

November 6, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
Governor of New York State
633 Third Avenue
New York NY 10017

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Governor of Rhode Island
82 Smith Street
Providence RI 02903

The Honorable Ned Lamont
Governor of Connecticut
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford CT 06106

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey
125 West State Street
Trenton NJ 08625

The Honorable Charlie Baker
Governor of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State House
Room 280
Boston MA 02133

Dear Governors Cuomo, Lamont, Murphy, Raimondo, Wolf, and Baker:

The United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) represents 1.3 million members in cannabis, grocery, retail, meatpacking, food processing, and other industries across the country. This includes more than 300,000 hardworking men and women in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts.

Your joint agreement to limit licensing, prioritize small businesses, and develop programs to help those with past convictions will support thousands of good jobs, strengthen our region's economy, and move our nation closer to a unified cannabis policy that expands opportunities for working families across the country.

Since, 2010, the UFCW has been a leader in the cannabis industry, representing thousands of cannabis workers in 12 states around the country.

UFCW understands that strengthening worker rights and safety standards are essential to a successful cannabis industry and we urge you to prioritize labor peace agreements in the new joint framework on cannabis reached by your states.



Labor peace agreements between an employer and union ensure employer neutrality if employees wish to form a union and strengthen overall workplace stability. These agreements also improve safety standards for workers and consumers.

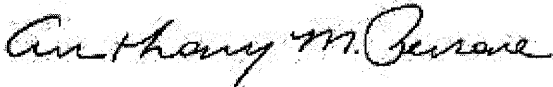
Labor peace agreements also ensure that workers have an independent voice and can speak out about any compliance concerns without fear of retaliation. Workers are on the front lines and are often the first to identify health and safety issues. When workers are empowered to speak out, states can strengthen compliance efforts. New York and New Jersey already have labor peace agreements in place for medical cannabis businesses.

Simply put, labor peace agreements benefit consumers and regulators, strengthen the voices of workers, foster healthy employer-employee relationships, and help businesses recruit and retain the talent they need to succeed.

We strongly encourage you to consider requiring labor peace agreements for cannabis licensing in your states.

UFCW is proud to partner with elected officials and cannabis industry leaders to support workers in this growing industry across the country. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts have the strong foundation needed to create the good jobs and economic growth working families in your communities deserve.

Sincerely,



Anthony M. Perrone, International President
UFCW International Union



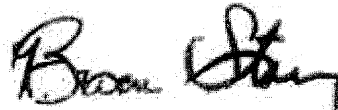
David Young, International Vice President
Region Director, UFCW Region 1 - Northeastern



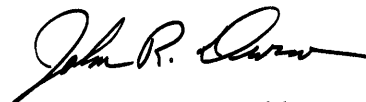
Timothy M. Melia, President
UFCW Local No. 328



Stuart Appelbaum, Executive Vice President
President, RWDSU District Council



Brian L. String, President
UFCW Local No. 152



John R. Durso, President
UFCW Local No. 338
RWDSU District Council



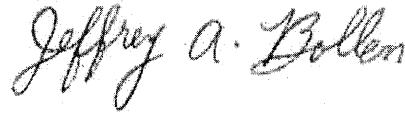
Salvatore "Sam" Ferraino, President
UFCW Local No. 360



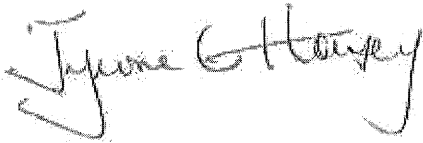
Thomas A. Wilkinson, President
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UFCW Local No. 1776KS



Dave Mertz, New York City Director
RWDSU District Council