



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Amendments to Promote Public Health & Equity in Marijuana Policy

Ask your Representative to support these amendments before 11am on June 21st!

Promote Equity and Address Racial Disparities

1. **Amendment 1 by Representative Vega. *Expunge criminal records for nonviolent non-trafficking marijuana offenses.*** Stark racial disparities in the enforcement of marijuana prohibition have been well documented. The legalization of marijuana should include efforts to reverse the repercussions of discriminatory enforcement of prohibition.
2. **Amendments 39 and 41 by Representative Holmes. *Promote racial equity in business opportunities in the new marijuana industry.*** While communities of color have been unfairly targeted in the enforcement of marijuana prohibition, once marijuana is legalized, members of the communities most impacted by marijuana prohibition should be able to access wealth building and job opportunities in the legal industry. Amendment 41 requires the Cannabis Control Commission to promote and encourage full participation in the regulated marijuana industry by people from communities that have been disproportionately harmed. Amendment 39 requires prospective marijuana businesses to promote representation of people of color and women in management teams and among industry supplies and service providers. It also dedicates funds to technical assistance and mentoring in communities disproportionately harmed.

Prevent Youth Use

3. **Amendment 115 by Representative Barber. *Dedicate funding for youth prevention.*** Because adolescents' brains are still developing, regular youth use of marijuana is associated with learning and memory challenges, increased risk of mental health problems, and lower academic performance. Legalization of marijuana has been shown to decrease perception of risk among youth. This amendment dedicates a minimum of \$10 million for evidence-based and evidence-informed child and adolescent substance use prevention and early intervention services.

Data and Research

4. **Amendment 67 by Representative Kane. *Require robust data collection and analysis.*** This amendment requires the Cannabis Control Commission to develop a research agenda and to report annually in order to understand the impact of marijuana legalization – including impacts on public health, racial equity, and public safety – in order to inform future decisions that would aid in the elimination of the underground market and promote public health.

For more information, contact Melanie O'Malley, Massachusetts Public Health Association at 617-949-6688.



SENATE

Amendments to Promote Public Health & Equity in Marijuana Policy

Ask your Senator to support these amendments before 5pm on June 21st!

Promote Equity and Address Racial Disparities

1. **Amendment 76 by Senator Boncore. *Expunge criminal records for nonviolent non-trafficking marijuana offenses.*** Stark racial disparities in the enforcement of marijuana prohibition have been well documented. The legalization of marijuana should include efforts to reverse the repercussions of discriminatory enforcement of prohibition.
2. **Amendments 102 and 104 by Senator Forry. *Promote racial equity in business opportunities.*** While communities of color have been unfairly targeted in the enforcement of marijuana prohibition, members of the communities most impacted by should be able to access wealth building and job opportunities in the legal industry. Amendment 104 requires the Cannabis Control Commission to promote full participation by people from communities that have been disproportionately harmed and requires regular reporting on industry diversity. Amendment 102 dedicates funds to technical assistance and mentoring in communities disproportionately harmed.

Prevent Youth Use

3. **Amendment 60 by Senator Lewis. *Dedicate funding for youth prevention.*** Because adolescents' brains are still developing, regular youth use of marijuana is associated with learning and memory challenges, increased risk of mental health problems, and lower academic performance. This amendment dedicates 20% of revenue after implementation costs for youth substance abuse education and prevention - as well as funds to support communities disproportionately harmed by prohibition, public safety, and the Prevention Trust.
4. **Amendment 54 by Senator Lewis. *Prohibit marijuana advertising to children.*** This amendment seeks to prevent the marijuana industry from following the playbook of big tobacco and to protect children from being targeted by marijuana advertising. The amendment would prohibit marijuana advertising – TV, print, billboard, or other promotional tactics - when children are expected to comprise 15% or more of the audience. This is consistent with recommendations from the Institute of Medicine on marketing of alcohol that could impact children.
5. **Amendments 47 and 52 by Senator Lewis. *Enact strong labeling and packaging standards for edibles.*** Marijuana edibles pose unique risk to children who may mistake marijuana edibles for food or candy. These amendments provide strong packaging and labeling standards to prevent accidental ingestion of edibles by children and to provide transparent information for adults.