

Understanding the Confusion: Regulated Cannabis Seizures in New Mexico

A Troubling Trend

A New Mexico congressman is pressing the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to account for what regulated marijuana operators claim is a concerning series of seizures of state-legal cannabis at Customs and Border Protection (CBP) checkpoints.

Incidents of Seizures

Six incidents of product loss totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars have been reported by licensed marijuana companies in New Mexico since February, sparking concern among industry stakeholders.

Interception Details

Between Feb. 14 and April 18, agents intercepted state-regulated marijuana products at CBP checkpoints in Alamogordo and Las Cruces, New Mexico. Products seized included various cannabis forms, from flower to concentrates to edibles.

Industry Impact

The seizures have had a chilling effect on New Mexico's regulated cannabis industry, causing significant financial losses and raising questions about the safety of transporting state-legal products.

Federal Response

Federal officials indicated that the interceptions will continue, citing the federal illegality of marijuana and the duty of CBP to enforce federal law.

Industry's Plea

Industry stakeholders are urging for Border Protection policies to be updated to allow for the legal transport of state-regulated cannabis and for seized products to be returned.

Congressional Action

State and federal elected officials, including U.S. Rep. Gabe Vasquez, are taking notice of the issue and seeking clarification from federal authorities.

Uncertain Future

The situation remains unresolved, leaving New Mexico cannabis operators uncertain about the future of transporting their products and the potential risks involved.

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