
NJ Senator's Rice and Singer Introduce Bill to "Decriminalize" Marijuana Possession - *NJ Cannabis Blog*

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Members of the NJ legislature who have been opposed to marijuana legalization introduced proposed legislation that would decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana. The bill is proffered as a compromise piece of legislation intended to accomplish some of Governor Murphy's objectives but avoids legalizing marijuana. Under the bill, a person caught with less than 10 grams of marijuana would face a fine of \$100 for a first offense, and increasing fines for subsequent offenses. The goal of the bill is to reduce the number of people incarcerated and involved in the criminal justice system for possession of small amounts of marijuana. Opponents of marijuana legalization apparently hope that this type of decriminalization legislation will blunt support for broader legalization efforts. The Governor's office has not publicly commented on the new legislation.

Pashman Stein Walder Hayden is carefully monitoring developments in New Jersey and federally with respect to marijuana legislation and will be available to help its clients navigate the sure-to-be complex regulatory framework of this potential business frontier.

Please contact Sean Mack at smack@pashmanstein.com or 201.270.4919 for further information.