

#SafeCannabisDC: FOCUS ON EQUITY

Safe Cannabis aims to provide pathways to the middle class through job and ownership opportunities, sealing of criminal records, and tax dollars flowing into vulnerable communities.

Access to the Market

- **Safe Cannabis** builds upon DC's current inclusive medical marijuana ownership model to ensure diversity in the industry.
- Requires that 60% of licensee ownership and 60% of licensed employment positions go to District residents.
- Offers gainful employment and ownership opportunities for people with an interest to join the legal cannabis industry by removing certain prior cannabis convictions as a roadblock to licensure.
- **Safe Cannabis** will also provide opportunities to participate indirectly in cannabis services including security, delivery, accounting, marketing, and more.

Criminal Record Sealing

- Automatically seals public records for certain cannabis convictions involving possession.
- Automatic record sealing removes obstacles associated with petitions including court costs, processing times, and wait periods.
- This would potentially seal thousands of records, giving people a second chance.
- When a person's record is sealed, they are able to answer "no" to questions regarding whether they have been convicted of a crime.
- Record sealing will help with loan applications, finalizing a preliminary job offer, housing or rental applications, and more.

Tax Revenues to Fund Affordable Housing Initiatives

- Cannabis products will be taxed at 17% at the point of sale, which is on the low end of tax rates across the nation.
- 100% of tax revenues will go to affordable housing initiatives ensuring residents of all 8 wards will benefit.

Resources for Residents

- **Project Empowerment** provides workforce readiness training.
- **Ascend 2020 DC** supports the growth of minority-, women-, and veteran-owned small businesses.
- **Aspire to Entrepreneurship** supports residents who are pursuing wealth-building through small business creation and growth.



**DC is a Leader
in Equity Initiatives**

Of the 11 states that have legalized recreational marijuana, only three states offer automatic record sealing or expungement: CA, IL, and NV.

Compared to other states, at 60%, DC has some of the strongest local residency requirements for ownership and employees.

DC has a proposed tax rate of 17% for recreational and 6% for medical marijuana. Across the country where cannabis is legal, tax rates range from 10.75% to 37%.

Here is How You Can Learn More:

Go to mayor.dc.gov/marijuana to learn more about Safe Cannabis, including ways to support!

SAFETY 🌿 **EQUITY** 🌿 **CLARITY**
mayor.dc.gov/marijuana



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR