



michigan municipal league

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Michigan Municipal League Statement: Medical Marijuana Ruling Does Not Prohibit Local Regulations

The following Michigan Municipal League statement is in response to a recent Michigan Supreme Court ruling regarding the state's medical marijuana law. The League's Legal Defense Fund submitted an amicus brief, penned by Holland City Attorney Andrew Mulder, in this case involving the City of Wyoming.

"The Supreme Court ruling made it clear what communities cannot do. Communities cannot have a local ordinance prohibiting medical marijuana. However, the court ruling did not address what cities can do in terms of regulating medical marijuana," Mulder said. "In fact, a footnote in the Supreme Court's opinion clarified that it was not the intent of the opinion to prohibit reasonable regulation of marijuana by local ordinance. This leaves open for another day the question of what is a reasonable regulation. Many Michigan communities have medical marijuana regulations in place and this opinion does not, in and of itself, invalidate these other ordinances. The Michigan Municipal League's goal in this case was to preserve local regulations and in essence this ruling does that."

The Michigan Municipal League advocates on behalf of its member communities in Lansing, Washington, D.C., and the courts; provides educational opportunities for elected and appointed municipal officials; and assists municipal leaders in administering services to their communities through League programs and services.

Formed in 1983, the League's Legal Defense Fund provides support to communities in Michigan involved in significant litigation or other forms of controversy which could affect the organization, operation, powers, duties or financing of Michigan municipalities. The Fund is designed to assist, and not replace the municipal attorney, and offers assistance at the discretion of its Board of Directors.

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