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FIRST MEDICAL CANNABIS LOBBY DAY AT WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2005

An alliance of state activists, the Wisconsin Coalition for Safe Access, is organizing the first Medical Cannabis Lobby Day at the State Capitol on Wednesday, February 16.

Medical cannabis patients and supporters will gather at the group's informational table in the Capitol rotunda on the first floor at 11am. Coalition members will then visit their legislators' offices as well as deliver letters supporting relegalizing medical cannabis to supporters who could not attend.

Organizers vow that is only the beginning. Gary Storck, a Madison medical cannabis patient/activist and spokesman for the group said, "We are already planning future lobby days. Wisconsinites understand that when families are facing serious illness, they ought to have the freedom to use cannabis like any other medicine. With all the medications being recalled, there is more need than ever for a natural remedy like cannabis with thousands of years of safe use by humans. Each day of delay means more families are forced to choose between breaking the law or watching a loved one's suffering go out of control."

Blake Trimbell, a journalist and medical marijuana activist from La Crosse who now lives in Monona said, "Marijuana is a natural medicine that has been used for many reasons throughout history. Only recently has it become illegal. Why are legal officials instead of medical doctors allowed to tell people what they can and cannot use as medicine? Denying a sick and suffering person one more option for relief is a slap in the face. "

Brian, a coalition member from Milwaukee said, "As a cancer survivor and someone living with MS, I am offended that the legislature is so slow to act on medical marijuana. The sick and dying know the research supports it, and 80% of the public approves."

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The Wisconsin Coalition for Safe Access is a project of Is My Medicine Legal YET? (www.immly.org), Madison NORML (www.madisonnorml.org), and Wisconsin NORML (www.winorml.org).