



Emphasizing Personal Freedom - Steve Williams Announces Support for Legalizing Cannabis for Adult Use in West Virginia

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Huntington, WV - Today, Steve Williams, Democratic candidate for Governor of West Virginia, announced his support for the legalization of cannabis for adult recreational use. Williams emphasized that this critical issue should ultimately be decided by the people of West Virginia through a statewide referendum.

“West Virginia has an opportunity to join the growing number of states, including Maryland, Ohio, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. that have taken bold steps to legalize cannabis, and I believe it’s time we give the people a voice on this issue. One avenue to move forward is to put legalization on the ballot and let voters decide,” said Williams.

Williams highlighted the significant economic benefits that legalization would bring to West Virginia, noting the potential for increased tax revenue to support vital public services such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure. “We can look to states like Colorado and California, where cannabis legalization has spurred economic growth and created thousands of jobs. West Virginia can follow their lead to diversify our economy and attract new opportunities,” Williams explained.

In addition to the economic boost, Williams emphasized the need for criminal justice reform in the state. “West Virginians are being arrested and incarcerated for low level, non-violent offenses that aren't even considered crimes in other states which unnecessarily burdens our justice system. By legalizing cannabis, we can reduce unnecessary arrests, and refocus our law enforcement efforts on more serious crimes.

The candidate also pointed to the potential for regulating the cannabis market to ensure consumer safety. “By legalizing and regulating cannabis, we can create a safer, controlled environment for consumers and ensure that products are tested and free from harmful substances. My opponent opposes legalization because Big Pharma opposes it,” Williams said. “Patrick Morrissey wants to protect a lucrative revenue stream that has made billions for Big Pharma while wreaking havoc and bringing misery and death to West Virginia.”

Williams stressed that his support for legalization reflects his commitment to personal freedom and giving West Virginians the opportunity to decide for themselves. “Adults in our state deserve



the right to make their own choices about cannabis, just as they do with alcohol and tobacco. The people should have the final say on this matter.”

As Governor, Williams pledged to work with the Legislature to explore all options, including a ballot initiative to put this issue directly in the hands of West Virginia voters. “This isn’t just a matter of policy – it’s about trust in the people. Let’s empower West Virginians to decide the future of cannabis legalization for adults in our state.”

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