State or National Holidays
- A \$10,000 permit fee would be required

- A requirement to have security people as well as 360-degree video surveillance on the inside and outside of the retailer
- Sets up an extended hour permit fund and specifies how the monies must be distributed (most of it will go toward police departments).

Again, from the community guide (www.thecomunityguide.org) we know that “...increasing hours of sale by 2 or more hours found increases in vehicle crash injuries, emergency room admissions and alcohol-related assault and injury. One study found a decrease in violent crime.”



House Bill 5085 (Rep. Marino) would earmark revenue for Substance Use Disorder services. On April 24, the bill passed the House and is currently in the Senate Health Policy Committee.

The Michigan Coalition to Increase the Beer Tax continues to meet the fourth Monday of the month. However, due to Memorial Day, the next call is Monday, October 22 at 10:00 a.m. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact Mike Tobias, the Coordinator for the Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (miket@preventionnetwork.org).



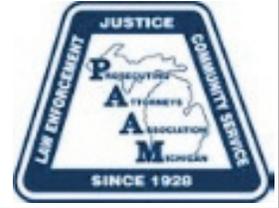
HB 6086 (Rep. Vaupel) was introduced May 29. This legislation would require alcohol retailers to post warning signs of the dangers associated with drinking alcohol during pregnancy. This bill was reported out of the House Regulatory

Reform committee with substitute H-1 and has been referred to second reading.

For more information on any of these bills please visit, www.legislature.mi.gov

Opioids Behind the Wheel: Not What the Doctor Ordered, Part 1

By Kinga Gorzelewski Canike and Kenneth Stecker
Reprinted from OHSP September 2018
"SAFETY Network" newsletter with permission



Opioid use, both legal or not, is spilling over onto Michigan roads and creating a public safety threat to motorists. As opioid use has increased in our state, so have the dangers they pose on the road because of their potential to impair one's ability to safely operate a vehicle.

Like many other states, Michigan has seen a surge in opioid use in recent years. In 2017, Michigan doctors wrote out 9.7 million prescriptions for opioid drugs¹. That amounts to 1.2 billion units of opioids—enough to give every Michigan resident about 127 opioid pills.²

State data also shows that opioids are prescribed at a higher rate than any other drug category. Between 2012 and 2017, 7.5 million Michigan residents were prescribed a controlled substance. That is almost three-quarters of the state population. Of those 7.5 million residents with prescriptions, 85 percent were prescribed at least one opioid medication.³

In addition to people having more access to prescription opioids, more of us are getting behind the wheel after using potentially impairing drugs, including prescription opioids. In 2015, the

NHTSA issued results of its latest National Roadside Survey (NRS). The survey was conducted in 48 states to test for the prevalence of alcohol and/or drug use (illegal and legal) in drivers.⁴

The 2013-2014 NRS showed a decreasing trend in alcohol use in drivers. Only 1.5 percent of nighttime weekend drivers had breath alcohol concentrations (BrAC) of .08 grams per 210 liters of blood or higher. That is an 80 percent drop from 1973, the first year the NHTSA conducted the study.⁵

However, the NRS revealed a different trend for drug use in drivers. The survey focused on drugs that can impair driving ability, including prescription and over-the-counter medications. Drivers testing positive for med-

ications went up from 3.9 percent in 2007 to 4.9 percent in 2013-2014. Overall drug use in drivers increased from 12.4 percent in 2007 to 15.1 percent in 2013-2014.⁶

In addition to the NRS, the NHTSA also tracks national data on drug use in drivers killed in car crashes. It is called the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). In 2016, FARS data revealed that 54.3 percent of fatally-injured drivers were tested for drugs. Of those tested, 10.7 percent were known to have been positive for opioids. The most frequent opioids found in these drivers were oxycodone (OxyContin), hydrocodone (Vicodin), morphine, fentanyl, and methadone. Furthermore, opioid-positive fatally injured drivers went up from 679 or 17 percent in 2006 to 1,064 or 19.7 percent in 2016.⁷

For more information on this article and PAAM training programs, contact Kenneth Stecker or Kinga Gorzelewski Canike, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors, at 517-334-6060 or e-mail at steckerk@michigan.gov or gorzelewskik@michigan.gov. Please consult your prosecutor before adopting practices suggested by reports in this article. Discuss your practices that relate to this article with your commanding officers, police legal advisors, and the prosecuting attorney before changing your practice.

- 1 "See trend of opioid prescriptions in your Michigan county," Julie Mack, published June 4, 2018, MLive.
- 2 Id.
- 3 Id.
- 4 Berning, A., Compton, R., and Wochinger, K., *Results of the 2013-2014 National Roadside Survey of Alcohol and Drug Use by Drivers* (NHTSA February 2015).
- 5 Id.
- 6 Id.
- 7 Hedlund, J., *Drug-Impaired Driving: Marijuana and Opioids Raise Critical Issues for States* (GHSA May 2018) <https://www.ghsa.org/resources/DUID18>

Part 2 will continue in next issue



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