

In order to be effective on distributing the 39 licenses, recommendations have to be presented to legislation to make changes. One example is the footage distances from schools etc. Those restrictions need to be lifted and relaxed in order for there to be any place to put retail locations. Without going through legislation to change them, the 39 licenses will all be failures. There are a number of other addition changes that need to be made that require going to legislation to ensure success for the 39 licenses. I believe another issue that requires legislation is requesting \$30 million of the state cannabis tax money to be added to technical assistance along with \$15 million in low interest loans. The work group all voted and agreed on \$333 million and that was left out. You're asking for the 30 million and the 15 million you could've asked for the 33 million like their work group had all voted on. There are other issues but the bottom line is the task force leadership is trying to avoid the issues that the community wants and the the issues the work group all voted yea on. The last licensing meeting the work group unanimously voted to recommend the next 500 licenses going to social equity applicants. That was not recommended.

There appears to be a mafia style strong-arm move to manipulate the program and deceive the community. By delaying those issues that will assure there won't be enough time to put them on the agenda to present to the legislators next session. This is a diversion tactic and manipulation. The situation is going from bad to worse.

We will not be censored.

Thanks

Jim Buchanan

Buchanan Management Group

Jimb@buchanan-management.com

(206)321-1814

To Washington State social equity in cannabis task force/licensing work group

We have some statements and concerns about the licensing meeting yesterday. We worked through some licensing issues however others are left unresolved. Before the recommendations go to the general task force, the social equity producer and processor licenses issue must be addressed and resolved. How can true equity, equality and Economic Justice be accomplished if your leaving out valuable license type. We thank the task force for their diligent work on the recommendations for retail licensing however; we need to zoom in on the producers, processors license recommendations. Today the meeting finished 15 to 20 minutes early and for some reason the producer, processor issue was glazed over and pushed to the side. Task force chair representative Melanie Morgan has clearly stated that the recommendations must by finalize immediately. This issue not being resolved in the meeting appeared to be intentional, and definitely unacceptable. Is there someone on the licensing work group trying to manipulate their position to ensure that the community doesn't receive producer or processing licenses for the social equity program? Are there other members on the licensing work group going along with that person or persons Manipulation? Are their folk on the licensing work group that feel additional Producer or Processing licenses will effect their personal business and pocketbook? The community clearly knows the answer to these questions.

Recommendations submitted by the licensing work group MUST allow social equity applicants to apply for a Producer and Processing license. After going over this issue with the community, we would like you to inform us on how this issue will be resolved before the licensing work group recommendations are submitted to the general task force. As stated before, we want minimum 200 producers and 200

processing licenses through 2029 while accomplishing 50% of the total licenses. We urge certain licensing work group members to immediately stand down on their resistance for recommending Producer/Processing licenses. This is our position as a community, respectfully so. We trust you will find a way to submit that recommendation. We will be waiting for your resolution to this important issue.

On another note, during the licensing meeting a task force member Pablo communicated his anti-black racism position to the work group and community. The work group lead literally allowed him to express his position for 10 or 15 minutes with no interruption, backlash or reprimand. If a person is appointed on the task force that's created for social equity, equality and economic justice, (2870) why is he allowed to consistently push his anti-black racism views and agenda during the meetings?

There's an anti-black racism policy that was voted on and passed by the task force and Pablo violated that policy and was allowed to continue his anti-black racism comments without interruption. Why was that allowed? When my time came to speak as a community member, I pointed out his views and called him for what he is (a racist), Pablo along with the work group lead were rudely interrupting me and were trying to censor me for telling the truth.

Let me make this clear, If you think the community is going to stand aside and listen to racist comments and wild attempts to derail 2870, you're delusional. The entire work group should've been apologizing to the community for their members public display of anti-black racism and racist policy pushing. After the meeting I received a call from a Hispanic gentleman (that I didn't know) that was on the zoom meeting apologizing for Pablo's anti-black racist comments. He informed me that Pablo doesn't represent or speak for the Hispanic community. I really appreciated his call and have huge respect for the person that reached out. The work group lead should've publicly apologized and spoke against his comments but that did not happen. Some work group members along with community folk expressed their serious opposition to his statements and positions, however the work group lead didn't. As a social equity task force member, he has consistently stated his position for inequality, inequity and discrimination directly targeted towards the African American community and this social equity program. His only purpose on the task force is to divert and derail it. After meeting with the community our main question and concern is how many other task force/work group members a-line with Pablo? At least he had the courage to show who he is. If anyone else feels the same please step up and state your position. Pablo spoke of his discontent being on the task force, Pablo please resign NOW. You're not in support of true equality, equity, or economic justice.

His positions dictate he wants the African American community to remain in the position we've been in for 580 years. Again the disgusting thing is how the task force lead allowed him to push his anti-black racism agenda. Per his comments, he's lobbying for (hispanics and women). He commented he was asked to be on the task force by a board director. He said he wasn't seeking to be on the task force, he was recruited to be on the task force, (SMH) I believe him. The community would like to know the name of the person that assigned and recommended him to be on task force. Our community will NOT allow nor turn a deaf ear to racist comments or racist policy pushing by anyone. Please address the issues in this email and inform us.

Sincerely

Jim Buchanan

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To Washington State Social Equity In Cannabis Task Force & Disproportionately Community Impacted Work Group

During intense and well thought out community meetings, we are recommending and demanding equality in all areas of the cannabis industry. Equality in licensees, capitalization, location availability, community development fund, also the full process.

We feel the majority folk on the task force agree and statistics show that African-Americans are discriminated against more than any other race by a enormous percentage gap. As we plowed through this journey to create equity, equality and economical justice, we must assure we do not leave out the African American community by large. Currently the bill reads:

1443

“Must have a conviction of a drug offense of an applicant, or family member of an applicant, is a qualifying factor to be considered a social equity applicant, subject to other conditions. An individual must have lived in a disproportionately impacted area for a period of time defined in rule by LCB”

There are current recommendations to expand the language however the community at large is being left out. If you're African-American, you've been intensely discriminated against no matter where you live or have lived. No

matter if you had a drug offense or not. If you lived in anglo-Saxon community you're discriminated against and targeted because you're living in a anglo-Saxon community, and if you lived in a African American community, the whole community is targeted and abused. The point is, the only qualification you have ever needed to be discriminated against if your African American, is to be African American. It doesn't matter where you live, what profession your in, or if you have a arrest record or not. The areas that are predominantly African-American obviously were and are targeted areas and should receive top consideration along with folk arrested from the war on drugs, however; The community strongly feels being African American should be a qualification no matter where you live or have lived, justifiably so. A person should qualified to submit a application if they

1) lived in a area targeted by the war on drugs, 2)have a drug offense, or 3)are African-American.

As we advocate and demand equity and equality for the equal number of licenses, capitalization, Community development fund, we also demand equity and equality for all African-Americans that have been victimized for 580 years.

Let's continue to aggressively unite to do the right thing. Being African-American needs to be added on to the scoring process as one of the three qualifications needed to apply.

A quote from the great Dr King:

“Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed”

Respectfully So
The Community demands.

"The Time Is Now"

Love All Trust Few

Jim Buchanan

President WSAACA

Washington State African American Cannabis Association

206 3211814

Dear Members of the Washington State Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force

My name is Constance Proctor. I am writing in support of the changes requested by various groups in the African American community to E2SHB 2870. I have been a resident of Washington state for more than 47 years. I resided for more than 35 years in the south end of Seattle Washington and now live in Renton Washington. I have witnessed the negative impact of the war on drugs on the African American community in Washington and have seen the damage to the community. I have worked as an attorney on cannabis-related projects and am aware of some of the inequities that have occurred in the distribution of licenses.

The suggestions from the African American community and the Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force could assist in lessening the social and economic disparities that have impacted the African American Community as a result of the drug war. These suggestions include the following: preference to social equity licenses through 2029, and thereafter 50%; issuance of 300 new social equity retail licenses through 2029; 50% of tax revenue from cannabis sales to be used for community investment; low-interest loans available for licensees; technical assistance grants and social equity producer and process social equity licenses through 2029.

The changes proposed to the Bill from the Social Equity Cannabis Task Force and the African American community will provide real opportunities for the communities most impacted by the criminalization of marijuana over the years to have an opportunity to recover some of what we have lost as a result of those actions.

I appreciate your time and consideration of these proposed changes and your willingness to listen to the concerns of the African American community on these issues.

Sincerely,

Constance L. Proctor

**First African Methodist Episcopal Church
1522 14th Avenue**

Seattle, Washington 98122

October 12, 2021

Dear Washington State Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force,

I am writing in support of the recommendations brought forth to your group to address social equity, diversity and inclusion disparities within the cannabis industry.

If Washington State is seriously intentional about wrestling with the social inequities our state is facing, then it cannot consciously ignore practices in the cannabis industry that have historically locked African Americans out of the process. As such, Washington State must hold itself accountable for the lack of African American cannabis licenses being issued and demonstrate a commitment to attract, support, and recruit African American growers and process producers.

Data from Washington State resources tell us that African Americans only make up about 1% of the cannabis industry entrepreneurs. The ratio between African Americans involved in the cannabis industry in comparison to their white counterparts is disheartening and alarming.

African Americans have been disproportionately locked out of the cannabis industry. This translates into loss of potential African American entrepreneurs, loss of employment opportunities, the inability for families to start their own businesses, which further increases the black wealth gap in our state.

I urge each of you to embrace the recommendations that have been submitted to you and are listed below so that our great state can truly be a place of equality, social justice, and equity for all.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- All cannabis licenses are social equity licenses until 2029
- After 2029, 50% of all licenses issued are social equity licenses, perpetual.
- 300 new social equity retail licenses through 2029
- 50% of State cannabis taxes issued to the community investment program, perpetual.
- All new social equity awardees receive up to \$300,000 grant, perpetual.
- Lift the state retail license cap to 860 for the 300 new social equity licenses only
- Distance changes from retail entity for social equity recipients:
 - a) elementary or secondary schools (500)
 - b) child care (250)
 - c) public parks (remove)
 - d) playgrounds (remove)
 - e) public transit center (remove)
 - f) library (remove)
 - g) game arcade (remove)
- All perpetual for social equity retail recipients
- Bring all license types to 50% social equity licenses
- All future license types in 502 cannabis have to be issued to social equity applicants until social equity represents 50% of license type. After that has been achieved, the social equity licenses have to represent 50% of all new licenses issued
- Social equity licensee development fund:
 - \$30 million biannually for new licensees to receive up to \$300,000 each based on license type.
 - Up to \$300,000 is perpetual for all new social equity license holders based on license type.
- \$15,000,000 biannually available for low interest loans
- Technical assistance grant: \$1,100,000 grant remains
- 100 producers social equity licenses through 2029
- 100 processor social equity licenses through 2029

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Carey G. Anderson
Senior Pastor

Washington State Social Equity in Cannabis Task force:

Greetings, I am writing on behalf of the African American community and the deprivation of its rightful share of the reinvestment program relative to the multi millions of dollars of cannabis tax revenue being directed to so many communities but overlooking the African American

community. I am in total support of the African American communities' position on the reinvestment program.

The African American community has disproportionately suffered incarceration for marijuana charges over the years, and it is high time reparation in the form of tax revenue dollars by way of the community reinvestment program is given to our community in proportion to other communities. This reinvestment program is well overdue, and it is our time. I implore you to do the right thing and compensate our African American community accordingly.

Thank you for your strong consideration on this matter, and I look forward to an immediate and positive response.

Sincerely,

Bishop Reggie C. Witherspoon Sr. D.D.
Senior Pastor Mt. Calvary Christian Center Church of God in Christ
Prelate Washington Northwest Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Attention: Washington State Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force:

My name is Adrienne Caver-Hall. I am writing this e-mail in support of the Black community's call for Social Equity as it relates to cannabis licensing. I am third generation black Washingtonian who until recently lived in Seattle for over 60 years.

As the former United Negro College Fund Area Development Director of Washington State from 1990 thru 1998, I wholeheartedly believe in empowerment and equal access to opportunities that will build stronger economic engines for disadvantage communities, especially the Black community.

Institutional and structural racism in legislation as well as policies have continued to be at the forefront of denying access for Blacks and other people of color to take advantage of and participate in myriad of community initiatives that have a direct impact on them and their family's well-being.

I am no stranger to the war on drugs in our neighborhood's. My mother Vivian Caver, long time Civil Rights activist and the 3rd black woman representative in Washington State Government history, would be the first to demand social equity and equality as it relates to this legislation. Unfortunately, the war on drugs and the laws associated with this issue continue to disproportionally take the same toll on Black men and women like it did when my mother was leading the fight for civil rights. Quite literally it has wreaked havoc on black families especially with regards to high number of incarcerations for petty possession of a substance that is now legal in the State of Washington.

To amend this racist policy, I support that:

- All cannabis licenses are social equity licenses until 2029
- After 2029, 50% of all licenses issued are social equity licenses, perpetual.
- 300 new social equity retail licenses through 2029
- 50% of State cannabis taxes issued to the community investment program, perpetual.
- All new social equity awardees receive up to \$300,000 grant, perpetual.
- Lift the state retail license cap to 860 for the 300 new social equity licenses only
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- Technical assistance grant: \$1,100,000 grant remains
- 100 producers' social equity licenses through 2029
- 100 processor social equity licenses through 2029

This is just a beginning to amend for the harm done to the black family in the State of Washington and across the whole country.

Respectfully,

Adrienne Caver-Hall

206-478-1314 cell

Please forward to all Washington State Social Equity In Cannabis Task Force members and place on website for public view. Please also forward email to the social equity mailing list when able. Thank you

Concerns:

Equity, equality and economic justice cannot be compromised. The community has found during this process certain folk are willing to compromise true equity, equality, and economic justice for personal gain, paid position and to lobby for special interest groups. They're willing to bend the true definition of equity, equality and economic justice and manipulate the purpose to fit their or others economical gain. The community will not allow this behavior to continue without severe opposition. We will continue to

exert extraordinary energy and efforts towards exposing and opposing those pushing these disgusting agendas that are adverse to what true equity, equality and economic justice is defined.

One organization that's adverse to key points that the community is adamant about, is Craft Cannabis Coalition/CCC. While saying their in support of the social equity program, they're lobbying against key points that the community expect to be in the social equity bill. The communities position is that minimum 300 retail licenses are issued to social equity applicants through 2029. This requires the state retail license cap to be raised from 560 to 860. CCC's public position is for the cap to remain at 560 (where it currently is). Their policy position is also for no additional retail licenses to be issued unless the licenses are revoked by the Lcb or otherwise becomes available, but not to exceed the state cap. The recreational marijuana program (502) has existed for seven years and there is a average of five licenses a year that falls in that category which brought the total to 39 licenses currently available for the social equity program. This is the policy CCC is lobbying to remain in place. If that policy remains in place it will take 60 years for 300 social equity retail licenses to be available for social equity applicants, Yes 60 years(2081). Does that sound familiar? Their mentality is wait another 400 years. Their policy is unacceptable to the community and should be unacceptable to anyone advocating for true equity, equality and economical justice. Let's be clear, any company or person lobbying for the cap to remain the same is against the community and true equality. How can you say you're for social equity while you're pushing policies that are adverse to true meaning of equality, equity and economic justice. Being recreational retail store owners, CCC is pushing policies to protect the existing licenses they and others aligned with them currently own, to remain dominant, and once again at the expense of African-Americans that are harmed by the war on drugs. They want the Black and brown retail dollar to be spent at their stores however do not want to allow true equity, equality and economical justice for black and brown people to obtain equitable share of retail license and acquire economical power. It's on record these interest groups lobby against 2870 from the beginning however; that attempt was unsuccessful so now their approach is to display partial support while attempting to derail and stunt the growth of black and brown people form obtaining retail licenses and receiving equality. You can put lipstick on a pig but you can't convince us it's anything other than a pig with lipstick.

From Craft cannabis coalitions website:

In this public announcement of their policy's ,their concern is protecting and preserving the current licenses they and others aligned with them own. True equity, equality and economic justice is receiving equality across-the-board on every issue. Either they support true equality or they don't. It's obvious by their public policy they don't.

To be clear, anyone advocating and pushing CCC's agenda are not for our community, regardless of your race or façade that's being publicly presented. We simply will NOT allow this behavior.

More of CCC Policy's from there website.

They're also pushing policies that will empower the process to have to go through legislation to lift the cap of licenses, not the Lcb having that authority. This will make it harder for equity, equity and economic justice to be executed. Like their currently doing, they will consistently lobby to make sure the cab is never lifted so the beautiful thing they've created, remains in tack forever. The 502 program has

been manipulated and controlled by white privilege folk for seven years. The community will not allow anyone to disguise themselves as social equity advocates, while their literally lobbying for themselves and against the communities best interest.

Using community folk (African-American) to push your agenda while trying to mask your true intentions will not work, everyone will be consistently exposed. There's no such thing as partial equity, equality and economic justice. Either your with us 100% or you're not. You can't divide a pie and give us a sliver and say we receive a equal portion.

We have developed a campaign to expose those that are not supporting true equity, equality and Economic Justice, through local and national media, social media, word of mouth, and other means. There are NO exceptions.

We also have developed a long term campaign to divert black and brown dollars (along with the Anglo-Saxon dollars that are social equity sensitive) away from the businesses that are not in full support of true equity equality and economic justice.

Please note,

If you're from the community and you're pushing these or similar agendas or are aligned with organizations that are lobbying adverse to our communities position, you will be exposed, consistently spotlighted and called out starting immediately.

Our goal and objective is for all to simply do the right thing and assist with making the Washington state social equity in cannabis program the true meaning of equity, equality, and economic justice. During these crucial times please be on the right side of history.

Sincerely & Respectfully

Jim Buchanan

Jim Buchanan

Buchanan Management Group

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(206)321-1814

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matter if you had a drug offense or not. If you lived in anglo-Saxon community you're discriminated against and targeted because you're living in a anglo-Saxon community, and if you lived in a African American community, the whole community is targeted and abused. The point is, the only qualification you have ever needed to be discriminated against if your African American, is to be African American. It doesn't matter where you live, what profession your in, or if you have a arrest record or not. The areas that are predominantly African-American obviously were and are targeted areas and should receive top consideration along with folk arrested from the war on drugs, however; The community strongly feels being African American should be a qualification no matter where you live or have lived, justifiably so. A person should qualified to submit a application if they

1) lived in a area targeted by the war on drugs, 2)have a drug offense, or 3)are African-American.

As we advocate and demand equity and equality for the equal number of licenses, capitalization, Community development fund, we also demand equity and equality for all African-Americans that have been victimized for 580 years.

Let's continue to aggressively unite to do the right thing. Being African-American needs to be added on to the scoring process as one of the three qualifications needed to apply.

“Freedom and equality is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed”

Dr Martin Luther King

Love All Trust Few

Jim Buchanan

President WSAACA

Washington State African American Cannabis Association

206 3211814

Hello Michelle I hope this email finds you well. These are the changes and additions we would like to see on the DIA recommendations. Thank you for your support

Community changes

1. Under eligibility criteria add black applicants get 150 points, DIA 50 points, marijuana/drug offenses 50 points.
2. Eligibility criteria should be worth more points than any other category. It's the most important section (represent 250 points out of 450)
3. 1 year to find location with a 6 month extension if they can prove their efforts.
4. On social equity plan, element A, B, C taken out
5. minimum 80% of licenses must go to African Americans
6. Add Attest questions
7. All management companies involved in the business must be owned by a social equity recipient.
8. Ownership represented on a social equity application has to be the same ownership that's represented on their Lcb license application.
9. False representation will result of loss application right or licenses

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Dr Martin Luther King

Love All Trust Few

Jim Buchanan

President WSAACA

Washington State African American Cannabis Association

JimB@WSAACA

206 3211814

To All:

I was recently made aware that the previous letter I sent (that NAACP President Gerald Hankerson wrote) possibly did not reach the intended parties. I am resending his letter directly. If there's a form of censorship in place, please cease that action immediately. Moving forward we will communicate directly to you. I would like to make clear that the NAACP State Area Conference represents 7 statewide branches in Yakima, Bremerton, Vancouver, Spokane Everett, Seattle, Tacoma and their surrounding communities.

The NAACP and the community fully support the Washington State African American Cannabis Association's position. We not only support their points, we will be proactive in forging equity, equality, and economic justice for our community through the new recommended cannabis policies.

We look forward to working with everyone to ensure the right thing happens. We have rolled up our sleeves and this issue is at the top of our list. We are paying close attention to the

recommendations and the process, and we expect the final recommendations to reflect real equity, equality and economic justice. Our organization, along with many other community organizations and our community at large, have united to demand for us to receive what's long overdue, the time is now. Hopefully we can all work together to accomplish that goal.

Mr Hankerson's Letter is attached

L. Darrell Powell
Vice President Statewide Initiatives
NAACP Alaska Oregon Washington State Area Conference
206-854-7164