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Court Appointed **Special Advocates** 







HEALTH EFFECTS OF UNDERAGE RETAIL MARIJUANA USE

## We need to be thinking about the effects of marijuana legalization on our youth

ABSTRACT: Although increasing legalization of marijuana has contributed to the growing belief that marijuana is harmless, research documents the risks of its use by youth are grave.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's youth marijuana education and prevention campaign, encourages young Coloradans to think about how their goals will be easier to achieve without marijuana. The "What's Next" campaign aims to reinforce the fact that NOT using marijuana is the norm in Colorado. The campaign

shares researched messages about how marijuana use can affect young WHAT lives now and in the future. Maybe California's communities can take some valuable lessons from Colorado and be proactive using like campaigns.





## IT'S COMING: Resource Family Approval Program (RFA)

RFA is a new family-friendly and child-centered caregiver approval process that combines elements of the current foster parent licensing, relative approval, and approvals for adoption and guardianship processes and replaces those processes. The RFA process improves the way caregivers (related and nonrelated) of children in foster care are approved and prepared to parent vulnerable children,

whether temporarily or permanently. **More** 



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I Join the movement to prevent ACEs, heal trauma, build resilience.



## LEGISLATION TO HALT **OVERMEDICATING** FOSTER CHILDREN FACES KEY VOTES

California's sweeping efforts to curb the overprescribing of psychiatric drugs to foster children face crucial votes in Sacramento this month, as legislators scramble to negotiate behind the scenes with doctors' groups and the administration of Gov. Jerry Brown whose support is key to the fate of the reforms.

At stake is a series of bills that would monitor and investigate doctors for dangerous prescribing; require that judges have a second opinion for the most dangerous prescribing requests; and require better transparency and tracking of mental health services for foster kids in every California county.

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