



September 10, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
House Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Re: Cosponsor the Marijuana Opportunity, Reinvestment, and Expungement (MORE) Act of 2025 (H.R. 5068)**

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, and Honorable Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

We, the undersigned, represent civil rights, drug policy, criminal justice, and advocacy organizations, as well as professional associations, cannabis regulators, and state-licensed marijuana businesses. **We write today to urge you to cosponsor the Marijuana Opportunity, Reinvestment, and Expungement (MORE) Act of 2025 (H.R. 5068).** The MORE Act is the leading comprehensive marijuana reform bill in the House that ends federal prohibition, addresses the collateral consequences of federal marijuana criminalization, and takes steps to ensure the regulated marketplace is diverse and inclusive.

The House made history when it passed the MORE Act in the 116th and 117th Congresses, marking the only times a chamber of Congress voted in support of removing (“descheduling”) marijuana from the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). We urge Congress to continue to build upon this progress by cosponsoring the MORE Act of 2025.

For generations, marijuana’s placement on the CSA has disproportionately inflicted harm upon communities of color and poor people. With the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) currently reviewing a proposed rule to move (“reschedule”) marijuana under the CSA – a policy that would continue federal cannabis criminalization and its harms<sup>1</sup>– it has become more important than ever for Congress to advance comprehensive legislation to deschedule marijuana from the CSA.<sup>2</sup> To be clear, as long as marijuana remains anywhere in the CSA, it will still be criminalized at the federal level.

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<sup>1</sup> Drug Policy Alliance “Biden Marijuana Schedule Review Order, Frequently Asked Questions,” accessed August 20, 2025. [https://drugpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/DPA-BidenReschedulingMarijuana\\_InDesign-Interactive.pdf](https://drugpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/DPA-BidenReschedulingMarijuana_InDesign-Interactive.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> PBS News. “Will Trump Change Federal Marijuana Policy? Here’s What to Know,” August 12, 2025. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/will-trump-change-federal-marijuana-policy-heres-what-to-know>.

Recent news reports have suggested that President Trump may move marijuana to Schedule III of the CSA. While this move would eliminate an unfair tax penalty on the marijuana industry and would be of symbolic importance by recognizing that marijuana has accepted medical use, little else would change.<sup>3</sup> In fact, rescheduling marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III of CSA will maintain the criminal penalties and collateral consequences that are in effect today. To fully address the conflict between state and federal laws, marijuana must be descheduled from the CSA.

**We urge you to cosponsor the MORE Act**, the only bill in the House of Representatives that would federally decriminalize marijuana by *clearly and unambiguously* descheduling marijuana from the CSA.

Additionally, the MORE Act does the following:

- Reinvests in communities that have been disproportionately targeted by marijuana criminalization by providing social services;
- Automatically expunges most federal marijuana convictions;
- Establishes a process for the resentencing of marijuana convictions for those currently incarcerated;
- Helps to protect noncitizens from adverse immigration consequences due to certain marijuana-related conduct;
- Disallows discrimination in the provision of federal benefits against people who use marijuana;
- Allows Veterans Administration physicians to complete the necessary forms to allow veterans to enroll in state medical marijuana programs;
- Facilitates marijuana research by eliminating the overly burdensome marijuana-specific requirements contained in the CSA;
- Establishes programs to help eradicate barriers to marijuana business licensing and employment for people directly impacted by the war on drugs; and
- Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to issue regulations pertaining to the safety, manufacturing, product quality, marketing, labeling, and sale of products containing cannabis or cannabis-derived compounds.

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<sup>3</sup> The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, "Federal Marijuana Rescheduling: Process and Impact," accessed August 20, 2025, <https://moritzlaw.osu.edu/faculty-and-research/drug-enforcement-and-policy-center/research-and-grants/policy-and-data-analyses/federal-marijuana-rescheduling>.



A recent PRRI poll found that a majority of Americans of varying political ideologies - liberal, conservative, and independent - all support the end of marijuana prohibition.<sup>4</sup> The MORE Act would do just that while restoring rights to those who have been directly impacted by marijuana criminalization and beginning to repair harm in communities that have been devastated by marijuana enforcement. We urge you to cosponsor this vital and urgent legislation today.

For any questions about this letter, please contact Maritza Perez Medina, Director of Federal Affairs at the Drug Policy Alliance, at [mperez@drugpolicy.org](mailto:mperez@drugpolicy.org).

Sincerely,

A Little Piece of Light  
All People's Health Collective  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Bucks County NORML  
Cannabis Regulators of Color Coalition (CRCC)  
Center for Policing Equity (CPE)  
Cruel Consequences Portraits  
Delaware NORML, Inc.  
Doctors for Drug Policy Reform  
Dream.Org  
Drug Policy Alliance  
Episcopal Health Services  
Federal Public and Community Defenders  
Freedom Agenda  
Grassroots Ohioans  
JustLeadershipUSA  
JustUS Coordinating Council  
Last Prisoner Project  
Law Enforcement Action Partnership  
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law  
Lehigh Valley NORML  
Lit by the Sea LLC  
Los Angeles Community Action Network  
Minorities for Medical Marijuana  
Minority Cannabis Business Association  
Mission Green

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<sup>4</sup> PRRI. "Shifting Perspectives: Public Opinion on Cannabis and Psychedelics - PRRI," May 13, 2025. <https://prri.org/spotlight/shifting-perspectives-public-opinion-on-cannabis-and-psychedelics/>.

Montco NORML  
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Cannabis Festival  
National Employment Law Project  
National Harm Reduction Coalition  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML)  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
NORML KC  
NORML Tallahassee  
Ohio NORML  
People's Action Institute  
Prison Policy Initiative  
Reframe Health and Justice  
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP)  
Suncoast NORML  
Supernova Women  
The National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls  
The Porchlight Collective SAP  
The Weldon Project  
Vera Institute of Justice  
Virginia NORML