



October 12, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

In an act of unity never before seen in the Washington cannabis industry, 12 separate organizations representing I-502 licensees and other stakeholders have reached a consensus on some of the many issues facing the cannabis industry. We the undersigned associations do hereby endorse the following items:

1. Define cannabis production (farming) as an agricultural activity.

Washington is an agriculture state who supports their farmers. Cannabis farmers aren't looking for agriculture tax breaks; they are looking for consistency across regulatory bodies concerning zoning and codes. This consistency would allow small businesses to survive as Initiative 502 intended, supporting local communities and allowing farmers to contribute as tax paying citizens.

2. Create licensed premises where out-of-home cannabis consumption is permitted.

Cannabis consumers, including patients and tourists, want to respect the wishes of non-users, but without consumption opportunities, they have no alternative.

3. Eliminate the excise tax charged to patients.

Illness ravages families, from veterans to children to seniors. With the passing of SB 5052, the legislature established "qualifying conditions." It is unethical and inappropriate to meet economic benchmarks at the expense of ill and dying patients.

4. Lower the excise tax on recreational cannabis from 37% to 25%.

We understand the concern about balancing the budget and care deeply about funding basic education. Lowering the excise tax will incentivize full participation in the regulated market and maximize tax revenue available at full participation.

We appreciate your willingness to work with us to help pass rules and regulations that help move the cannabis industry forward in a positive direction, benefiting our communities, patients, business owners and more.

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The Cannabis ALLIANCE

Sincerely,

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Shawn DeNae - Cannabis Women's Alliance

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Dominic Corva- Center for Study of Cannabis and Social Policy

John Davis- Hempfest

Chris Lindsey- Marijuana Policy Project

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S A G E-Sound Artisan Growing Ethics

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