

Dear Member,

As you know, this fall we are heading to the polls to vote on many important issues both on a state and local level. Our Business Advocacy Committee surveyed the membership earlier this fall to gauge their opinion of Issue 3 (legalization of marijuana). The results were overwhelmingly clear: 83% of members who responded stood in opposition to this proposed change to the state constitution.

The Advocacy Committee and Board of Directors were in agreement to encourage our members and their employees to “**vote yes**” for **Issue 2** (making it impossible to write monopolies into the State Constitution effective immediately) and “**vote no**” on **Issue 3** (exclusive right to the cultivation, marketing, and sale of medical and recreational marijuana in Ohio).

Broadly, we stand opposed to Issue 3 for a couple reasons:

**Issue 3 cements in the Constitution a billion-dollar marijuana monopoly for a small group of wealthy investors.**

- Issue 3 gives these investors exclusive rights to commercial marijuana profits in Ohio, and insulates them from any business competition.
- The investors who wrote Issue 3 set their own preferential tax rates directly into the Constitution – rates that can’t be changed by the Legislature and that are lower than those on beer, wine, and tobacco.

**Issue 3 will hamper workforce development efforts.**

- By legalizing the product, Issue 3 will make it far more difficult for businesses to find workers who can pass drug tests.
- Businesses also fear that Issue 3 will impact existing law concerning liability for workplace accidents and workers compensation.

In sharing this information, we are joining with over 100 other Chambers of Commerce and statewide associations who also oppose this bill. For more information on this topic, I encourage you to visit the [Ohio Chamber of Commerce website](#).

Every vote counts on these two issues. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Jodie A. Perry  
President

PS – The Business Advocacy Committee is charged with reviewing national/state/local issues of importance to the business community. If you have interest in joining the committee, please send me an email.