

TRUCE Calls on FDA to Recognize CBD as a Dietary Supplement and Address Inconsistencies in Cannabis Policy

Salt Lake City, UT - Today, TRUCE, a patient advocacy organization for cannabis education and policy reform, released a statement condemning the recent actions and announcements by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding CBD and their refusal to treat it as a dietary supplement.

"The FDA's refusal to recognize CBD as a dietary supplement undermines the legalization of CBD in the 2018 Farm Bill," said TRUCE President Christine Stenquist. "The Farm Bill legalized hemp cultivation, defined as cannabis with less than 0.3% THC, and removed it from the controlled substances list. This means that hemp and hemp-derived products, including CBD, should not be subject to the same restrictions as cannabis with higher THC levels."

The FDA's lack of regulation and oversight has led to a proliferation of CBD products being sold everywhere, including gas stations and online retail stores. Many of these products need to reflect accurate labeling, raising concerns about the product's safety, purity, and quality. Additionally, the explosion of the Delta 8 and the unregulated hemp-derived THC market has led to confusion and uncertainty about the legality and safety around the extraction practice of those products.

"Epidiolex, a cannabis-derived seizure medication, is available as a prescription. CBD is being sold over the counter. Yet cannabis is still considered a Schedule 1 substance. This clearly shows the inconsistency of government policies towards cannabis," said Stenquist. "Schedule 1 substances have a high potential for abuse and no accepted medical use. This classification is at odds with the growing body of research that suggests that CBD and other compounds in cannabis have therapeutic potential."

TRUCE calls on the FDA to recognize CBD as a dietary supplement. Federal agencies and Congress must create a consistent and sensible framework for cannabis that acknowledges the different uses and benefits of the plant. This would involve declassifying cannabis and hemp-derived products such as CBD to a schedule that reflects their potential medical benefits and low risk of abuse.

This framework must include the development of standards and regulations for the manufacturing and labeling of CBD and hemp-derived products. This will ensure that they are safe and of high quality, while increasing patient and consumer protection.

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For information about TRUCE and our mission, visit www.truceutah.org.

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