

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

We feel the majority of people 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 an Anglo-Saxon community, and if you lived in an 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 you're African American, is to be African American. It doesn't matter where you live, what profession you're in, or if you have an arrest record or not. The areas that are predominantly African-American obviously were and are targeted areas and should receive top consideration along with people 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 be qualified to submit an application if they

1) lived in an 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.

Thinking

A POEM BY WALTER D. WINTLE

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE BEATEN, YOU ARE;
IF YOU THINK YOU DARE NOT, YOU DON'T.
IF YOU'D LIKE TO WIN, BUT YOU THINK YOU CAN'T,
IT IS ALMOST A CINCH THAT YOU WON'T.

IF YOU THINK YOU'LL LOSE, YOU'RE LOST;
FOR OUT OF THE WORLD WE FIND
SUCCESS BEGINS WITH A FELLOW'S WILL
IT'S ALL IN THE STATE OF MIND.

IF YOU THINK YOU'RE OUTCLASSED, YOU ARE;
YOU'VE GOT TO THINK HIGH TO RISE.
YOU'VE GOT TO BE SURE OF YOURSELF BEFORE
YOU CAN EVER WIN THE PRIZE.

LIFE'S BATTLES DON'T ALWAYS GO
TO THE STRONGER OR FASTER MAN;
BUT SOONER OR LATER THE MAN WHO WINS
IS THE ONE WHO THINKS HE CAN!

“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

To All:

We want to express to everyone direct that our positions have not changed on any of the points that have been communicated to the task force and workgroups. Most points have been voted on by the workgroups to be recommended by the task force.

We have recently experienced fierce pressure for the community to change our position on the community reinvestment program, that will not happen. The states budget is approximately 47 billion dollars annually and they're applying pressure for the community to change our position from demanding 50% of the state cannabis tax money for the community reinvestment program. Currently that represents approximately \$250 million annually to the black and brown communities out of the states \$47 billion annual budget, thats a drop in the bucket.

The Native Americans received \$1.9 billion last year from net receipts from gaming. They also are furthering their bottom line profits by the legislation and governor signing a bill in March 2020 allowing sports betting in the Native Americans casinos. The Government celebrated signing that bill. Equity, equality, economic justice is well deserved for the Native American communities.

[Washington Governor Jay Inslee signs 15 tribal sports wagering compacts](#)

Obviously the state understands how to issue equity, equality, and economic justice; however the State of Washington wants nothing to do with TRUE equity, equality, economic justice for the African American and Hispanic communities. As our voice gets louder our push will get harder. We will not be intimidated, and we will not be bullied, and anyone that try's will be dealt with. We will also not be misrepresented. Let us be clear, anyone that's not representing our positions are not representing the community. We will not allow false representation and we will allow no sellouts.

We have developed a national media campaign to spotlight The Washington State Social Equity In Cannabis Program along with spotlighting all folk in opposition of the right thing.

The task force along with the community has worked hard to come up with the right recommendations, and we will continue these efforts. We are prepared to fight to the end.

The Community

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter." -MLK, Jr.

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Dr Martin Luther King

Love All Trust Few

Jim Buchanan

President WSAACA

Washington State African American Cannabis Association

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Mr. Buchanan - As I've shared with you before, the recommendations that we've negotiated thus far in the various workgroups within the Cannabis task should not be rescinded. In fact they don't go far enough.

Community Representation

The NAACP represents 13 local branches throughout the northwest region, seven in Washington State.

Our branches serve the African American and other communities of color in the most populated counties, (King, Snohomish, Pierce, Spokane, Clark, Kitsap, and Yakima) in Washington. We have had a front row seat witnessing the devastation that policies like The War on Drugs, Weed and Seed and Stop and Frisk type of programs have had on our communities for generations.

NAACP Position

Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1443, entitled – An Act relating to social equity within the cannabis industry.

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2870, entitled – An Act relating to allowing additional marijuana retail licenses for social equity purposes.

The above Bills highlight social equity as a goal, but do not include much of what the community deems as racially or socially equitable. We have been working with community organizations who are well versed in the Cannabis ecosystem to ensure we understand the limitations of HB 1443 and HB2870, as well as opportunities to revise said legislation.

We come in Peace now, but are prepared to fight for what should be an adequate economic response to begin to repair our community.

L. Darrell Powell

NAACP State Area Conference

Vice President - Statewide Initiatives

206-854-7164

To Whom It May Concern:

Our community is long overdue for real equity, reparative and restorative policy. The solutions put forth by Washington State African American Cannabis Association are a step in that direction and our community will continue to mobilize to advocate for reparative remedy and economic justice to improve the material conditions of Black people and communities.

Sincerely,

K. Wyking Garrett

To Whom It May Concern:

I have lived in Seattle for more than 64 years moving from Chicago as a 7-year-old and raised in the Madrona community in the Central District. I have witnessed the infusion of drugs into our once thriving community all while our parents were denied access to 2nd mortgages to keep their homes up due to the illegal practice of redlining. Our youth were the targets of the “*War on Drugs*” with a bullseye on their backs for selling a bag of weed and families lost their homes. And our culture and community are quietly disappearing as a result of the gentrification caused by these injustices.

Our community is long overdue for real equity, reparative and restorative policy. The solutions put forth by Washington State African American Cannabis Association are a step in that direction and our community will continue to mobilize to advocate for reparative remedy and economic justice to improve the material conditions for Black people and our communities.

Sincerely,

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World Class Expertise....Bottom Line Impact

Sub Group,

My name is Duane Dunn, the sole owner of Emerald Leaves located in Tacoma. I've been in business since Feb 15, 2015 and my status is a true legacy owner/pioneer, a true social equity business owner in this industry before the social equity task force existed that has seen it all and gone through all the cycles of this industry. I am part of a very small group of owners that are truly the STRONGEST applicants for social equity retail licenses.

There are NO STRONGER applicants that fit into this category, as we decide to grant points in qualifying social equity clients.

Lets not forget to strengthen the position of the legacy/pioneer owners FIRST as we know there are no guessing games

if these legacy retail owners will be able to survive the current market , why because we are still here surviving today.

I implore the council to adjust in any way they see fit to make sure that if you are a legacy retail owner in this market

not medical from years ago and still are operating a current retail license that when the point are all added up legacy retail owners

are at the top of the scoring list, let's be honest our current marketing/business plan/social equity engagement is already

in full effect "WE ARE THE MODEL" of social equity . Who else can you point to in this retail industry as an

example of success as a social equity retail owner NOBODY. To be honest, the current business plan/marketing/social equity

engagement and anything else you want to throw in is currently in effect today at our business. Let's reward the dedication/determination

as first place winners of the new social equity retail licenses holders.It would be a crime to weaken your current social equity retail owner

by not awarding them stores first. Remember we are the best chess piece on the board.

Thanks

Owner

Emerald Leaves

EmeraldLeavestac@gmail.com

To: the Washington State Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force

Greetings. As the Pastor of First AME Church in Seattle, WA, I am in support of the Social Equity Recommendations as proposed by the Washington State African American Cannabis Association.

I urge you to give them consideration in their worthwhile efforts and proposal for social equity.

Sincerely,

Pastor Carey Anderson

First AME Church

Seattle, WA