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PRESS RELEASE

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Attorney General Brown Urges DEA to Reschedule Cannabis in the Interest of Public Health and Safety

BALTIMORE, MD (January 12, 2024) – Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown today joined a coalition of 12 Attorneys General in a [letter](#) encouraging the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to reschedule cannabis to Schedule III under the federal Controlled Substances Act in the interest of public health and safety.

In the letter to DEA Administrator Anne Milgram, the coalition explains that rescheduling cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III is supported by the scientific and medical conclusions of the Food and Drug Administration. It will allow the state-regulated cannabis industry to continue to set standards for legal products that protect consumers and work to eliminate the illegal cannabis market and unregulated intoxicating hemp products. Rescheduling will also promote research to determine the physical and mental impacts of cannabis use, particularly among youth, and will allow legitimate cannabis businesses to take tax deductions to expand their investments and focus on public health and safety in collaboration with law enforcement.

The regulated cannabis marketplace currently brings billions of dollars of revenue into state and federal governments. It is predicted that by 2027, retail cannabis sales will exceed \$53 billion nationally. According to the Maryland Cannabis Administration, the cannabis industry in Maryland generated nearly \$800 million in medical and adult use sales in 2023 alone. The State has collected more than \$12 million in adult use cannabis tax revenue in the first three months of taxable adult use sales.

In signing the letter, Attorney General Brown joins the Attorneys General of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Oregon, and Rhode Island.

<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2024/011224c.pdf>