



CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER JOHN CHIANG

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Statement from Treasurer John Chiang on Trump's Pledge Not to Interfere With States Legalizing Cannabis Use

**SACRAMENTO –** *The following statement was issued by State Treasurer John Chiang on April 13, 2018.*

“Given that 44 states have already legalized cannabis in one form or another, it’s about time the slow clanking machinery of the federal government came around to respect the right of states to decide for themselves how best to approach marijuana.

“Assuming the White House doesn’t do another of its erratic flip-flops, I plan to work with Congress to forge implementing legislation that will allow California’s multi-billion industry to come out of the shadows. To the relief of many, this may not only lead to neutralizing the public safety risks associated with an underground, cash-only industry, but finally permit legitimate cannabis businesses to open a bank account, obtain a business loan, and operate like your neighborhood hardware store or cafe.

“We may not yet have all the answers necessary to fulfill the will of California voters when they passed Proposition 64, but today’s announcement means that the federal government may no longer be the heart of the problem.”

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