



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

## Marijuana Alert - January 7, 2021



The House will be in session January 8 through January 13 for a *Lame Duck Session*. The Black Caucus wants changes to the marijuana law, but at this time we are not sure if language will be included in a bill before the House. Stay tuned!

### **Legislators and marijuana interests want changes in law**

"Priority No. 1 is to do everything we can to pass a fix for the cannabis law so that we can get some Black people and brown people in the business, in this emerging economy," Ford said in an interview this week. "Getting Black people in that industry is important because making sure people have access to capital and having business opportunities is critical to having a healthy lifestyle for blacks."

Geoffrey Lawrence, the director of drug policy for the Reason Foundation said to make things really equitable, caps should be lifted entirely. The cap of dispensaries in the law that went into effect last year is 500. There are currently 79. State law requires a disparity study about license equity. [Read more](#)

**Related:** [Black Caucus Wants a Cannabis Equity Commission](#)

### **Pritzker expunges nearly 500,000 marijuana records, pardons thousands more**

. . . the governor had issued pardons for 9,129 low-level cannabis conviction records; the arrest records have been expunged by the Illinois State Police. The expungement of all 492,192 cannabis arrest records on New Year's Eve means ISP has completed its automatic expungement process four years early; its statutory deadline is Jan. 1, 2025.

Expungement has been completed at the state level, but the process continues in most of the state's 102 counties. Only DuPage, Kane, Knox, McHenry, McLean, Peoria, Rock Island, Will and Winnebago counties have completed expungements at the local level. [Read more](#)

### **Naperville considers allowing more marijuana-related businesses**

The City Council on Tuesday will debate whether craft growers and adult-use

cultivation centers and companies that specialize in infusion and transportation of cannabis should continue to be banned. [Read](#)

## **Marijuana referendum on April 6 ballot in Decatur**

Lisa Kendall said: "These upcoming city council elections could have incredibly far-reaching impacts and having the cannabis referendum on the ballot gives those candidates in support of it an immediate measure of community support for one of the subjects that many of them are campaigning upon."

There are currently 13 candidates seeking three available seats on the council. As a result, there will be a primary on Feb 23 to reduce that list to six. [Read more](#)

### **Cannabis-Use Physical Disorders: The Forgotten Side of Marijuana Abuse**

#### *For Immediate Action*

1. Primary elections are Feb 23 and municipal elections for Mayor, City Council are April 6. Find out candidates' positions on marijuana and attend Candidate Forums.
2. Share this Alert with your faith community.
3. Forward to 10 others.

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