# **TED THOMPSON The Cannabis Landscape**



#### WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM THE WILD WEST?

The frontier mentality got things done, but at great human cost. Stories about good guys vs. bad guys sell newspapers, but distorts reality. Manifest Destiny was a dream that lacked guiding principles.

#### STRONG CANNABIS POLICY REQUIRES CONSENSUS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## CHALLENGES

Lack of accepted research into effects of use, dosages, delivery mechanisms State regulatory frameworks vs. federal frameworks, oversight, or guidance Lack of political consensus

## FINDING COMMON GROUND

Is there consensus on decriminalization?

What are the building blocks toward possible federal legalization?

Is there an opportunity for consensus on economics and safety, such as the SAFE Banking Act?

What kind of data holds the power to address concerns?

#### **FINDING COMMON GROUND**

**Poll Question**:

Are Republicans and Democrats on the same page when it comes to the decriminalization of cannabis?

YES

NO

#### FINDING COMMON GROUND

**Poll Question**:

What is the most important next step toward federal legalization?

- 1. Making the Economic Case
- 2. Scientific Research
- 3. Evaluating the outcome of state legalization

#### **FINDING COMMON GROUND**

**Poll Question**:

What is your major cannabis-related priority?

- 1. Breaking down the barriers to cannabis research
- 2. Decriminalization
- 3. SAFE Banking

### **ECONOMICS AND SOCIETY**

Cannabis taxes as new revenue; make black market stronger?

Cannabis use by safetysensitive employees (transit, teachers, police, fire, EMS, healthcare)

Patient guidelines for physicians Impact on insurance and Medicare

## **CFCR APPROACH**

FURTHER EDUCATION SHAPE FEDERAL Regulatory Policy PROVIDE Scientific Expertise

CHAMPION SOCIAL JUSTICE

Federal regulations must be informed by and grounded in science, best business practices, sound public policy, and social justice principles.