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**McCool** wrote:

Thank you Professor McGarity and the Chronicle for bringing this rare win for consumers to your reader attention.

David Willman in a superb investigative series that won a Pulitzer Prize, found that the FDA had become a partner rather than a supposed watchdog of the pharmaceutical industry . They have many lobbyists, who fill the campaign coffers of friendly lawmakers, and dangle high-paying jobs before these so called overseers to get them to look the other way.

An FDA internal whistleblower, medical officer David Graham, called Vioxx a "profound regulatory failure" by an agency "incapable of protecting America against another Vioxx." For at least a decade, the congressional abandonment of oversight of the FDA turned a blind eye while the thousands of American people died!

There has been no Congressional investigation of the FDA's role in approving any of the seven drugs that caused needless deaths and injuries on their watch, for sure, the lawmakers who were themselves partners of the industry didn't instigate one.

This agency needs to be disbanded! The naturally medicinal cannabis plant and other medicinal herbs scare the pharmaceutical industry because they cannot be patented, as medicine. Many herbs and other natural occurring compounds don't need their tweaking to be good medicine and are indeed synthesized in many patent medicine formulas. <http://mccoolportraits.com/disband.htm>

The UL model might work better to protect us from unconscionable medical profiteers. It is safer to grow natural herb and vegetable gardens than to expect the government or a pill to protect all our ills.

Profiteering has no place in medicine, which must be concerned with the well being of the individual not the bottom line. Doctors who have monitored cannabis use by hundreds of thousands of patients in California and Oregon can document a consistent pattern of using less pharmaceuticals including cutting opiates use by half. Repealing prohibition of marijuana would bring other much needed healthcare reform.

Patients testify to Cannabis' help in treating posttraumatic stress, chronic pain, multiple sclerosis, gastrointestinal (GI) tract disorders, Alzheimer's, Cancer, epilepsy, glaucoma, hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS and more! They swear it is an effective safer replacement for very dangerous pharmaceuticals.

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