

March Madness for Medical Cannabis Community

30 - Yes, Count 'Em -30 Bills In 2011 Oregon Legislative Session Involving "Marijuana" Means Lotsa Your Tax Dollars At Waste and Work for Activists!

Like House Bill 3202 which seeks to gut OMMA on Law Enforcements behalf. Who sez they don't make the laws, just enforce them? Some of the great "crime-stopping" things 3202 will do:

- Removes caregivers; Appears to eliminate the caregiver designation altogether
- Removes anyone under 18 years of age.
- Increases the time since a felony drug conviction until a person may be a designated grower from 5 to 15 years.
- Changes the requirement

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Rally For MMJ

There will be a Rally (11am) about and Hearing (1pm) on HB 2982 on Wednesday, February 23, 2011.

Rallv and Hearing on Measure - Date: Wednesday -February 23 / Time: 11 A.M., Capital Steps, Salem, * Getting the Oregon. to Capitol > 900 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301 * Visitor Services Phone: 503-986-1388 * For more information on How to get to the Capitol, including things like Where to Park. visit: www.leg.state.or.us/capinfo/

1:00 P.M. / Room: And at **343 - HB 2982 FIRST PUBLIC HEARING** - Requires Oregon Health Authority deny to application for medical marijuana registry identification if applicant has been card convicted of felony involving controlled substance. * How to Testify in Front of Committee is

www.leg.state.or.us/citizenguide
/* NOTE: You may call your

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State lawmakers propose sobriety checkpoints

Four former law enforcement officers in the legislature would like Oregon to resume police checkpoints to combat drunken driving. They are Reps, and former Oregon State Police members Andy Olson, R-Albany; Jeff Barker D-Aloha, Wayne Krieger, R-Gold Beach, and Sherrie Sprenger, R-Scio.

House Bill 3133 would allow police agencies to establish sobriety checkpoints if they follow guidelines established in 1990 by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The purpose, according to the bill, would be "apprehending persons who are driving while under the influence of intoxicants."

The bill, if passed, would not take effect unless voters also amended the constitution to add a sentence to the effect that sobriety checkpoints are not prohibited by the ban on

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The MERCY News

Report is an allvolunteer, not-for-profit
project to record and
broadcast news,
announcements and
information about medical
cannabis in Oregon,
across America and
around the World.

For more information about the MERCY News, contact us.

Via Snail Mail:

The MERCY News 1469 Capital St. NE, Suite 100, Salem, Ore., 97301 503.363-4588

<u>E-mail:</u>
Mercy_Salem@hotmail.com

Or our WWW page: www.MercyCenters.org

Check it out!



in Salem, Oregon area thru Capital Community Television, Channel 23. See us on Wednesdays at 06:30pm, Thursdays at 07:00pm, Fridays at 10:30pm and Saturdays at 06:00pm. Visit –

http://mercycenters.org/tv/

About MERCY – The Medical Cannabis Resource Center

MERCY is a non-profit, grass roots organization founded by patients, their friends and family and other compassionate and concerned citizens in the area and is dedicated to helping and advocating for those involved with the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP). MERCY is based in the Salem, Oregon area and staffed on a volunteer basis.

The purpose is to get medicine to patients in the short-term while working with them to establish their own independent sources. To this end we provide, among other things, ongoing education to people and groups organizing clinics and other Patinet Resources, individual physicians and other healthcare providers about the OMMP, cannabis as medicine and doctor rights in general.

The mission of the organization is to help people and change the laws. We advocate reasonable, fair and effective marijuana laws and policies, and strive to educate, register and empower voters to implement such policies. Our philosophy is one of teaching people to fish, rather than being dependent upon others.

Welcome to The Club! MERCY – the Medical Cannabis Resource Center hosts Mercy Club Meetings every Wednesday at – 1469 Capital Street NE, Suite #130, Salem, 97301 – from 7pm to 9pm to help folks get their card, network patients to medicine, assist in finding a grower or getting to grow themselves, or ways and means to medicate along other info and resources depending on the issue. visit

- www.MercyCenters.org - or Call 503.363-4588 for more.

The Doctor is In ... Salem! * MERCY is Educating Doctors on signing for their Patients; Referring people to Medical Cannabis Consultations when their regular care physician won't sign for them; and listing all Clinics around the state in order to help folks Qualify for the OMMP and otherwise Get their Cards. For our Referral Doc in Salem, get your records to – 1469 Capital Street NE, Suite #100, Salem, 97301 - or, in the Salem-area, fax them to 503-581-1937, NOTE: There is a \$25 non-refundable deposit required. Transportation and Delivery Services available for those in need. For our Physician Packet to educate your Doctor, or a List of Clinics around the state, visit – www.MercyCenters.org - or Call 503.363-4588 for more.

Other Medical Cannabis Resource NetWork Opportunities for Patients as well as CardHolders-to-be. * whether Social meeting, Cardholders Only Open public -orvisit: http://mercycenters.org/events/Meets.html ! Also Forums - a means to communicate and network on medical cannabis in Portland across Oregon and around the world. A list of Forums, Chat Rooms, Bulletin Boards and other Online Resources for the Medical Cannabis Patient, CareGiver, Family Member, Patient-to-Be and Other Interested Parties. * Resources > Patients (plus) > Online > Forums * Know any? Let everybody else know! Visit: http://mercycenters.org/orgs/Forums.html and Post It!

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continued from RALLY, page 1 > legislators by contacting the WATS operator. Within Salem, call 503-986-1187. Outside of Salem, please call 1-800-332-2313.

If you are a constituent of a member of the committee PLEASE contact your representative urging they NOT refer this to Ways and Means. Here is the info on the The House Judiciary Committee Membership:

Jeff Barker, Co-Chair - Beaverton and Aloha Wayne Krieger, Co-Chair - Curry County Chris Garrett, Co-Vice Chair - Lake Oswego and SW Portland (part)

Wally Hicks, Co-Vice Chair - Josephine County (most)

Mary Nolan - Inner NW and SW Portland (Part) **Andy Olson** - Linn and Benton Counties (Part of both)

Mike Schaufler - East Mult. Co. (part) Clackamas Co (part)

Carolyn Tomei - Milwaukie and parts of SE Portland **Matt Wand** - E. Mult Co (Troutdale, Wood Village, Corbet)

Gene Whisnant - Deschuttes Co.

If you're not sure who your representative is, go here: http://www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr/ and enter your address.

Remember, without the OMMA, all patients would be in violation of the Oregon controlled substances act. Many patients have controlled substance convictions which pre-date the OMMA and which were directly related to their medicinal use.

Be polite, direct and use short sentences.

If you schedule a meeting, be prompt and dress appropriately.

If you can't lobby, come to the hearing to show your opposition to this proposal.

<u>Details</u>: This bill would punish citizens who committed a past felony, but that have served their time, and who are also sick enough become doctor-qualified to use medical marijuana. In this way, the bill seeks to repunish citizens. This will would create a significant unfunded mandate for background checks on an estimated 80,000 current OMMP cardholders, including caregivers as well as patients. The OMPI estimate for the cost of 80,000 background checks is at least \$7.5 million.

It is unlikely that state agencies could conduct 75,000 background checks without the

assistance of law enforcement agencies or private contractors. This would create a significant privacy concern for cardholders, who currently enjoy privacy unless part of an active criminal investigation. This bill also has a punitive effect on patients who were convicted as drug felons in states with harsh laws; those same patients would have suffered no more than a misdemeanor under Oregon law. For example, Oregon residents can possess not more than one ounce of marijuana and receive only a civil penalty. In other states, the amount needed for a felony conviction is much lower.

The cost of this measure raises the fear of new fees and fee increases for OMMP program members, to pay for background checks. In general, OMMP patients are not able to afford higher fees. 39.4% of OMMP cardholders currently receive a discounted OMMP fee because they are low-income, according to OMMP analysis.

A copy of the Bill may be found online at: http://www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/measures/hb290 http://www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/measures/hb290 <a

<u>History</u>: to find out or stay updated, go to http://www.leg.state.or.us/searchmeas.html, select Senate/House type of Measure and enter the bill number - ie; "2536" for HB2536 - or other keyword to To check up on bills and see their history.

History of HB 2982

- **01/11 (H)** First reading. Referred to Speaker's desk
- **01/21 (H)** Referred to Judiciary with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
- **02/23 (H)** Public Hearing scheduled.

Here is the link to the video/news story on Medford's channel 5 on the new medical marijuana bills being introduced and the rally on Wednesday:

http://localnewscomesfirst.com/index.php?option=c om seyret&Itemid=431&task=videodirectlink&id=7 663

Getting to the Capitol > 900 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301 * Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:00-5:30 ~ Saturday: Closed ~ Sunday: Closed * Visitor Services Phone: 503-986-1388 * For more information on How to get to the Capitol, including things like Where to Park, visit: www.leg.state.or.us/capinfo/

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Testifying

How to Testify in Front of Committee is at:

www.leg.state.or.us/citizenguide / * NOTE: You may call your legislators by contacting the WATS operator. Within Salem, call 503-986-1187. Outside of Salem, please call 1-800-332-2313.

Each speaker called to testify will have two minutes to address the committee. The order of



testimony may be managed to ensure that all points of view on these measures are presented.

Staff respectfully requests that you submit 25 collated copies of written materials at the time of your testimony and, if possible, an electronic copy of materials provided to staff 24 hours prior to the meeting. Persons making presentations including the use of video, DVD, PowerPoint or overhead projection equipment are asked to contact committee staff and provide an electronic copy 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Whether you want to testify or not, it would be good to come to Salem for any hearings. It would be especially good to try to schedule a meeting with your Senator -or- Representative before the meeting, possible.

As with coming to court, if you decide to attend hearings, please dress appropriately and be polite and respectful. If you cannot attend, Please write or phone and testify.

More Tips, Tools and Such, Spread the Word!

To find out how a hearing went, you can check out the Legislative Audio / Video Archives at: http://www.leg.state.or.us/listn/

Find Your Legislator online at -www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr/findset.htm. Visit: www.leg.state.or.us/findlegsltr/home.htm - and fill out the form entering your home address. Then click on the "submit" button and you will then be given your state and US legislators.

- Write your legislator online. To send a message to your State Senator or State Representative please visit: www.leg.state.or.us/writelegsltr/ and fill out the form. By entering your information, you will be automatically matched to either your State Senator or your State Representative. Click "submit" when you are ready to send your message.
 - Phoning Your Legislator. During a legislative session, you may call your legislators by contacting the WATS operator. Within Salem, call 503-986-1187. Outside of Salem, please call 1-800-332-2313.
- To check up on bills; here is the link to the search bills page www.leg.state.or.us/searchmeas.html click on search for specific measure ... fill in the blanks on the page, hit enter and you will get the text of any bill. For example, try typing "marijuana" in the search engine for new bills. Also look for "cannabis" and we should not forget to mention "hemp" at some time.
- To view the Text of a bill; If one wants PDF with changes bolded one can go here:

 landru.leg.state.or.us/11reg/measures/ click on the directory like HB 2600's and find it in PDF instead of just HTML.
 - These web links tell you what committee a bill goes to. For senate bills:

<u>www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/pubs/senmh.html</u> for house bills: <u>www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/pubs/hsemh.html</u>

- The official Oregon State Index of Measures with Scheduled Actions, the agenda search engine, is at http://www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/agenda/webagendas.htm here you can look up when and where a hearing or work session is by the bill number ie; "2536" for HB2536 or other keyword.
 - Find out who's on a Committee during the 2011 session, visit -

http://www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/pubs/commsch.pdf

- www.leg.state.or.us/house/ and a List of OR St. Senate at: www.leg.state.or.us/house/ and a List of OR St. Senate at: www.leg.state.or.us/senate/ There is also the Senate and House District Listing from Secretary of State, Elections Division. which includes a table of Senators and the two corresponding Representatives for all districts see: www.sos.state.or.us/elections/other.info/shlist.pdf
- If you need information regarding the legislative process, you can email the Legislative Liaison at help.leg@state.or.us -or- call 503-986-1000 -or- visit: www.leg.state.or.us/

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- that an "attending physician" can authorize cards to new requirement that a patients "primary care physician" issue approval
- LE would be given lists of growers by OHA.
- Growers would have to agree to inspection by LE.
- LE would be authorized to remove all plants, product and equipment if a grower is not in compliance (as opposed to removing the amts exceeding OMMA limits).
- Changes plant limits to two mature and two seedlings and possession to one ounce.
- Removes what little affirmative defense there is all-together.
- Drastically changes the composition of the ACMM. And more.

Status:

02/09 (H) First reading. Referred to the desks of the Co-Speakers.

02/16 (H) Referred to Health Care with subsequent referral to Judiciary.

Rep. Esquivel had a small blurb in the Sunday Mail Tribune asking his constituents to read his bill (HB 3202) rolling back OMMA and let him know how they liked it. We suggest that the reader do just that! Fill his email inbox and phone lines with concise explanations of just how this bill would damage OMMP folks and cost the state in general. E-mail via rep.salesquivel@state.or.us - and phone: 503-986-1406. And then get everybody you know to do so also.

And this is just one of the many gems submitted to the legislation. A search of the Oregon State Legislative web-site (http://www.leg.state.or.us:8765/query.html?col=1 meas11&qt=marijuana&charset=iso-8859-1) reveals there are some 30 measures relating to marijuana in the Oregon State legislature this session and there are undoubtedly more coming. Hearings are already happening for bills regarding patients right to be a patient, among others. There is a web page set up with a list at -

http://willamettevalleynorml.org/legis/2011/

- with web pages set up for each bill in order to

gather related talking points, LTE examples, Hearing notices, links and Bulletin Boards so everyone can contribute.

We can make a statement by our numbers so please try to attend Hearings and such, even if you don't plan to testify. You can also always just go up and say "ditto" to a previous speaker!

Please e-mail, call or visit if you can't make it and do have testimony, write to members of the committee -and/or- write your Senator and State Rep. They are mostly hearing from law enforcement, and other special interests, so you are needed to counter the deliberate misinformation. Links and other tools on how to contact your rep, find out about bills, etc. is at - http://willamettevalleynorml.org/legis/state.html

For example, there's House Bill 3132 Sponsored by Representative OLSON; Representatives DOHERTY, FREEMAN, JOHNSON, KRIEGER, SCHAUFLER, SPRENGER, THOMPSON, WHISNANT, Senators KRUSE, MORSE, **THOMSEN** -- Relating to the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program and companion to HB2982, that also Provides that Oregon Health Authority shall revoke registry identification card if cardholder is convicted of drug crime. Status: 02/07 (H) First reading. Referred to the desks of the Co-Speakers.

And this little beauty to go along with the previous, reminiscent of the Chinese charging the families of their victims for the bullets they shoot them with > Senate Bill 70 Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate conformance with presession filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Governor John A. Kitzhaber for Department of State **Police)** -- Relating to fees for criminal identification services. > Authorizes Department of State Police to establish fee schedules to cover costs of obtaining, maintaining and providing identification criminal records information. Status: 01/10 (S) Introduction and first reading. Referred to President's desk; 01/14 (S) Referred to Judiciary, then Ways and Means.

Further, there is > House Bill 2994 Sponsored by Representative RICHARDSON (Presession filed.) -- Relating to the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program, which **Prohibits operation of**

<continued from previous page> marijuana grow site within 2,500 feet of school or place of worship, that is a real life, modern day example of "Reefer Madness" driven drivel. It's <u>Status</u>: 01/11 (H) First reading. Referred to Speaker's desk; 01/21 (H) Referred to Judiciary.

And this one that will take away personal and private grows by establishing a rigid, specific "co-op" system. It's > House Bill 3046 Sponsored Representative bv SCHAUFLER, on behalf of the Stormy Ray Foundation -- Relating to the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act; appropriating money; declaring an emergency; providing for revenue raising that requires approval by a three-fifths majority. It **Directs Oregon** Health Authority to mariiuana register cooperatives to operate marijuana grow and sell marijuana to registry identification cardholders. Imposes percent tax on net profit from sale of marijuana by cooperative. Continuously appropriates 50 percent of moneys from authority for purposes tax administering Oregon Medical Marijuana Program. It will > As of January 1, 2013, eliminates registration of marijuana grow sites not operated by cooperative or at reaistry identification residence of cardholder or designated primary caregiver. Status: 02/01 (H) First reading. Referred to the desks of the Co-Speakers; 02/07 (H) Referred to Health Care with subsequent referral to Revenue.

Along the same lines is HB 3423 that **Requires Oregon Health Authority to adopt** establish standards rules that and procedures for registration of manufacture deliverv of medical and mariiuana, by **COMMITTEE ON** Sponsored CARE. Also, SB 0874, a companion bill that identification **Provides** that registry designated cardholders and primary caregivers may be responsible for indoor marijuana grow site; **Directs State** Department of Agriculture to establish registration system for marijuana farms;

Directs State Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules allowing pharmacy or pharmacist to purchase marijuana from marijuana farm and dispense usable marijuana to registry identification cardholders. Visit - http://www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/measures/sb 0800.dir/sb0874.intro.html

Oregon State > House Bill 3077
Sponsored by Representative HUNT -Relating to medical marijuana that Requires
medical marijuanaregistry identification
cardholder to be Oregon resident.
Status: 02/01 (H) First reading. Referred to
the desks of the Co-Speakers; 02/07 (H)
Referred to Judiciary.

Oregon State > House Bill 3093 Sponsored by Representative HICKS -- Relating to medical marijuana. This Reduces amount of usable medical marijuana that person may possess to one ounce. Status: 02/02 (H) First reading. Referred to the desks of the Co-Speakers; 02/07 (H) Referred to Health Care with subsequent referral to Judiciary.

Oregon State > Senate Bill 327 Sponsored by Senator FERRIOLI (in memory of Steven 'Upty ' Uptegrove) (Presession filed.) -- Relating to controlled substances; declaring an emergency.

> Creates crime of unlawful manufacture of marijuana on public land. Punishes by maximum of 20 years' imprisonment, \$375,000 fine, or both.

> Declares emergency, effective on passage. <u>Status</u>:

01/10 (S) Introduction and first reading. Referred to President's desk. 01/14 (S) Referred to Judiciary. Click here for >> more info << like text.

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- Oregon State > Senate Bill 645 Sponsored by Senator GIROD -- Relating to drug-free workplace policies.
- Allows employer to adopt comprehensive drug-free workplace program, including drug and alcohol testing policies. Establishes requirements for program and policies, including requirements for collection of samples and testing procedures.
- > Exempts employer from civil actions under certain conditions when employer has adopted comprehensive drug-free workplace program. Modifies definition of 'compensable injury' in workers' compensation law. Modifies application of disability law in relation to illegal use of drugs.
- > Requires applicant for medical marijuana registry identification card to notify employer before using marijuana. Provides that Oregon Medical Marijuana Act does not require employer to make workplace accommodation regardless of where marijuana use occurs.

Status:

02/08 (S) Introduction and first reading. Referred to President's desk. Click here for >> more info << like text.

Oregon State > Senate Bill 646 Sponsored by Senator GIROD -- Relating to drugs in the workplace.

Expands ability of employer to prohibit use of medical marijuana in workplace.

Status:

02/08 (S) Introduction and first reading. Referred to President's desk. Click here for >> more info << like text.

Oregon State > House Bill 3129 House Bill 3129 is Sponsored by Representative OLSON; Representatives BARKER, FREEMAN, JOHNSON, KRIEGER, SCHAUFLER, SPRENGER, THOMPSON, WHISNANT, WINGARD, Senators KRUSE, MORSE -- Relating to the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program.

Modifies provisions relating to release of information from Oregon Medical Marijuana Program to Oregon Health Authority and law enforcement.

Status:

02/07 (H) First reading. Referred to the desks of the Co-Speakers. Click here for >> more info << like text.

New bill for OHA to notify landlords about growsite on their property

House Sponsored Bill 3426 > Representative SPRENGER; Representatives CAMERON, BENTZ, BERGER, ESOUIVEL, GARRARD, HICKS, JOHNSON, KRIEGER, SCHAUFLER, G SMITH, THOMPSON, Senator SUMMARY: GIROD.

Requires applicant for marijuana grow site registration to notify Oregon Health Authority if premises of marijuana grow site are rented or leased and provide name and address of owner. Requires authority to notify owner of premises that authority has registered marijuana grow site at premises; Declares emergency, effective on passage. See - http://www.leg.state.or.us/11reg/measures/hb3400.dir/hb3426.intro.html - for text.

We think there are several issues with this bill.

The biggest problem is that the OMMP requires every patient applicant to register a grow site whether they have a garden or not. Thousands of patients simply put their own address. Clinics advise this. If a patient does not list a grow site OMMP will deny the application. OMMP notifying these landlords that there is a registered garden (even when there isn't) is

continued from BILL WOULD NOTIFY LANDLORDS, previous page> equivalent to notifying a patient's landlord that they are a medical marijuana patient.

Then, also, So much for a patient's privacy, HIPPA, etc. We don't like rules that say you have to inform anyone about someones private information Does ones landlord get to know if one is on anti psychotic meds? Or any narcotics or therapy prescribed by ones Doc?

We know that we'd want a large deposit if the person were going to grow indoors, as, sadly, it is usual for tenants to be less careful of the property than the actual owner who has to replace floors damaged by water or molds or whatever. We do think it is reasonable for landlords to know if there is something going on on their property which is potentially damaging to it or if there are structural or electrical changes being made, so a rule which says one must inform landlords of above changes or indoor nurseries seems reasonable. This is not it.

A good landlord would be checking their property at least once a year - does the roof need repair? Are the appliances in good shape? Things that the landlord owes to the tenant. The tenant owes the landlord the rent and a careful use of the property that is in their day to day control. A lazy or inattentive landlord should not rely on the state to do their job for them. Further, what is the real extent of the loss among renters? Is this just more Reefer Madness as a front to some real estate industry scheme? How many millions must patients and the state pay to subsidize these real estate ventures?

We do think it is a really good idea for growers to be honest with their landlords, but making it a law and creating lots of extra work for the OMMP at patient's expense seems like a bad idea.

And, lastly but by no means leastly, We are not comfortable with the continued singling out of cannabis nor anything that furthers the image of cannabis cultivation as a wrong thing to be doing. This bad bill and the problems that it highlights is one more reason we need a regulated medical marijuana supply system.

<continued from CHECKPOINTs, page 1 > unreasonable searches. The legislators are proposing the amendment in House Joint Resolution 25. If it passes, voters would get their say in the 2012 general election.

In 1987, the Oregon Supreme Curt prohibited random checkpoints on constitutional grounds. The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld checkpoints, and in an online report this the Governors Highway Association said 38 states and the District of Columbia do conduct such operations. Among Oregon neighbors, California and Nevada allow them, but Idaho and Washington; do not. As of Monday the legislature's webiste said HB 3133 had been re-ferred to the desks of the House co-speakers and not yet been assigned to committee.

Write Your State Senator or Representative and Urge Support for Marijuana Law Reform. NORML has made it easy and convenient for you to amend the laws in your state. NORML's Legislative Action Alert page has up-to-date information on marijuana law reform proposals, upcoming legislative hearings, and scheduled votes. With a few quick clicks of a mouse, you can also contact your state elected officials and urge them to vote 'yes' for saner pot policies. Visit — http://capwiz.com/norml2/issues/

United States House of Representatives | Information on the lower body of the federal legislature: about the legislative process, this week's House calendar, committee schedules, roll call vote ... Washington, DC 20515 * call (202) 224-3121 | TTY: (202) 225-1904 or visit - www.house.gov

Duited States Senate | History on ... the two houses of Congress, giving each state equal representation in the Senate. ... Contacting Senators, by mail Washington, D.C. 20510, By Telephone: Alternatively, you may phone the United States Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. A switchboard operator will connect you directly with the Senate office you request. visit - www.senate.gov