



National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

4350 North Fairfax Drive
Suite 910
Arlington, VA 22203
Tel: 202-296-9680 | Fax: 703-880-0509
www.nasda.org

May 8, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Comer
United States House of Representatives
1513 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Leader McConnell and Representative Comer,

On behalf of the nation's Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture, I am pleased to write in support of your leadership in introducing the Hemp Farming Act of 2018 ([S. 2667/H.R. 5485](#)). This bill addresses numerous issues hindering the success of industrial hemp pilot programs allowed under the 2014 Farm Bill.

NASDA specifically supports the removal of industrial hemp from the Schedule I substance list under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). The CSA does not specifically distinguish between marijuana and industrial hemp which is what causes the most issues for producers, manufacturers, and retailers today. NASDA supports the definition of hemp created within the bill which states:

The term 'hemp' means the plant Cannabis sativa L. and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis.

NASDA also supports the clarification provided by the bill which prohibits interference in the interstate transportation or commerce of hemp or hemp products. There are currently disparate documents which create confusing standards on interstate commerce for states attempting to secure seed and plant shipments from other states in accordance with the 2014 Farm Bill.

NASDA urges Congress to swiftly pass the Hemp Farming Act of 2018 to address the numerous issues hindering the success of the industrial hemp industry and provide an opportunity towards full commercialization of this new crop opportunity for farmers. Please contact Amanda Culp at amanda@nasda.org or (202) 296-9680 with additional questions. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara P. Glenn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Barbara P. Glenn, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer