



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 3, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT

Miriam Krinsky

krinskym@krinsky.la

818-416-5218

Statement on Friday’s House Vote on the MORE Act to Legalize Marijuana

Fair and Just Prosecution Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement today in regard to Friday’s expected floor vote in the U.S. House of Representatives on the Marijuana Opportunity, Reinvestment and Expungement (MORE) Act:

“This Friday, the House will vote on the Marijuana Opportunity, Reinvestment and Expungement (MORE) Act, which would federally deschedule cannabis, expunge the records of those with prior marijuana convictions and reinvest in communities most impacted by the War on Drugs. This is a historic vote on a bill that is needed now more than ever. The health and economic crises of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing fight for racial equality underscore the urgent need for marijuana reform and make this a moment that demands national leadership. We urge every Representative to support this legislation and end decades of unnecessary and punitive marijuana policy that has disproportionately impacted communities of color.

Earlier this year, more than 50 elected prosecutors and law enforcement officials from across the country [sent a letter](#) to Congress in support of the MORE Act. These leaders know firsthand the toll that the over-policing of marijuana has taken on communities without making them any safer. Passing the MORE Act would increase public safety and improve trust between communities and law enforcement by reallocating limited resources towards solving the most serious crimes, reducing the size and influence of the illicit market, and ushering in an era of health-centered approaches for drug use and addiction.

The American people also recognize the need for marijuana reform, as tough on crime policies of the past have failed to improve public safety and public health. The MORE Act is supported by bipartisan majorities – [recent polling](#) showed that 62% of likely voters, including 60% of Republicans, support the bill when asked about its specific provisions.

We commend the more than 100 bipartisan co-sponsors of the MORE Act in the House and ask every Representative to take a critical step toward repairing our criminal justice system by supporting the MORE Act.”

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Fair and Just Prosecution is a national network of elected prosecutors working towards common-sense, compassionate criminal justice reforms. To learn more about FJP’s work, visit our [website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).