

DEA Rescheduling Controversy: Anti-Pot Group Alleges Exclusion of Administrator

As the federal government undergoes the process of reclassifying cannabis, recent claims have cast a shadow over the transparency and integrity of the proceedings. On Monday, Kevin Sabet, co-founder of Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM), took to social media to allege that Anne Milgram, Administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), did not sign the order to reschedule cannabis under Schedule III.

The Allegations

Sabet's assertions challenge established protocols, citing insider sources within and outside the DEA. According to Sabet, this departure from precedent raises serious questions about the legitimacy of the rescheduling process, which has garnered attention and controversy in recent months.

The Rescheduling Process

The Associated Press had reported on April 30th that the DEA would be moving cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III, following directives from President Joe Biden in October 2022. This decision, part of a protracted evaluation, has been met with anticipation and scrutiny from various quarters.

Response from Milgram and Critics

Milgram's appearance before Congress on Tuesday, during a budget hearing, initially sidestepped questions regarding the Schedule III announcement due to the ongoing rulemaking process. However, Sabet commended Milgram for what he perceives as a principled stance against political pressures, suggesting that her actions may resonate positively in history.

Critique of the Process

Sabet's remarks extend beyond mere criticism of the decision itself, addressing what he perceives as systemic flaws in the rescheduling review initiated by the Biden administration. He suggests that political considerations have tainted the process, undermining its credibility and integrity.

Kevin Sabet: A Background

Kevin Sabet's involvement in drug policy spans multiple administrations, where he has consistently opposed cannabis reform efforts. As a co-founder of SAM, he actively advocates against cannabis legalization, often engaging in debates and public discourse to advance his viewpoints.

Recent Engagements

Sabet's recent appearance on C-SPAN saw him debating with Paul Armentano of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). During the discussion, a caller raised concerns about the link

between cannabis use and mental health issues. However, Armentano revealed that the caller was a member of SAM, prompting further scrutiny of the tactics employed by anti-cannabis organizations.

Future Outlook

With Milgram's recent testimony providing a glimpse into the ongoing deliberations surrounding cannabis rescheduling, it is likely that further revelations and discussions will unfold in the coming weeks. As stakeholders await clarity on this matter, the controversy surrounding the alleged exclusion of the DEA Administrator from the decision-making process persists.

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