

## **Marijuana Freedom and Opportunity Act**

The *Marijuana Freedom and Opportunity Act* enables states to act as labs of democracy and decide how to regulate marijuana in a way that makes the most sense for their residents. In addition to decriminalizing marijuana at the federal level, the bill makes targeted investments necessary to protect public health and safety, prevent businesses from targeting their products to underage customers, and ensure that entrepreneurs from communities that have been disproportionately impacted by our current marijuana laws have an opportunity to participate in the new marijuana economies of their states. Lastly, in order to give those previously convicted of marijuana possession a second chance, the bill will incentive states to administer sealing and expungement programs.

### **The *Marijuana Freedom and Opportunity Act* would:**

- 1. DECRIMINALIZE MARIJUANA & RESPECT STATES' RIGHTS:** Removes marijuana from the list of scheduled substances under the U.S. Controlled Substances Act of 1970, effectively decriminalizing it at the federal level; maintains federal law enforcement authority to prevent marijuana trafficking from states that have legalized marijuana to those that haven't.
- 2. LEVEL THE ECONOMIC PLAYING FIELD:** Creates a dedicated funding stream for women and minority-owned marijuana businesses that will be funded by revenue generated by the marijuana industry and directly linked to the industry's growth.
- 3. ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY:** Invests \$250 million in highway safety research to ensure federal agencies have the resources they need to assess the pitfalls of driving under the influence of THC and develop enhanced strategies and procedures to reliably determine impairment.
- 4. INVEST IN PUBLIC HEALTH:** Invests \$500M in public health research in order to better understand the health impacts of marijuana, including the effects of THC on the human brain and the efficacy of marijuana as a treatment for specific ailments.
- 5. PROTECT KIDS:** Maintains the authority of the Department of Treasury to regulate marijuana advertising and promotion in the same way as is currently done with tobacco products to ensure that marijuana businesses aren't allowed to target children.
- 6. INCENTIVIZE SEALING AND EXPUNGEMENT PROGRAMS:** Provides \$100 million in grant funding to encourage state and local governments to develop, enhance or expand expungement or sealing programs for individuals convicted of marijuana possession.

**The *Marijuana Freedom and Opportunity Act* is endorsed by:** NORML; Drug Policy Alliance; the Center for American Progress