

## **Town Article 37 – Citizen Petition - Zoning Amendment: To restrict any commercial signs promoting cannabis, or marijuana, drug-related paraphernalia or products**

This Citizen Petition states, “Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend zoning ordinance 271:A-7 Prohibited signs, to include: any sign that includes the marijuana plant or its likeness.”

This article would request that the Raymond Planning Board amend the Raymond Zoning ordinance to prohibit any signage displaying a marijuana leaf, its likeness, or images depicting drug-related paraphernalia, such as those in surrounding communities. This Warrant Article is advisory only. At least one public hearing will be required. There is no tax impact.

As a community, the Raymond Coalition For Youth (RCFY), established in 2002, has been working to reduce substance misuse amongst our youth. (1)(2)

This warrant article is NOT intended to limit or restrict the use of marijuana or hemp products for medical purposes, or CBD in any form.

A **YES vote** will advise the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board to prohibit marijuana and related signs in Town.

A **NO vote** will leave the zoning ordinances as is.

### **Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To limit marijuana commercialization, advertising, and marketing in Raymond. (3)
- Want to limit promotional or advertising signs in Raymond.
- Consider this type of advertising to be incompatible with the rural character of the Raymond community.

### **Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Do not support a change in Raymond zoning law.
- Prefer that RCFY meet their objectives by other means.
- Opposed to placing limitations on advertising by cannabis-related businesses.

### **References:**

1. Raymond Coalition for Youth Mission Statement: [tinyurl.com/y2mx8stb](https://tinyurl.com/y2mx8stb)
2. In the past eighteen years, youth marijuana use has dropped from 29% to 21% for past 30-day youth use. 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey result - Raymond and State of NH: [tinyurl.com/y4y43qux](https://tinyurl.com/y4y43qux)
3. RAND Corporation - “Adolescents Who View More Medical Marijuana Advertising Are More Likely to Use Marijuana, Have Positive Views About the Drug.” [tinyurl.com/y5ulupz3](https://tinyurl.com/y5ulupz3)