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October 10th, 2022  
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to you today to formally and respectfully request that you [keep your promise](#) to release cannabis prisoners, and use your presidential power of clemency and pardon to release a minimum of 100 federal cannabis prisoners. Your recent executive order, while a great first step, did nothing to address the thousands of federal cannabis prisoners currently incarcerated in federal prison. Due to the urgency of this request, which thus far has gone ignored, we will be mobilizing for a peaceful day of action at the White House on October 24th. We would prefer not to have to escalate our protests, however your administration has thus far refused to release our incarcerated neighbors, friends, and family members and it is therefore our moral duty to mobilize sufficient public attention to your lack of action on this urgent injustice that you promised to address.

While your recent executive order will help many, it will not release a single one of the nearly 2,800 federal cannabis prisoners. Eighteen states and the District of Columbia have legalized cannabis, yet there are thousands of Americans who are serving long-term prison sentences, including some life sentences, in federal facilities for conduct involving amounts of cannabis that are far less than what dispensaries routinely handle on a daily basis. Under your watch, billions of dollars are being made for wealthy corporations, while real people, disproportionately people of color, are wasting their lives in cages. As members of the cannabis justice movement, we respect the progress you've helped usher in, and know it is only the first step in the long road toward justice for our communities.

This injustice has been [brought to your attention](#) by multiple sitting Senators. Senators Warren (MA), Markey (MA) and Merkley (OR) wrote to you on November 9th of 2021, urging you to release our incarcerated family members. Shortly thereafter, on December 21, 2021, your former White House [Press Secretary Jen Psaki said](#) very clearly "I would just reiterate that the President has every intention of using his clemency power." Releasing federal cannabis prisoners would go a long way in ending the nightmare that is the War on Drugs. Your leadership would show the voters that Democrats follow through on their campaign promises, giving the millions of cannabis voters a real reason to vote in November.

Sensibly,

Students for Sensible Drug Policy  
DC Marijuana Justice  
Virginia Marijuana Justice  
Better Organizing to Win Legalization  
Midwest CannaWomen  
Farmer & Freeman LLC  
Root & Rebound  
Law Offices of Omar Figueroa  
Maryland NORML

The Last Prisoner Project  
Maryland Marijuana Justice  
New York Marijuana Justice  
Asian Cannabis Roundtable  
Maryland Marijuana Justice  
Norml National Care Givers  
CT CannaWarriors  
CURE CT