



9. In “recreational use” states, where marijuana has been “legalized,” the THC potency of marijuana has skyrocketed in recent years, and its addictive properties exacerbate its potential harms, as marijuana users become dependent on it.
10. Frequency of marijuana use, as well as higher THC potency, is associated with the most severe impacts on mental health, which is evidenced by psychosis, suicidality, reshaping of brain matter, and addiction.
11. The increasing demand for high-potency marijuana products and the coinciding prevalence of marijuana use disorder are indicative of a future maelstrom with unknown consequences for public health, especially as the marijuana industry engages in concerted effort to undermine scientifically proven risks of marijuana use.
12. In the 1970s, “Woodstock Weed” contained roughly 1-3 percent THC, the psychoactive component of marijuana. Since then, marijuana products have become increasingly potent, driven in large part by market demand as well as a shift in consumption methods.
13. THC concentrates such as shatter, budder, and waxes – as well as gummies and edibles – are packed with more THC (in states where marijuana has been legalized) than “Woodstock Weed” joints ever were; for these kinds of reasons, the Arkansas Constitution currently limits THC concentrations to 10 mg for edibles and drink products, Ark. Const. Amend. 98 Section 8(e)(5)(A), as well as limiting the total weight of THC if the portions cannot be physically determined. Ark. Const. Amend. 98 Section 8(e)(5)(B).
14. Now, even the marijuana plant itself is genetically engineered to contain a greater percentage of THC.
15. One study found that the average potency of the marijuana plant increased from 8.9 percent THC in 2008, to 17.1 percent THC in 2017.
16. Marijuana Concentrates, which contained an average potency of 6.7 percent THC in 2008, contained an average potency of 55.7 percent in 2017, in states without limitations like those currently imposed by the Arkansas Constitution (above).
17. The market for the marijuana flower hybrids and concentrates in “legal” recreational states continues to rise with the increase in demand for products with higher THC potency levels.
18. In states where marijuana is legal, retailers increasingly promote higher potency marijuana in order to drive profits: higher potency marijuana sells.

19. The demand for stronger marijuana is dangerous.
20. High potency THC marijuana exacerbates many of the consequences of marijuana use.
21. Frequent marijuana users and users of high potency marijuana are more likely than regular users to develop schizophrenia and psychosis.
22. Users of Butane Hash Oil (BHO), a marijuana concentrate that yields a potency of between 70-99 percent THC, are more likely to have lifetime diagnoses of depression and anxiety while being more likely to report other substance use.
23. Products associated with high amounts of THC proliferate with market demand, and, as such, consequences associated with highly potent marijuana become more apparent.
24. The repeal of the limit on the maximum dosage of 10 mg of THC is one of the most significant facts contained in the proposed petition to make recreational marijuana use legal in the State of Arkansas as a 2022 ballot initiative.
25. Given the problems associated with more potent THC marijuana, as set forth in *Smoke Screen*, and hereinabove, the voting public should be made aware of the removal of the constitutional limit on the maximum dosage of 10 mg of THC from the Arkansas Constitution, when considering the proposed amendment to the Arkansas Constitution.
26. The proposed constitutional amendment prohibits further regulation of THC, and legal changes to the regulatory scheme of THC, thereby precluding the General Assembly, and Arkansas regulatory agencies, from making any adjustments to limit THC concentrations in the future; this is also one of the most significant facts contained in the proposed petition to make recreational use legal in the State of Arkansas as a 2022 ballot initiative.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

  
Kevin A. Sabet

### VERIFICATION

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, duly authorized and acting, by the person well-known to me, or satisfactorily identified to me, as Kevin A. Sabet, who stated that he made the foregoing Affidavit for the purposes therein stated and acknowledged that he had so

signed, executed and delivered said foregoing instrument for the consideration, uses and purposes therein mentioned and set forth.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal this 16th day of August, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:

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[Notary Seal]