

# Regulators seek to reduce child pot poisoning

By Paris Achen  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — When it comes to protecting children from marijuana exposures, Oregon regulators are stepping into relatively new territory.

“The problem is the drug is in food products that are attractive and palatable,” said Dr. George Sam Wang, a physician and medical toxicologist at Children’s Hospital Colorado.

From gummy bears to brownies, “no other prescription drug comes in all of these food products,” Wang noted.

Scant research exists on safe levels for children. Colorado and Washington — Oregon’s only predecessors in legalization of recreational marijuana — have no data collection system to track the total number of kids who go to the emergency room with an overdose. Oregon regulators have gleaned a small amount of evidence from voluntary reports to Colorado poison control on what levels of THC — the intoxicant in pot — are dangerous to children.

Oregon, now in the thick of rulemaking for pot edibles, may have something to learn

from trailing Colorado on the road to legalization, said Dr. Rob Hendrickson, medical toxicologist and associate medical director for Oregon Poison Control.

Hendrickson is embarking on a study to calculate safe amounts of THC per kilogram of a child’s body weight. He is relying on voluntary reports of child exposure to come up with data for the study.

“Right now, there is no way to screen emergency room visits so I am going to encourage ERs to contact us about any marijuana exposure, how much was consumed, how it was packaged and how did they get into and come up with a safe amount,” he said.

The outcome of the study could help inform decisions on THC limits when Oregon sets permanent rules for edibles next year, including limits on THC doses and servings per package. The THC limits apply only to recreational marijuana. Medical marijuana has no limits on dosage.

The limit is important because voluntary reports to Colorado poison control show that the number of children, ages 0-5, exposed to THC more than tripled between 2009

and 2013. There were seven reports of children exposed to THC in 2009, the year medical cannabis was legalized, and 24 reports in 2013 when Colorado voters approved recreational use.

Hendrickson plans to model his study after research on a pharmaceutical THC drug, which was used for chemotherapy-related nausea well before medical marijuana was legalized.

Researchers looked how much THC a patient could tolerate and came up with a number calculated through a formula based on body surface area. A dosage of more than 4 mg per square meters of surface area caused an 86 percent rate of adverse effects, including sleepiness, paranoia and fast heart rate, Hendrickson said.

“The really disgusting way to think it is that if you peeled off someone’s skin and figured out how much square meters it took up,” Hendrickson said.

From that, Hendrickson calculated that a dose of 10 mg (the limit in Colorado) would produce symptoms in a 2- to 4-year-old. His study will yield safe doses for each kilogram of a child’s weight.

# Medford man seeks end to daylight-saving time

By Paris Achen  
Capital Bureau

Medford resident David Miles grumbles every year about having to turn his clocks forward in the spring and back again in the fall.

This year, Miles decided to respond differently by launching a ballot initiative Nov. 12 to end daylight-saving time in Oregon.

“I complain almost every time there is a time change and do nothing about it, and I didn’t want to be that guy anymore,” he said.

A month later, Miles has 20 volunteers in 15 Oregon towns and cities who have gathered nearly 1,000 signatures — a first step toward placing an initiative on the ballot. He said he expects to hit the 1,000-signature mark by mid-December.

Once the volunteers pass that hurdle, they’ll need to round up a total of 117,578 signatures to send the measure to voters in November.

The proposal abolishes daylight-saving in 2018 and allows voters in individual counties to opt out through an election. Miles added that provision with Malheur County in mind. That county already follows Mountain time to be uniform with neighboring Idaho.

“The fringe benefit is other counties can decide to stay on

daylight-saving time, through general county election,” Miles said.

Changing clocks back and forth is disruptive to internal body clocks, sleep patterns and can even be dangerous, he said.

A 2014 study by University of Colorado at Boulder found that fatal traffic accidents spike by 17 percent on the Monday after clocks spring forward.

Daylight-saving began in the United States in 1918 to conserve electricity during the final days of World War I. It became a permanent ritual in 1966 with passage of the Uniform Time Act. The federal legislation was designed to end a confusing patchwork of different time zones in the country but allowed individual states to opt out. Arizona, Hawaii and some U.S. territories have chosen to stay on standard time.

Nowadays, the time change fails to accomplish the goal of saving energy, Miles said.

A University of California Berkeley study found that a two-month extension of daylight-saving time in Australia during the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000 failed to curtail electricity demand.

Earlier this year, there were proposals in several states to end time changes by either remaining on daylight saving or adhering to standard time year-round, according to the Washington Post.

Oregon Sen. Kim Thatcher, R-Keizer, introduced a bill in January that would have let voters to decide whether to abolish daylight saving in 2021.

Dozens of Oregonians testified in favor of the proposal. Joanne DeWitt, one of those who submitted testimony, said daylight saving causes hazards while serving no purpose.

“I would like to see it go the way of other old dinosaurs,” DeWitt said.

The legislation stalled in the Senate Rules Committee. Some lawmakers were concerned about being out of sync with Washington and California, according to Thatcher’s office.

“I think once one state does it, the others will follow, and honestly, it isn’t that big of a deal,” Miles said. “I have never heard people in Arizona say, ‘I hate being off time with Utah.’ They always laugh at the rest of the country at daylight-saving time.”

Albany resident Carrie Davis, one of the volunteer petitioners, said she has always hated daylight-saving time. Her opposition compounded when she had children.

“Now that I have kids, it is apparent to me when we try to change our daily schedule even by an hour, it is so impactful to our whole success through the day,” Davis said. “Trying to get a toddler to go to sleep an hour later or an hour earlier is just challenging, for a superficial social agreement we don’t need.”

**KEEPING YOU IN THE FIELD**

I need to know that my work is going to pay off. That's why I use genuine AGCO Parts.

**NO ONE KNOWS YOUR EQUIPMENT BETTER.**  
Your AGCO Parts Dealer has the parts you need when you need them. Hardware, chain, batteries, tillage, belts, cutting parts. We have the quality parts you need to keep your AGCO equipment running smoothly during the demanding harvest season.  
Highly trained service personnel at AGCO Parts make it all come together, so you can rest easy. Visit your AGCO Parts Dealer and get the parts and services you need to “Keep you in the Field” this season. Find out more at [agcoparts.com](http://agcoparts.com).

**AGCO**  
New Aggregators Limited

**Robbins Farm Equipment - Baker City**  
3850 10th Street  
541-523-6377

**Robbins Farm Equipment - La Grande**  
10218 Wallowa Lake Hwy.  
541-963-6577

**Robbins Farm Equipment - Burns**  
1160 S. Egan  
541-573-6377

**Robbins Farm Equipment - Christmas Valley**  
86812 Christmas Valley Hwy  
541-576-2160

**AGCO PARTS**

**WILD WEST HAIR COMPANY**

Nicole Israel  
131 S Canyon Blvd., John Day  
541.620.2624

Come See  
Nicole's Huge Selection  
of Holiday Gifts

02972

**SEE THE LINE OTHERS THOUGHT IMPOSSIBLE**

**HOLIDAY SALES EVENT**

REBATES UP TO **\$2,000** + **BUY 3 GET 1 FREE** ACCESSORIES AND APPAREL

**'TIS THE SEASON FIND WHAT'S ON HIS LIST**

A special wish that your happiness builds with each day of the season and burns bright throughout the New Year.

**MILLS Building Supply**  
751 W. Main St.,  
John Day • 541-575-1021

**Danner**

**John Day Polaris**  
821 W Hwy 26  
John Day, OR 97845  
[johndaypolaris.com](http://johndaypolaris.com)

We are the guys that want you to have Fun!

**John Day POLARIS**  
Sales & Service  
541-575-0828

**TERRAIN DOMINATION** | **POLARIS**

Rebates up to \$2,000 available on select 2013-2015 Polaris® snowmobiles are valid only when purchased from a participating Polaris dealer between 11/1/15 and 12/31/15. Rebate amounts vary by model. This offer does not include any dealer freight charges, prep, setup fees, other dealer fees, or any applicable sales and registration taxes. All rebates during the Holiday Sales Event program are paid to the dealer. Polaris 2016 snowmobiles that were ordered under the SnowCheck program do not qualify. \*Purchase three (3) qualifying snowmobile apparel or accessory items and receive the fourth (4th) item at no cost. Dealers and employees are not eligible for the discount. Offers may not be combined with certain other offers. are subject to change, may be extended or terminated without further notice, and are available while supplies last. Visit [polaris.com](http://polaris.com) for a list of eligible/ineligible part numbers. See your local dealer for details. Professional rider on a closed course. Polaris recommends that all snowmobile riders take a training course. Do not attempt maneuvers beyond your capability. Always wear a helmet and other safety apparel. Never drink and ride. ©2015 Polaris Industries Inc.

**Log Cabin Espresso**

Sips of Sugar, Spice & All Things Nice

'Tis the season to sample our holiday flavors!

Cinnamon Swirl Latte  
Peppermint Mocha  
Pumpkin Pie Latte  
Chai Spice Latte

Gift Certificates Available!

821 West Highway 26, John Day  
541-575-5778 • Located at John Day Polaris