

As a resident of Wisconsin I support our state lawmakers to move swiftly to end the failed policy of marijuana prohibition and criminalization. Session after session legislation stalls in committees and Wisconsin falls further behind on the issue.

Never in modern history has there existed greater public support for ending the nation's nearly century-long experiment with marijuana prohibition. The 2023-24 legislative session will be crucial for state lawmakers to make marijuana law reform a priority.

The continued criminalization of adult marijuana use is out of step with the views of adults throughout America. Support for legalization of marijuana is at an all-time high. The emerging industry that is cannabis produces jobs in multiple sectors and the untapped tax revenue is tremendous for states that have legalized the industry.

Prohibition financially burdens taxpayers, encroaches upon civil liberties, engenders disrespect for the law, impedes legitimate scientific research into the plant's medicinal properties, and disproportionately impacts communities of color.

It is time to acknowledge this reality. It is time to stop ceding control of the marijuana market to untaxed criminal enterprises, and for lawmakers to implement common-sense regulations governing cannabis' personal use by adults and licensing its production.

In 2018, advisory referendums on marijuana in Wisconsin were on the ballots in 16 counties and two cities, and although they were non-binding, all of them were overwhelmingly approved by voters. Again in 2020 referendums all voted yes to recreational marijuana.

I also request key Senate and Assembly allies to form the first-ever Wisconsin Cannabis Caucus to develop and promote sensible cannabis policy reform and work together to reform state cannabis laws under a bipartisan nature.

As a constituent, I urge you to consider these priorities reforming hemp cannabis/marijuana laws in Wisconsin:

1. Decriminalize personal possession of marijuana. Replace criminal violations with civil violations (Fines not Crimes!) Since Michigan is now an adult use state with limits of 2.5 ounces of personal marijuana and transfers to adults 21 and older (including out of state residents) we recommend that the state of Wisconsin decriminalizes personal possession of cannabis in Wisconsin to 2.5 ounces (70 grams) of marijuana.
2. Remove the felony provision for personal possession of subsequent offenses. Personal possession of cannabis is medically legal in 30+ states and recreational/adult use is legal in over 20 states. This is a plant, and no one in Wisconsin deserves a felony for possessing a plant substance that a majority of United States citizens can purchase legally. Create a program for expungement.
3. Establish a medical marijuana program allowing: a) smoking and eating cannabis. b) patients the ability to grow/cultivate their own plants or designate caregivers to do it for them. c) Let doctors decide qualifying conditions, not legislators. d) a structure for municipalities to govern commercial medical marijuana facilities and farmers markets. e) reciprocity with other medical marijuana states.
4. Establish a recreational adult use program. Allow the state to license, regulate cannabis like alcohol, including home cultivation and sales; implement a low tax on commercial cannabis and low entry fees / fair commercial licensing structure.

I also strongly urge you to co-sponsor and support Senate Bill 486 and Assembly Bill 506 and vote YES when this legislation comes to your desk!

Date: _____ Printed Name and Signature: _____

Address (NO PO BOX, voting address please) : _____

City & Zip: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

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*Signature forms are delivered to elected officials via email, mail, in person or sent electronically through The Action Network.

Assembly Representative District:

Senate District:

**Wisconsin Cannabis Activist Network: PO BOX 542, Ripon Wisconsin 54971, www.WiscoCAN.org
2023-24 Wisconsin Hemp Cannabis (Marijuana) Support Form Rev 2 - 10/23/2023**

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