



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

April 29, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
U.S. House of Representatives
2161 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
U.S. House of Representatives
2107 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of the 3,081 elected Sheriffs represented by the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), we write to express our strong opposition to H.R. 2934, the "Strengthening the Tenth Amendment Through Entrusting States 2.0 Act." While framed as a federalist measure, this legislation would de-schedule marijuana from the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) for any activity deemed compliant with state or tribal law. Such a move would profoundly weaken federal drug enforcement, erode national drug control standards and compromise public safety.

NSA has already opposed the DEA's proposal to reschedule marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III under the Biden Administration. H.R. 2934 would go even further by de-scheduling marijuana entirely for certain actors, effectively shielding marijuana-related activities from federal oversight if those activities comply with state or tribal law. This would weaken the DEA's and the Department of Justice's ability to pursue investigations and prosecutions, even when marijuana operations may serve as fronts for transnational criminal organizations or large-scale trafficking, effectively inviting criminal exploitation under the cover of local legality.

Sheriffs operating in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas and on federal task forces routinely encounter criminal enterprises exploiting fragmented state marijuana laws. De-scheduling marijuana would invite further abuse of these inconsistencies, making it more difficult to hold bad actors accountable and more complicated for state, local, and federal agencies to collaborate.

Sheriffs also continue to see the impact of high-potency THC products on road safety, jail populations, and mental health crises. Marijuana-related intoxication, impaired driving, and psychosis are increasingly common in our jails and emergency responses. Yet this bill offers no strategy to address the predictable rise in harm, workload, and public expense that broader access would bring. Marijuana has a high potential for abuse, as repeatedly affirmed by HHS and DEA. No scientific basis has been presented to justify de-scheduling, and the rising potency of THC products only increases public health and safety risks.

NSA urges you to oppose H.R. 2934. NSA remains committed to working with Congress to develop effective, evidence-based drug policy that supports state flexibility without compromising enforcement integrity or public safety.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Kieran Donahue
Canyon County, Idaho
President
National Sheriffs' Association

Jonathan Thompson
Executive Director, CEO
National Sheriffs' Association

Enclosure: NSA Comments to DEA's NPRM Marijuana Rescheduling