

JARED POLIS
2ND DISTRICT, COLORADO



1727 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0602
(202) 225-2161
(202) 226-7840 (FAX)
website and email:
<http://polis.house.gov>

VICE CHAIR AND PARLIAMENTARIAN
STEERING AND POLICY

PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE WHIP

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER—EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY, AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION AND
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

VICE RANKING MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

May 3, 2017

The Honorable Parker Space
One Wilson Drive, Suite 2B
Sparta, NJ 07871

Dear Assemblyman Space:

As the representative of Boulder in the United States Congress, I invite you to visit Boulder.

Your recent interview with the New Jersey Herald was brought to my attention. In it you mentioned:

"A constituent of mine told me the story of his visit to Boulder, Colo., and how disgusting he found it — people lying in the walkable town center, stoned, dirty and like zombies that you practically had to walk over. What's worse is that some actually had their children with them. He told me not to let this happen to Sussex County."

It sounds like your constituent might have visited our iconic Pearl Street Mall during our Halloween "Mall Crawl," which is the only time that zombies are found in our central downtown area (except on occasion when the university students include the downtown in their Zombie Tag matches).

Our "walkable town center," better known as our Pearl Street Mall, was completed in 1977, and is a popular and safe tourist destination and our downtown center of commerce. We are proud of our locally-owned businesses, excellent food, talented buskers, and nightlife. And yes, in our town we do bring our children to Pearl Street. I have fond memories of playing on our public art and boulders as a small child, and am honored to continue that tradition with my son and daughter. Here is a picture of my son playing at Pearl Street Mall. I would also note that you can clearly see in the background that the mall is not disgusting.

One final point, not only is marijuana smoking not allowed on our mall (of course), we don't even allow cigarette smoking. We are a clean-living town, and according to Business Insider and Niche one of the healthiest in the country. Incidentally, I should add that our growing, legal marijuana industry has created 23,000 jobs, generated \$200 million in tax revenue, and dealt a blow to criminal cartels in Colorado. Studies show that it has also led to a drop in marijuana use by teenagers. And our mall? More beautiful and family friendly than ever!

If you would like to learn more about our actual experience with regulating marijuana in Colorado, I would be happy to help you meet with local law enforcement, business owners, and members of the health care community while you are here.

I hope that you and your family are able to visit soon, I look forward to showing you our beautiful town.

Sincerely,

Jared Polis
Member of Congress