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Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 11:10 AM

To: Coriell, Scott

Subject: Gov. Shumlin Statement on Senate Judiciary Passage of Marijuana Legalization Bill

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 29, 2016

Gov. Shumlin Statement on Senate Judiciary Passage of Marijuana Legalization Bill

MONTPELIER – Gov. Peter Shumlin issued the following statement after the Senate Judiciary Committee passed by a vote of 4 to 1 S.241, legislation to legalize marijuana in Vermont.

“I want to thank Senator Sears for his leadership and the entire Judiciary Committee for their hard work on this bill. This legislation meets the principles I outlined in my State of the State Address and I believe it provides the framework for our state to cautiously, step-by-step and in the Vermont way end the failed war on drugs policy of marijuana prohibition. This debate is about whether we can take a smarter approach towards marijuana, which is already widely available and used by tens of thousands of Vermonters. Promoting prevention, keeping marijuana out of the hands of kids, getting rid of illegal drug dealers, and doing a better job responding to impaired drivers already on our roads, I believe this legislation is a huge improvement on the failed war on drugs. I look forward to working with the Legislature as they continue to debate this issue.”

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