

Trump, Harris, Vance, Walz: End Cannabis Criminalization in FL

New Ad for Florida's Cannabis Legalization Initiative Highlights Rare Bipartisan Consensus

A new ad supporting Florida's marijuana legalization initiative, *Amendment 3*, spotlights an uncommon agreement among presidential candidates and their running mates from both major political parties: all oppose criminalizing cannabis users. The ad, titled "*We're All Saying the Same Thing*," was launched by the Smart & Safe Florida campaign on Wednesday, emphasizing a growing bipartisan push for cannabis reform.

A Unified Message on Cannabis Reform

The ad features clips from Vice President Kamala Harris, her running mate Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, former President Donald Trump, and Ohio Senator JD Vance, who is Trump's vice-presidential pick. Despite their differing political affiliations and approaches to cannabis, the message is clear: criminal penalties for marijuana possession should be a thing of the past.

"It's not politics. It's common sense. We're all saying the same thing: no one should be arrested for possessing small amounts of marijuana," says the narrator in the ad, reinforcing the campaign's central message.

Kamala Harris and Tim Walz Advocate for Federal and State-Level Reform

The ad showcases Kamala Harris reiterating her support for cannabis legalization during a recent interview with former NBA players Matt Barnes and Stephen Jackson on the podcast *All the Smoke*. Harris, a long-time advocate for federal cannabis reform, has pushed for the decriminalization and legalization of marijuana as part of her broader criminal justice reform agenda.

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, who recently signed a law legalizing recreational cannabis in his state, also appears in the ad. Like Harris, Walz supports federal reform but believes states should have the primary role in determining marijuana policy. Walz's comments reflect a growing number of state leaders taking action to regulate cannabis in the absence of comprehensive federal guidelines.

Trump and Vance on States' Rights and Cannabis Reform

Former President Donald Trump, a resident of Florida, has endorsed *Amendment 3*, which would legalize adult-use recreational marijuana in the state. The ad features clips of Trump from as early as 2015, when he advocated for marijuana to remain a state issue, alongside more recent comments where he expressed support for federal rescheduling of cannabis and improving access to banking for the cannabis industry. Trump's stance aligns with the broader movement toward cannabis reform, despite his party's mixed positions on the issue.

Ohio Senator JD Vance, Trump's running mate, also appears in the ad. Vance has been a vocal advocate for states' rights and has criticized federal intervention in marijuana regulation. While Vance has not been a vocal supporter of recreational cannabis, especially after Ohio's voters legalized it last November, his inclusion in the ad highlights the bipartisan nature of the conversation surrounding cannabis reform.

Smart & Safe Florida Campaign Pushes for Legalization

The Smart & Safe Florida campaign, which is behind the *Amendment 3* initiative, hopes to bring adult-use recreational marijuana to the Sunshine State. The campaign's spokesperson, Morgan Hill, emphasized that the issue transcends party politics.

"Supporting the legalization of recreational adult-use marijuana is about upholding the principles of individual freedom and liberty that our country was founded upon," Hill said in a statement. "*Amendment 3* will end the unjust and unneeded arrests of individuals who consume marijuana for personal use, give adults the right to make their own choices, and honor the core values that define the Free State of Florida and our nation."

The ad's focus on bipartisan figures and the common ground shared by political rivals demonstrates that cannabis reform is an issue gaining traction across the political spectrum. The Smart & Safe Florida campaign is banking on this message to appeal to a broad base of voters ahead of the upcoming elections.

Broader Implications of Amendment 3

If passed, *Amendment 3* would legalize the recreational use of marijuana for adults in Florida, joining a growing number of states that have already enacted similar measures. Supporters of the initiative argue that legalization would not only promote individual freedoms but also bring economic benefits by generating tax revenue and reducing the strain on law enforcement resources.

However, the road to legalization has faced opposition, particularly from conservative groups concerned about potential increases in drug use and the challenges of regulating a new industry. Despite this, the Smart & Safe Florida campaign remains optimistic that the wide-ranging support from both sides of the aisle will propel the amendment to victory.

A Bipartisan Push for Change

As the debate over cannabis legalization continues to unfold, the Smart & Safe Florida campaign's new ad underscores the growing bipartisan support for reform. By highlighting statements from both Democratic and Republican leaders, the campaign seeks to demonstrate that cannabis legalization is no longer a polarizing issue but one rooted in common sense and shared values.

With the support of political figures from both sides, *Amendment 3* could mark a pivotal moment in Florida's journey toward legalizing recreational marijuana, reinforcing the state's reputation as a bastion of individual liberty and personal choice.

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