



Nurturing Industry

Consider Unique Attributes of Cannabis in All Federal Regulatory Paradigms

NCR seeks to ensure that federal policies and regulation over the US cannabis industry designate the appropriate agency jurisdiction, oversight and enforcement in a manner that considers the attributes of cannabis as a unique botanical. While the regulatory treatment of alcohol and tobacco may provide some template for a cannabis paradigm, the distinctive properties of cannabis must be fully considered.

Ensure Business Continuity and Enable Domestic Industry to Thrive

NCR seeks to ensure *de minimis* disruption to the current market and its growth trajectory. NCR also believes that the nascent, domestic cannabis industry should be allowed to develop into a stable marketplace before permitting cannabis from foreign producers to enter the US. With regard to interstate commerce, NCR encourages policy makers to consider how to prioritize business continuity while understanding the differing needs of states with mature, nascent or non-existent cannabis programs.

Secure Equitable Treatment for Cannabis Businesses

NCR supports the equal treatment of cannabis businesses: access to financial services and capital markets, small business funding, insurance and federal bankruptcy laws, as well as the elimination of tax barriers.

Since 2017, the US cannabis industry has averaged **27.5%** growth each year.

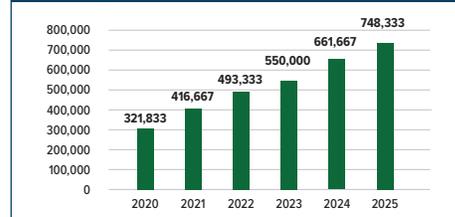
No other industry comes close.²



Transition to Federal Legalization

As lawmakers in Washington reconcile federal law with the more than 2/3 of states which have legalized cannabis in some form, American-grown cannabis, American jobs and social equity license holders must be prioritized.

US Legal Cannabis Jobs Forecast*



In 2020, while the US economy shrank by 3.5%, the legal cannabis industry added 77,300 full-time jobs equal to 32% year over year growth.¹

*Data courtesy of [Whitney Economics](#).

^{1,2} [Leafly 2021 Jobs Report](#).



Protecting Consumers

Institute National Standards to Ensure Consumer Safety

NCR supports the protection of vulnerable populations, including a minimum national age for purchase and federal standards for age verification, with exceptions for pediatric patients. NCR supports the creation of national, common-sense testing and disposal standards ensuring safe products are available nationwide and are removed if deemed unsafe. NCR supports evidence-based mechanisms to prevent impaired driving to keep the roads of our nation safe from drivers under the influence, including more research on DUI specifically as it relates to cannabis.

Fostering Social Equity

Decriminalize Cannabis at the Federal Level

NCR envisions that federal legalization, whether through legislative descheduling or other mechanisms proposed through administrative action, will prioritize ending the federal prosecution, conviction, and incarceration of consumers and operators, and will repair the criminal records of those harmed by the War on Drugs. NCR supports federal legalization that considers retroactive removal of penalties. NCR supports community reinvestment and the removal of criminal penalties for conduct that is lawful under state law.



In the US, you are **3.64x** more likely to be arrested for cannabis possession if you are **Black**.*

*Data courtesy of [Whitney Economics](#).

Remediate Harm Done by the Failed War on Drugs

NCR has pledged to steward an inclusive industry with each NCR member contributing in a unique and positive way to address the harms of the failed, decades-long War on Drugs. NCR is committed to fostering an industry that: actively supports social justice reforms, and an end to the criminalization of cannabis; is comprised of, and supported by, a diverse group of owners, investors, professional services providers, suppliers, and vendors; invests in an inclusive workforce, especially seeking to engage those who have been adversely impacted by the failed drug war; and that promotes access for people who have historically suffered from disparities in access to healthcare. NCR will prioritize legal and policy solutions that reinvest in the communities most impacted by the War on Drugs.

“It is our responsibility to steward an inclusive industry.”

— Charlie Bachtell, Cresco Labs
Chairman, NCR

Consider Social Equity in Regulation of Imports and Interstate Commerce

NCR advocates that, upon federal legalization, any policy addressing commerce between states shall consider the impact of the premature opening of state cannabis markets on state social equity programs. Any future importation of cannabis must also recognize the unique position of minority business owners who have obtained cannabis licenses through social equity programs. Those business owners must be allowed to develop their enterprises if the cannabis industry is to truly remediate the harm done by the failed War on Drugs.