



2022

# M4MM

## CANNABIS & HEMP PUBLIC POLICY

Minorities for Medical Marijuana Federal, State  
and Local Public Policy Agenda 2022

Going beyond Social Equity to expand the tables of  
opportunity for People of Color and disproportionately  
impacted communities.

**Minorities for Medical Marijuana established in 2016 is the country's largest community based organization in the cannabis industry serving communities and individuals of color. M4MM is a national non profit org with 27 chapters throughout the USA, 3 international chapters, and 2 HBCU chapters. 2022 will be an important year for the Cannabis and Hemp Industry and its specific functional units. The following structural pillars will help to ensure equitable opportunity and for persons coming from communities disproportionately impacted by the enforcement of previous Cannabis prohibition laws:**

- Licensing Structure and Process.
- Increasing the share of Minority Owner-Operator's licensees.
- Economic Inclusion and Expansion.
- Employment and Professional Mobility.
- Supplier Diversity & Revenue Opportunity.
- Improving Health Outcomes.
- Municipal empowerment, especially for Minority Majority Municipalities and Counties.
- Restorative Social and Economic Justice Impacts

# MINORITIES FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA (M4MM)

## FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA (2022 – 2024)

### SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

M4MM recognize the evolving landscape and pledge to be the rational voice in the storm, to drive outcomes that deliver broad returns for our members and the greater constituencies we service. We will not hide from the work this will take or become impatient at the length of time this will take. Federal legislation will take multiple years of engagement and encouraging voters to support candidates for House and Senate seats that support their needs and the growth of the industry. Ensuring a balanced federal policy that does not consume home-grown small businesses in the various states, that also includes real restorative social and economic justice must be a right of action and outcomes. And not just a mere hope of incomplete statutory language and ambivalent administrative rules.

As we work towards federal policy advancement, we will continue to work on building balance and Economic Inclusion, Diversity through legislative action and community equitable return on licensing opportunity within the Commercial Marijuana and Hemp Industry Sectors at the state and U.S. Territory level. M4MM will apply a detailed policy approach as outlined through the following structural pillars to ensure equitable opportunity and impact of opportunity for persons from communities disproportionately impacted by the enforcement of previous Cannabis prohibition laws:

- **Licensing Structure and Process**
- **Increasing the share of Minority Owner-Operator's licensees**
- **Economic Inclusion and Expansion**
- **Employment and Professional Mobility**
- **Supplier Diversity & Revenue Opportunity**
- **Improving Health Outcomes**
- **Municipal empowerment, especially for Minority Majority Municipalities and Counties**
- **Restorative Social and Economic Justice Impacts**

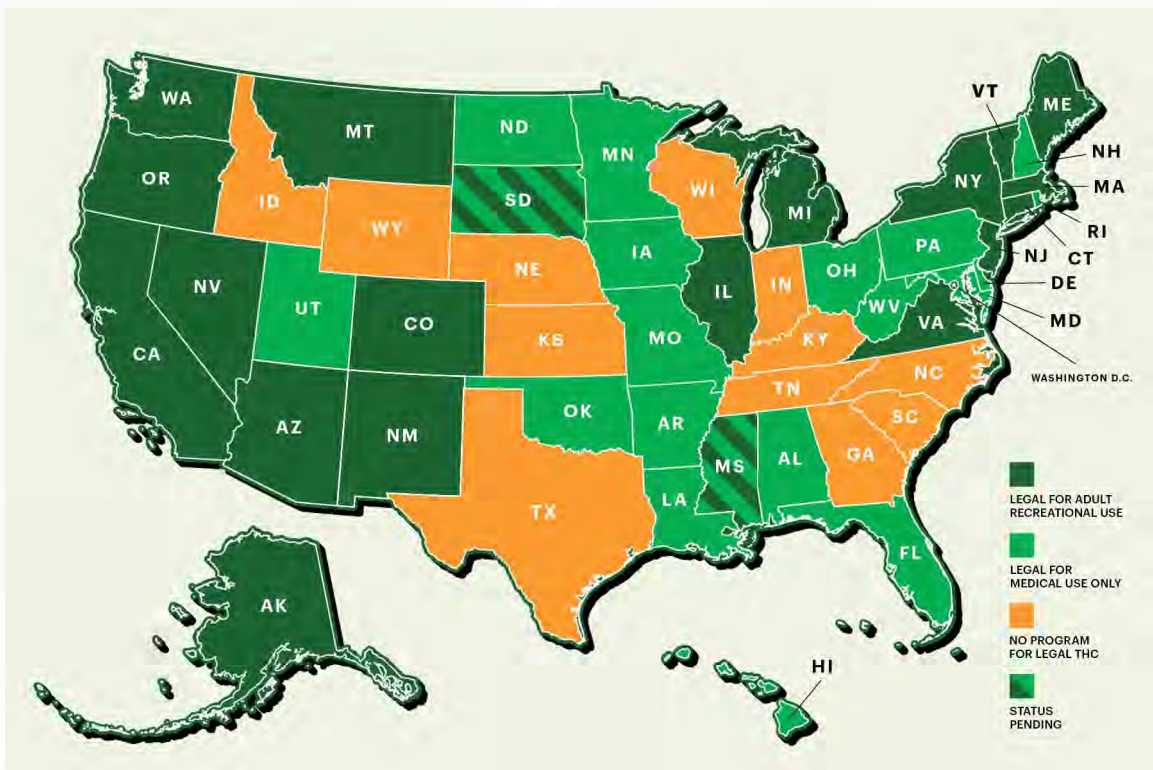
These pillars of action will be deployed through the combined work of our National Policy Director for Cannabis and Hemp, our state level Directors and Chapter Presidents and collaborative partners within each state's Commercial Medical and/or Adult-Use Recreational Cannabis programs and Commercial Hemp Licensing policies. We will work through the following action steps:


- Engaging legislative policy and appropriations committees, chamber leadership and state Executive branch stakeholders (regulatory departments, Governor policy and fiscal advisors)
- Development of recommended statutory language models for amending existing laws or newly proposed enabling legislative bills
- Engaging municipal and county stakeholders on the importance of preserving and enabling local regulatory and zoning ordinance powers
- Engaging and building coalition partnerships with Cannabis, Hemp, Minority Business, Organized Labor, Clean Energy, Environmental Justice, Prison & Corrections reform, and Workforce Development advocacy organizations to support sustainable policy objectives

We must work through the current legislation to regulate cannabis for nonmedical use and allow for the medical use of cannabis products only. All States with Hemp programs should drive state level Commercial Marijuana and Hemp public policy to ensure inclusivity, equity and opportunity across licensing, employment, supply chain procurement, health/medical research, restorative justice, and community investment outcomes. An outgrowth of new state laws was adopted in 2020 and 2021. The states that added Medical, Adult-Use Cannabis or both legalizations via voter referendum were Arizona and Montana (Mississippi & South Dakota were both overturned by State Supreme Court ruling). A few states (Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, and Mississippi) added legalization by state legislative action.

This flurry of state level activity and limited movement on the various federal legislative packages requires a thoughtful, serious, and pragmatic public policy response. The goal is to ensure that policy is effective in achieving tangible outcomes for African Americans, Latino Americans, Indigenous American, Arab/Chaldean American, Asian American, Multiracial American, women, veterans, and disabled stakeholders through the three branches of the Cannabis Industry. Ensuring positive outcomes must be beyond the confines of just social equity alone. There are many necessary factors to address that requires a much broader approach to public policy: minority-majority joint venture applicant partnerships for licensing; career mobility for minority and disproportionately impacted constituent groups; municipal self-determination in the placement, zoning and regulatory structure for licensing process; economic returns for municipal; school districts and county government bodies to stimulate community investment; good neighbor engagement requirements to build community based partnerships with licensees; and medical research to improve the application of Cannabis to health ailments.

Fortunately, several states (via equity and opportunity driven legislators, municipal and county level elected officials, state regulatory staff, and activists) and organizations such as M4MM, Minority Cannabis Business Association and other like-minded organizations have rallied to the cause of “Social Equity”, to institute opportunity within the industry. These steps are a critical to catch up, but they also have tended to be disconnected and uneven in delivery and application to both the Medical Marijuana and Adult-Use Recreational Marijuana sectors. A companion opportunity that has not been included in a uniformed way is the Federal Legalized Commercial Hemp Industry. The opportunities within the Hemp Industry provides an additional path of inclusionary and structured economic policies for people of color, through both its retail and commercial agricultural and agribusiness industry applications.





**FEDERAL POLICY  
PLAN  
&  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

# FEDERAL POLICY PLAN

## FEDERAL CANNABIS LEGALIZATION

### WHERE WE STAND WITH CURRENT FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act (CAO Act), The MORE Act, the STATES Act, the State Reform Act and The SAFE Banking Act have become the primary vehicles for collective federal efforts to legalization and provide safe harbor for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses (CLBs) or their service providers. Passage for both in the House of Representatives is consistent and will happen (The SAFE Banking Act has already passed the House twice in this legislative cycle). M4MM is supportive of these Congressional bills.

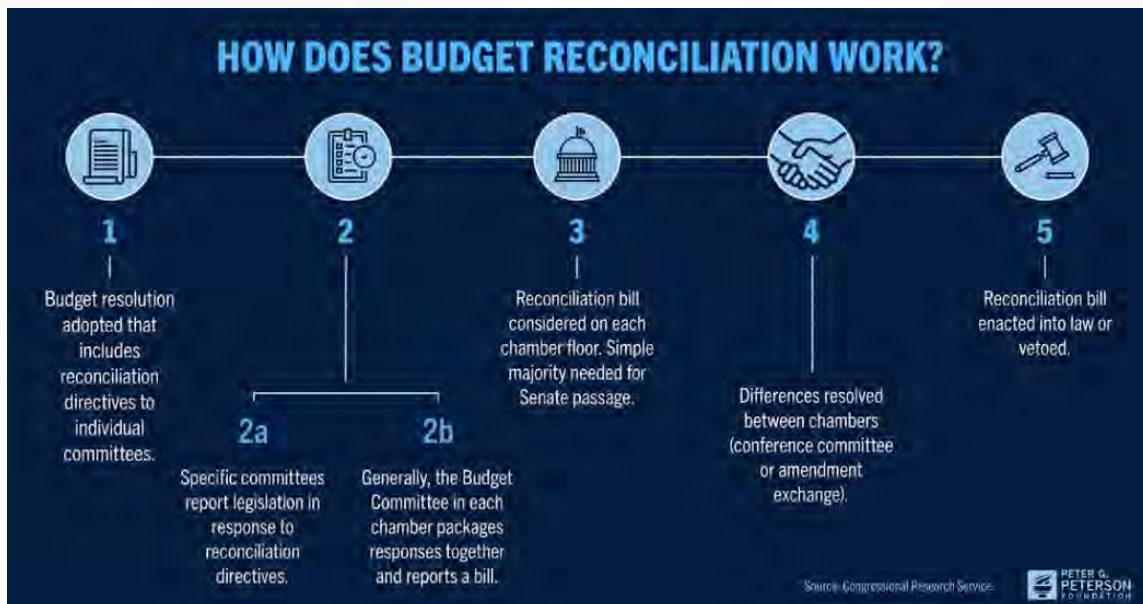
## WHAT IS ACHIEVABLE UNDER THE CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL MAKE-UP

Passing the House is the simple act. The likelihood of passage of either in the Senate is difficult, due to Senate rule of Cloture (requires 60 Senators approval to formally starting full Senate debate and ending full senate debate to bring a vote on the bill) and Filibuster (the objection procedure to prevent starting and ending debate) for advancement of a policy bill.

Filibuster and Cloture	
Filibuster	The Cloture Rule
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A <b>filibuster</b> is an attempt to “talk a bill to death.”</li><li>• A senator may exercise his or her right of holding the floor as long as necessary, and in essence talk until a measure is dropped.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rule XXII in the Standing Rules of the Senate deals with <b>cloture</b>, or limiting debate</li><li>• If at least 60 senators vote for cloture, no more than another 30 hours may be spent on debate, forcing a vote on a bill.</li></ul>

There are not 60 Senators ready to advance any of the Marijuana related Federal legislation (None of the 50 Republican Senators and up to nine Democratic Senators would object to invoking Cloture to advance debate).

The only possible option for Federal passage in 2022 would be to tie pieces of the CAO Act, the MORE Act, the State Reform Act, or the SAFE Banking Act to either a must pass bill rider/attachment (like the National Defense Authorization Act) or a Budget Reconciliation bill. Budget Reconciliation is a procedural tool that makes legislation easier to pass in the Senate. Instead of needing sixty votes, a reconciliation bill only needs a simple majority in the Senate.



Budget Reconciliation bills are required to relate to budgetary effects (aspects of all four bills can fit) that include the following:

- Revenue (increasing via taxes or decreasing via tax cuts)
- Spending (reduction in spending or increases in spending)
- Debt Ceiling (the amount of total borrowing that the U.S. Government can legally encumber or finance and guarantee repayment of Federal debt)
- It must fit within a 10-year period and be debt neutral by the end of the 10 years

The Reconciliation bill process in the US Senate is subject to the “Byrd Rule”. The Byrd rule prohibits the inclusion of “extraneous” measures in reconciliation, which limits the types of provisions that can be included in the legislation. The Byrd Rule disqualifies legislative provisions from reconciliation if they do any of the following:

- Increase the budget deficit beyond the budget window, which is typically 10 years
- Produce no budgetary effects or effects only incidental to the policy change
- Make changes to Social Security

<b>BUDGET</b> Highlights of the Tool of Reconciliation	
Permitted Changes	Not Permitted
<p>Mandatory Spending Levels</p>	<p> Provisions without budgetary effect</p>
<p>Revenue Levels</p>	<p>Provisions outside the reporting committee's jurisdiction </p>
<p>The Debt Limit</p>	<p>Provisions increasing the deficit beyond the budget window  </p>
	<p>Provisions affecting Social Security  </p>

# M4MM RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CURRENT PACKAGE OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE BILLS:

## **I. Codify Deposit banking of Federal Tax proceeds in Minority Depository Institutions (MDI) and Encourage Cannabis Related Businesses to establish banking relationships with MDI's.**

M4MM believes that each Act provides an additional opportunity to strengthen African American and other Minority Owned Financial Institutions by integrating them into the banking services model for the Commercial Cannabis Industry. M4MM recommends establishing a depository relationship for tax proceeds with Minority Financial Institutions and directing SBA lending activity through Minority Financial Institutions. Our recommendations include:

- Depository relationship for Opportunity Trust Funds into Minority Financial Institutions - Add language to direct the Treasury Department & Federal Reserve to engage Minority Depository Institutions to become depository institutions for Cannabis banking. Add language to tie depository percentages to African American, Latino American, Asian American, Native American & Multi-Racial American Banks
- Add language to direct SBA lending activity by Federal Reserve Facilities through Minority Depository Institutions and inflows of dollars for loans and investment to support Socially & Economically Disadvantaged licensees
- Ease any restrictions that exist on financial institutions from using licensed Cannabis business deposits as a part of their normal external lending portfolio and intra-bank lending assets and notes

## **II. Strengthening the Community Reinvestment Grant Program**

Adding verbiage by including additional program activities through Statute to include:

- Supplier diversity programming within the equipment, product materials and trucking/transportation sector, to better distribute the overall economic impacts through Minority, women, disabled and veteran owned supply chain vendors
- Social Equity Employment to Ownership (SEEO) - programming for social equity individuals who lack direct financial and professional operational experience to start a licensed business. but meet a multitude of key Social Equity and social economic criteria as an eligible employee to ownership candidate
- Prisoner Re-Entry to Employment Program (PREEP) - Establishment of direct training and placement programs for persons soon to be returning from the Corrections System (six months to release) and those in Prison Re-Entry programming with in-facility Horticultural Certificate training for and hiring placement Establishment of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and employee rights divisions within State Regulatory Agencies to protect Cannabis workers from unsafe and predatory employment environments

## **III. Higher Education partnerships with Minority Colleges & Universities for Cannabis Research**

Federal Tax Receipts for Cannabis research would direct earmarked dollars for Medical Cannabis usage via the following:

- Integrate Medical Cannabis licensees into the research funding opportunities by incentivizing partnerships between licensees and research universities and/or have Clinical Registrant licenses
- Enter research partnerships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and institutions such as Hispanic-serving institutions, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions, and other Minority-Serving Institutions for Medical Cannabis research studies
- Also add 501c3 Non-Profits currently serving Medically underserved communities and populated areas

#### **IV. Expungement & Federal-State partnering to reform expungement laws for the 12 prohibition States & the 19 Medical Cannabis only States:**

- M4MM supports the general policy direction of the various Resentencing and Expungement language provisions in the MORE and CAO Act but is concerned about the lack of corresponding application of Expungement to state level Cannabis related offenses. There are thirty-one states that lack a robust expungement program as would exist under the CAO Act. We would recommend:

Add statutory language directing the Department of Justice to implement corresponding technical support programs to work with the aforementioned States

Allocate separate line allocation for grants via the Community Reinvestment Grant Program to fund adoption of expungement programs in the 31 Non-Recreational Cannabis States, regardless of them opting into licensing of Adult-Use/Recreational Cannabis Licensing

#### **V. Administrative policy and Hemp related legislative**

Administrative rules change through the Department of Treasury, the Internal Revenue Services and Federal Reserve regarding Banking services. Some of the rules that could be amended absent of Congressional action could include:

- IRS 280e rules modifications to increase operating expense write-offs opportunities for Cannabis Retail, Producers, and other Cannabis licensed businesses and
- IRS 280e rules modifications to ensure that Commercial Hemp businesses aren't prohibited from using operating expenses as a part of their tax deductions
- Provide regulatory processing and financing support to Community Development Financial Institutions and Minority Depository Institutions (African American, Latino American, Asian American, Native American & Multi-Racial American Banks & Credit Unions) that provide banking services to Marijuana licensed businesses
- Ease any restrictions that exist on financial institutions from using licensed marijuana business deposits as a part of their normal external lending portfolio and intra-bank lending assets and notes

#### **VI. Engage Federal agencies that impact both Commercial Marijuana and Commercial Hemp**

to address program development, implementation, and communication/education (including financial, medical research and technical capacity support) activity. Departments include the:

- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), (primary agency for Hemp legislation)
- Food & Drug Administration (FDA)
- Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) – minimize or prevent law enforcement activities against legally licensed Commercial Marijuana businesses and individual use rights in enabling states
- Veteran's Administration (VA)
- Small Business Administration (SBA),
- Department of Justice (re-instate the Cole Amendment)
- Department of Energy
- Department of Treasury
- Federal Reserve Bank



## VII. Commercial Hemp Policy and Administrative rules:

Previous iterations of statutes, policy and rules concerning commercialization of hemp have been absent a social equity and social economic framework. We recommend the following for the upcoming 2022 Farm Bill:

- The removal of the ban against convicted felons from ownership and participation in state/federal industrial hemp licensing programs.
- Add legislative provisions to the next Farm Bill, which provides Statutory structure for Commercial Hemp
- Ensure the application of banking and financial services for Hemp licensed business is equal and unfettered
- Direct the Treasury Department & Federal Reserve to engage Minority Depository Institutions to become depository institutions for Hemp banking
- Add language to direct USDA lending activity through Minority Depository Institutions and inflows of dollars for loans and investment to support Socially & Economically Disadvantaged Hemp farmers and agribusinesses
- Ease any restrictions that exist on financial institutions from using licensed Hemp business deposits as a part of their normal external lending portfolio and intra-bank lending assets and notes
- Add clear language to make hemp farmers and agribusinesses eligible for grants, loans and support programs through the USDA
- Address the adaption and implementation of Federal rules



**STATE POLICY  
PLAN  
&  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

# STATE POLICY PLAN

## STATE, TRIBAL NATIONS & TERRITORY POLICY PLAN DIRECTIVES

While federal legalization is still years away, we have the opportunity at the state level to drive inclusion, address the disparities, increase entry participation and opportunities, and maintain economic, social and healthcare sustainability in the Marijuana and Hemp industry. We must work through the current legislation to regulate cannabis for nonmedical use and allow for the medical use of cannabis products. All states with Hemp programs should drive state level Commercial Marijuana and Hemp public policy to ensure inclusivity, equity and opportunity across licensing, employment, supply chain procurement, health/medical research, restorative justice, and community investment outcomes including:

- Adoption of Racial, Economic & Social Equity policy for both state and municipal level Governance adoption and implementation (Legislative/Statutory, Appropriative Allocations & Administrative Rules) for both the Hemp and Commercial Marijuana sectors
- Identifying and drafting pro-active and competitive Commercial licensing, employment, and supplier diversity policy for both state and municipal level governance adoption and implementation (Legislative/Statutory, Allocations & Administrative Rules) for both the Hemp and Commercial Marijuana sectors

These pillars of action will be deployed through the combined work of our National Policy Director for Cannabis and Hemp, our state level Directors and Chapter Presidents and collaborative partners within each state's Commercial Medical and/or Adult-Use Recreational Cannabis programs and Commercial Hemp Licensing policies. We will work through the following action steps:

- Engaging legislative policy and appropriations committees, chamber leadership and state Executive branch stakeholders (regulatory departments, Governor policy and fiscal advisors)
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- Engaging municipal and county stakeholders on the importance of preserving and enabling local, regulatory, and zoning ordinance powers
- Engaging and building coalition partnerships with Cannabis, Hemp, Minority Business, Organized Labor, Clean Energy, Environmental Justice, Prison & Corrections reform, and Workforce Development advocacy organizations to support sustainable policy objectives

M4MM will use the following structural pillars for developing administrative, appropriative, and statutory policy recommendations to communicate with the various levels of State Government, Municipal Government, Tribal Governments, and the general public:

### **I. Licensing Structure and Process:**

**a.** Create a balanced and inclusive Statutory & Administrative framework for the state-based adoption (in non-enabling states) or amending of Medical and Adult-Use Recreational Commercial Marijuana licensing regulatory and zoning laws at both the state and municipal level to include racial, social & economic inclusionary policies and appropriative allocations

**b.** Codify state level remedies for Federal 280e tax prohibition on state business tax filings (allow all normal and customary business expenses to be deducted on state business tax returns for licensed Marijuana businesses)

**c.** Implement tribal nation-state compacts for Indigenous Nation licensing and partnerships with social equity applicants & owner-operators

**d.** Eliminate or do not adopt artificial caps or limitations on state licensing and codify a state compliance approval and municipal/county approval model for licensing (states with highest percentage of minority owner-operators, California, Colorado, Michigan & Massachusetts, employ this dual authority licensing approval model)

## **II. Increasing the share of Minority Owner-Operator's licensees:**

**a.** Adding intentional Statutory language to build and sustain the number of successful licensed Non-White owner/operators in both the Commercial Marijuana and Hemp Licensing

**b.** Ensure that social and racial equity licensing goals are applied to all the allowable licenses and not limited to a segregated cluster of licenses

**c.** Create Minority/Majority Joint Venture programming to match Social Equity, Racial Equity & Minority ownership groups with MSO's or Corporations with capital resources (same as in other industries) and use geographical preference opportunities to fill local ownership goals

**d.** Minority/Majority Joint Venture Qualifying status must be at least 51 percent unconditionally and directly owned by one or more social equity, racial equity and/or socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. "Unconditional ownership" means ownership that is not subject to conditions precedent, conditions subsequent, executory agreements, voting trusts, restrictions on or assignments of voting rights, or other arrangements causing or potentially causing ownership benefits to go to another, non-disadvantaged person

i.)MSOs would create Minority/Majority Joint Venture subsidiaries with Social Equity owners who can open easier access to local markets builds significant corporate goodwill/marketing capital and generates additional revenue for their business while reducing uncontrolled competition (creating subsidiary competition that generate revenue from 40% to 49% of the business activity)

**e.** Add capital investment vehicles such as intra-state equity exchanges and lending access programs for minority and social equity owner-operators and applicants

**f.** Social Equity Employment to Ownership (SEEO) - programming for social equity individuals who lack direct financial and professional operational experience to start a licensed business but meet a multitude of key Social Equity and social economic criteria as an eligible employee to ownership candidate. The eligible employee will work through a regimented program, working in the following functional areas during an 18-24-month period, for a qualified partner licensee who is committed to providing technical and capital investment streams for opening their Commercial Marijuana licensed business upon graduation of the SEEO program. SEEO graduates would maintain a minimum of 51 percent unconditional direct ownership, with at least 51 percent of each class of voting stock outstanding and 51 percent of the aggregate of all stock outstanding must be unconditionally owned by the SEEO graduates licensed in Commercial Marijuana business

## **III. Economic Inclusion and Expansion:**

**a.**Ensuring an equalized entry and sustainability path for disproportionately criminally impacted participants; economic inclusion and opportunity participants and legacy participants from the formerly illegal Marijuana sector but has no criminal history. Racial/social equity ownership & Shareholder equity offerings by large MSOs to minorities and those negatively impacted by Marijuana policing

**b.**Codify municipal and county level industry equity and municipal community weighted benefits models into licensing approval to include:

- Social equity & economic inclusion
- Local hiring commitments to hire residents from the municipality of origin
- Local micro/small/disadvantaged business procurement goals
- Quality of employment goals – Full time employment versus independent contractors or part time employees
- Community benefits agreements with organizational stakeholders to provide additional community development and economic stimulus activities within the adopting communities

**c.** Codify access to state, county and municipal level economic development programs including tax credits, tax incentives, Brownfield, Grayfield & Obsolete Building Development funding assistance, workforce hiring credits & other programs. Access to property acquisition (tax reverted and land bank owned facilities for rehabilitation and vacant parcels) programs for social equity and economically disadvantaged applicants/licensees through land bank authorities

**d.** Establish regulatory policies to encourage, track and support Minority Depository Institutions (Banks & Credit Unions), Credit Unions & state Chartered Banks providing services to Commercial Marijuana and Hemp licensees, to include Commercial lending services (including the recruitment of Commercial Marijuana & Hemp willing Minority Depository Institutions to states lacking participatory financial institutions)

**e.** Establishment of a fund derived from Medical and Recreational Marijuana tax receipts, for adopting municipalities to apply for grants to assist local equity applicants and local equity licensees through that local jurisdiction's equity program and the State's licensing process

**f.** Earmark at least 65% of both state & municipal tax revenue (Recreational and Medical Marijuana tax levies) into the following line-item allocation categories (separate of the 15% mandatory allocation for medical marijuana research):

- Loan and grant financial support for social equity, racial minority, socio-economic disadvantaged applicants, and licensees
  - Community re-investment (physical, technology or human infrastructure projects and quality of life projects) into economically disadvantaged communities that have opted into municipal licensing and then communities that haven't opted into municipal licensing but meet the qualifications of economically disadvantaged communities
  - Workforce development programming to increase employment access and growth of diverse middle management and senior management level staff (includes funding for the establishment of these programs with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and institutions such as Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions (AANAPISIs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) in qualifying States)
  - K-12 Educational funding to support expanding advance level curriculum in middle school & high school, foreign language classes, career introduction & immersion classes and advanced elementary school level classes in lower performing school districts
  - Expungement activities and criminal justice services (indigent legal services, public defenders, etc.) for economically disadvantaged and disproportionately impacted communities
  - Entrepreneurial licensing incubator programs – training potential for social equity, racial minority, socio-economic disadvantaged licensees on the operational functions of running a successful Commercial Marijuana and Hemp licensed business and existing for social equity, racial minority, socio-economic disadvantaged Commercial Marijuana and Hemp licensees who need additional business, operational and financial management training to increase their business management capacity – In states with qualifying educational institutions, primary programming should be contracted with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and institutions such as Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions (AANAPISIs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs)
  - Law enforcement retraining on both the decriminalization of Marijuana usage and broader community policing reforms to reduce disproportionate policing outcomes with African American, Indigenous Americans, Latino Americans, Arab Americans, Asian Americans, and other minority communities
- g.** Merchandising Access - Provide social equity, racial minority, socio-economic disadvantaged Commercial Marijuana and Hemp licensees retail market access to MSO and Corporate Marijuana licensee's retail shelf space for selling social equity and other disadvantaged licensees products

## **V. Supplier Diversity & Revenue Opportunity:**

- a. Actualize a diverse supply chain for minority businesses to participate as vendors to licenses and create tangible economic activity through licensees' procurement with minority vendors
- b. Codify into the state legislation, supplier diversity within the equipment, product materials and trucking/transportation sector and vendors both intra facility, non-plant touching and external ancillary services sector for Commercial Marijuana and Hemp licensees, to better distribute the overall economic impacts through Minority, women and disabled veteran owned supply chain vendors
- c. Within Municipal level Commercial Marijuana and Hemp ordinance adoption, implement economic development agreement models into local licensing approval that include contracting with businesses based within the host municipality and racial/ethnic/socio-economic disadvantaged businesses within the host municipality and neighboring jurisdictions
- d. Facilitation of intra-minority business matchmaking for joint licensing, supplier diversity activities and employment activities between the Tribal nations and other minority non-Tribal communities

## **VI. Improving Health Outcomes:**

- a. Address health disparities through Medical Marijuana research and scientific innovation in Medical Marijuana product development to address various health illnesses that impact communities of color
- b. Codify and earmark through appropriations funding, a target of 15% tax revenue generated from Marijuana sales and licensing fees for Marijuana research directed studies to measure how Medical Marijuana products impact and improves health conditions that disproportionately impact communities of color and Indigenous population
- c. Integrate Medical Marijuana licensees with research institutions, hospitals, and health advocacy organizations to create clinical registrant class of licensing (Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Colorado license types as models) for Marijuana research, clinical trials and related studies with customers that agree to participate in these studies. Enter partnerships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and institutions such as Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions (AANAPISIs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) for Medical Marijuana research studies
- d. Incorporate positive findings into the development of new Medical Marijuana strains and products for health treatments

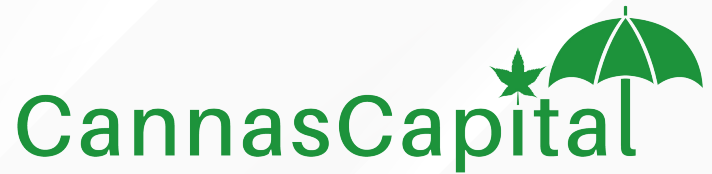
## **VII. Social Justice Impacts:**

- a. Rectify through Statutory Action and Administrative rules implementation the negative financial, social, and public health impacts of criminalization and policing overreach of Marijuana usage
- b. Automatic marijuana related offense expungement for convictions related to state level legal Commercial Marijuana and Hemp activities
- c. Extending restorative justice expungement provisions to include current incarcerated persons with marijuana related convictions via release, records expungement, and transition to work pathways
- d. Ensure that employment and licensing opportunities for persons convicted of Marijuana related offenses are codified into Federal Statutory law along with expungement of convictions for now legal activities in the Marijuana industry
- e. Ensure that Medical Marijuana qualifying patients (including children) is not a disqualifier for state level public benefits, assistance, and public sector employment.
- f. Community investment through CBA's volunteer hours, donations to educational opportunities, recreational activities, and housing stability, etc.

The next few years will require lobbying the Legislative and Executive Branches across the country and educating voting on the viability and rationality of the efforts to drive inclusion, address the disparities, increase entry, participation, and opportunities, and maintain economic, social and healthcare sustainability in the Marijuana and Hemp industry. This is achievable, with both pragmatism and patience.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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