

For Immediate Release

Contact: Lexie Henerson

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Phone: 202-349-9650 ext. 800

Email: membership@accmforum.org

The American Council of Cannabis Medicine Announces Support for Anticipated Executive Action by President Trump

After more than a decade of discussion, the movement toward rescheduling is finally taking shape. For the medical cannabis community, this is a very big win.

Washington, D.C. — December 12, 2025 — The American Council of Cannabis Medicine (ACCM), the nation's leading coalition advancing responsible, science-driven medical cannabis policy, announced today its strong support and readiness to collaborate following reports that President Donald J. Trump is considering executive action designed to streamline and strengthen the federal government's approach to medical cannabis research, patient access, and national coordination.

“Across the industry, any administration that advances meaningful federal progress is viewed positively. The last major federal shift was the Cole Memo in 2013, which simply offered guidance to states.” said **Gennaro Luce**, CEO of EM2P2, and ACCM Associate Member Committee “Moving cannabis to Schedule III would represent the most significant step forward in more than a decade, and the industry generally responds to policy outcomes rather than politics.”

While details of the potential Executive Order have not yet been released, discussions within federal policy circles suggest that the action could create a more unified national framework for evaluating medical cannabis treatments, supporting patient safety, expanding research pathways, and engaging industry, clinical, and scientific stakeholders. ACCM believes such steps—if taken—would represent a significant breakthrough for millions of Americans who rely on physician-guided cannabis therapies.

“Any move that improves clarity, safety, and consistency for patients is a major milestone,” said **Scott Rancie**, Vice President of ACCM. “We are encouraged by the indications that President Trump may prioritize a stronger national perspective on medical cannabis. ACCM stands ready to support the admistration, provide expertise, and help ensure that any initiative fully reflects the needs of patients, clinicians, and responsible industry leaders.”

For more nearly a decade, ACCM has served as a central voice of the medical cannabis sector, bringing together physicians, researchers, patient advocates, manufacturers, and employers to build standards that protect patients while fostering innovation. The organization has long called for harmonized federal guidance that allows legitimate medical cannabis programs to thrive while eliminating inconsistencies that complicate treatment delivery across state lines.

“This is truly a landmark and historic step by the President and Secretary Kennedy,” said Dan Rush, ACCM Legislative Committee Member. “For far too long, suffering patients have been denied access to safe, effective medical cannabis. Today’s action is not only life-changing for patients—it’s industry-saving for the family farms producing environmentally conscious, sun-grown medical cannabis. It’s a great day for our farms, dispensaries, and manufacturing partners. With a controlled, taxed, and regulated framework, we can support patients while

creating good jobs and strengthening our communities.”

If the anticipated Executive Order moves forward, ACCM believes it could significantly accelerate progress in several key areas:

- **Expanded Clinical Research** – Streamlined federal guidance could reduce barriers to conducting rigorous scientific studies, advancing understanding of cannabis-based therapies for conditions including chronic pain, PTSD, neurological disorders, and more.
- **Improved National Safety Standards** – Bringing greater federal coordination to testing, manufacturing, and labeling would enhance patient protections and promote uniformity across states.
- **Enhanced Physician Engagement** – Clearer pathways for clinician involvement may increase comfort and participation among medical professionals seeking to incorporate cannabis-based treatments into patient care.
- **Stronger Industry Accountability** – Establishing consistent oversight mechanisms would support responsible operators while reducing confusion and inconsistency in the marketplace.

“Millions of Americans are already using medical cannabis under state-regulated programs,” said **Shannon Burns**, ACCM’s Senior Policy Advisor. “What has been missing is the federal framework that ensures research quality, product integrity, and continuity of care nationwide. If the administration is preparing to address those gaps, it would mark an important and long-awaited turning point.”

The American Council of Cannabis Medicine expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity to collaborate closely with federal officials, lawmakers, healthcare experts, and industry partners. ACCM’s Policy and Science Advisory Boards have been preparing formal recommendations to key outside groups working with the administration, and stand ready to serve as a primary resource for constructive implementation.

“ACCM’s mission has always been simple: to ensure that Americans who rely on medical cannabis receive safe, consistent, and medically sound care,” added **Rancie**. “We are encouraged by the direction of the national conversation and excited to support the next steps—whatever form the final executive action may take.”

“While it’s not a complete solution, moving cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III opens many critical doors,” said **Kari Boiter**, ACCM Legislative Committee Member and registered medical cannabis patient in Montana. “For patients, it could ease insurance barriers, allow use in hospice and hospital settings, remove obstacles to organ transplants, and even improve employment and housing opportunities. An action of this magnitude goes far beyond the industry—it fundamentally transforms patient access.”

About the American Council of Cannabis Medicine (ACCM)

The American Council of Cannabis Medicine is the leading voice for the U.S. medical cannabis industry, representing a coalition of retailers, producers, healthcare professionals, researchers, insurers, patient advocates, and wellness providers.

Founded in 2016 as a Capitol Hill working group, ACCM has evolved into a national organization dedicated to expanding safe, effective, and equitable access to medical

cannabis through policy advancement, physician engagement, and patient advocacy.

Contact ACCM: 202-349-9650 ext. 800 | www.accmforum.org

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Elevated States Program: www.elevatedmembership.org

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