

## The GOP's War Against Pot Continues

## "REPUBLICANS" USE BUDGET DEAL TO OVERTURN D.C. MARIJUANA REFERENDUM

December 10, 2014

Voters in Washington, D.C. have spoken: They want to see marijuana legalized. Overwhelmingly so, in fact.

Under a referendum that passed by a 70-30 percent margin on November 4, Washington, D.C. residents and visitors would have been permitted to legally possess up to two ounces of marijuana be allowed to grow up to three pot plants.

Now? Not so much ...

As part of the recent federal budget compromise – which represented a <u>wholesale GOP surrender</u> to the administration of **Barack Obama** on spending issues – "Republican" legislators led by U.S. Rep. **Andy Harris** of Maryland struck down the D.C. marijuana legalization.

Just like that ... the will of the people was undone by a backdoor budget amendment.

Limited government supporters were (rightfully) aghast ...

"As a constitutional matter, the Congress can set policies for the District of Columbia, but this is an awful move," <u>wrote</u> Tim Lynch of the Cato Institute. "No vote on marijuana reform, just override the voter-approved measure by inserting language into a gigantic spending bill."

Lynch also pointed out how the GOP never seems to use such procedural moves when it matters ...

"Isn't it interesting that such tactics never seem to be used to downsize the federal government and reduce its powers?" he noted. "Why not zero out the budget for the DEA or the Export-Import Bank?"

Meanwhile D.C.'s elected leaders were (rightfully) livid ...

"It is disheartening and frustrating to learn that once again the District of Columbia is being used as a political pawn by the Congress," city councilman David Grosso <u>told</u> *The Washington Post.* "To undermine the vote of the people — taxpayers — does not foster or promote the 'limited government' stance House Republicans claim they stand for; it's uninformed paternalistic meddling." Exactly ...

"Republicans" clearly have no intention of "limiting" government ... in any form or fashion. In fact it is now abundantly clear that if voters democratically affirm their intention to cast off indefensible paternalistic prohibitions (like the criminalization of pot), "Republicans" will step in to reimpose Nanny State order.

Unbelievable ...

America gets this ... why doesn't the GOP?

UPDATE: Maybe we'll ask Marco Rubio ....