

Masterman-Smith To Sponsor Federal Medical Cannabis Policy To Fight Deadly Opioid Crisis

Congressional candidate and healthcare specialist has plan to help lead country out of opioid crisis.

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Michael Masterman-Smith is a Democratic candidate for US Congress in California's 25th Congressional District. With a PhD in Molecular & Medical Pharmacology from UCLA and decades of experience working on

advanced therapies for deadly diseases he has the experience to lead the country out of the opioid crisis. In a statement he said "I sympathize and empathize with all families and our communities reeling from this heartbreaking epidemic. As a healthcare specialist, working to end the opioid crisis will be one of my top priorities. We lack the tools in the medical toolkit to stem this growing crisis. We simply do not have effective medicines to transition suffering pain patients to something other than addictive opioids. We need to add medical cannabis to our healthcare toolkit."

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Dr. Michael Masterman-Smith

cannabidiol (CBD) and tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

2. Public, private and military insurance coverage for cannabis medicine.

3. Better direction for the US Food and Drug Administration and Veterans Administration in facilitating cannabis medicine.

4. Support for medical training and research into cannabis medicine.

5. Harmonization of state, federal, and tribal medical cannabis programs with national healthcare priorities.

Cannabinoids (THC and/or CBD), can work as an opioid replacement, or in combination with opioids for pain management. In terms of harm reduction, in states with medical cannabis programs opioid



deaths have dropped. Dr. Masterman-Smith said, "I am profoundly hopeful we can start saving lives with a federal medical cannabis policy. If we take careful consideration of tragic failures in drug policy and use evidence-based strategies to guide us we will find the wisdom to realize some solutions to this deadly crisis are not as far off as they seem."

Masterman-Smith's platform can be read on his campaign website at masterman2018.com.

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