Senator John Warner 225 Russell Office Building U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Warner:

I need help getting a straight answer out of a federal agency about a controversial issue.

The Office of Technology Assessment of the U.S. Congress published a paper not long ago on "The Biological Basis of Substance Abuse." It reports research which I believe challenges marijuana's placement in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act.

After much preparation, I wrote Attorney General Reno. I presented the relevant findings, cited applicable sections of the Controlled Substances Act, and asked her if she would act as provided for by statute and request a formal scientific evaluation of this new data from the Department of Health and Human Services.

A recent marijuana rescheduling petition, finally rejected by DEA, addressed two of the three criteria necessary to place marijuana in Schedule I. My letter to the Attorney General addressed the remaining, un-litigated criterion, and cited research which was published after the record was closed in Judge Young's proceedings.

Nonetheless, the office of the Attorney General passed my letter on to the Drug Enforcement Administration, and DEA's Public Affairs office sent me a form letter which did not address a single issue raised in the original inquiry.

I have written DEA back asking for a direct answer to my letter of October 15th. Can you help me get a response to my inquiry?

Sincerely,

Jon Gettman

Rt. 1 Box 26

Lovettsville, VA 22080

(703) 822-9002

enclosures