Allows hardcore and potentially dangerous drug abusers to remain on the street.

This dangerous and misleading initiative undermines California’s legitimate drug treatment programs and seriously weakens anti-drug laws by giving drug felons a “get out of jail free” card.

The initiative was written by a criminal defense attorney in San Francisco and is being funded by three wealthy out-of-state backers who consider California a “must win” in their campaign to legalize drugs.

In fact, the initiative seriously weakens laws against drug abuse. It prohibits jail or prison for virtually any person convicted of using or possessing heroin, methamphetamine, PCP, crack and other illegal substances — even abusers with a long history of drug dealing, parole violations or past felony offenses.

Under the initiative, serial rapists, child molesters and other sex offenders convicted of possessing “date rape” drugs could escape a jail or prison term — they would instead be diverted into a drug “treatment” program.

The initiative weakens California’s highly effective “Three Strikes” law that has kept repeat violent offenders off our streets. It eliminates prison for people convicted of possessing illegal drugs while armed with loaded firearms. It also allows paroled felons found to be using or possessing heroin, crack, crank or other serious drugs to remain on our streets, rather than returning to prison. It even makes it easier for convicted drug felons to continue working as school bus drivers, teachers and airline pilots.

- Six times more homicides, four times more assaults and one-and-a-half times as many robberies are committed by people under the influence of drugs than are crimes committed by people trying to get money to buy drugs, according to the US Department of Justice.
- Drug-abusing parents account for fifty percent of all child abuse cases.
- Drug users are five to ten times more likely to be involved in fatal traffic accidents than drunk drivers.

To learn more, call Californians United Against Drug Abuse at 1-800-995-3221.