



# Cannabis Legislative

## WINS FROM 2020

*Legislative Progress, Restorative Justice & Landmark Victories for the Cannabis Industry*



1

### House of Representatives Passes Legislation Repealing Federal Marijuana Prohibition

For the first time in 50 years, The House of Representative revisited cannabis as a federal substance by voting to approve the MORE Act. This Act removes marijuana from the Federal Controlled Substances Act, giving states authority to establish their own cannabis laws without federal interference.

2

### Cannabis Retailers Acknowledged as Essential Businesses

Lawmakers deemed marijuana retailers to be essential services in some states, allowing them to remain open during pandemic lockdowns, and provide curb-side pickup and delivery services.

3

### 2020 Election Marijuana Legislation Approved

In several states, voters passed measures by historic margins approving the use and distribution of marijuana for either medical or adult-use purposes. Medicinal-use is now legal in 35 states and adult-use is legal in 15 states.

4

### Virginia Decriminalizes Marijuana Possession

Lawmakers abolished Virginia's strict criminal penalties for marijuana possession offenses - replacing them with a \$25 fine and no arrest nor criminal record.

5

### Thousands Have Their Criminal Marijuana Records Expunged

Public officials granted pardons to thousands of citizens with cannabis convictions. Over 100,000 records were expunged in California, and lawmakers enacted legislation facilitating the expungement of low-level marijuana records in various other states.

6

### Vermont Legalizes Access to Retail Marijuana

Vermont lawmakers enacted legislation establishing rules and regulations overseeing the commercial production and retail sale of marijuana, making Vermont the eleventh state to legalize adult-use marijuana sales.

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### Nearly 500,000 Marijuana Arrest Records Expunged in Illinois

Since legalizing marijuana sales, over 9,200 low-level marijuana convictions have been pardoned, and more than 490,000 marijuana-related convictions have been removed from arrest records in Illinois.

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### South Dakota Approves Recreational and Medical Cannabis

During the 2020 Election, voters approved both recreational and medical cannabis in South Dakota, making it the first state to legalize both uses on the same day.

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### Mississippi Passes Initiative 65

Mississippi passed Initiative 65, allowing physicians to recommend cannabis to patients with debilitating medical conditions.

10

### Retail Cannabis Sales Reached Historic Highs

Retail cannabis sales surged in the U.S and Canada bringing record levels of tax revenue. Canada sold over \$200 million in Cannabis sales in June - the highest monthly total ever reported.