

## **H.R. 3884 - Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement Act (MORE Act)**

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### Major Provisions of the Bill

- **Federal Decriminalization:** Decriminalizes marijuana at the federal level by removing the substance from the Controlled Substances Act.
- **Expungement of Marijuana Convictions and Arrests, Sealing of Records, and Resentencing:** Requires federal courts to expunge prior convictions and arrests and seal court records for those not under a current criminal justice sentence and requires courts, on motion, to conduct resentencing hearings for those under a criminal justice sentence.
- **5% Sales Tax and “Opportunity Trust Fund”:** Authorizes the assessment of a 5% sales tax on marijuana and marijuana products to create an Opportunity Trust Fund, which includes three grant programs:
  - The Community Reinvestment Grant Program, administered by the Department of Justice, would provide services to the individuals most adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, including job training, re-entry services, legal aid, literacy programs, youth recreation, mentoring, and substance use treatment.
  - The Cannabis Opportunity Grant Program, administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA), would provide funds for loans to assist small businesses in the marijuana industry that are owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.
  - The Equitable Licensing Grant Program, also administered by SBA, would provide funds for programs that minimize barriers to marijuana licensing and employment for the individuals most adversely impacted by the War on Drugs.

### Other notable provisions

- **Availability of SBA Programs and Services to Cannabis Businesses:** Specifies that the SBA may not negate eligibility for loans and other services based on a business being cannabis-related.
- **Federal Public Benefits:** Prohibits the denial of any federal public benefit (including housing) based on the use or possession of marijuana, or prior conviction for a marijuana offense.
- **Protections for Immigrants:** Provides that the use or possession of marijuana, or prior conviction for a marijuana offense, will have no adverse impact under the immigration laws.
- **Data Collection:** Requires the Bureau of Labor Statistics to collect data on the demographics of the industry to assess whether people of color and those who are economically disadvantaged are participating in the industry.
- **Juveniles/Adults:** The bill applies equally to juveniles and adults.

The bill is supported by numerous organizations, including NAACP, Drug Policy Alliance, Center for American Progress, 4thMVM, ACLU, California Minority Alliance, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), Human Rights Watch, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Law Enforcement Action Partnership, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), Sentencing Project, Students for Sensible Drug Policy, UndocuBlack Network, Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA).