

Good Day,

My name is Bishop Robert L. Middleton, and I am the pastor of New Beginnings Ministry in Hamden, CT.

I'm writing because of my concern and support for passing the bill to legalize adult recreational use of marijuana in CT. While I have personal reservations regarding the use of recreational marijuana, I'm not unrealistic to the inevitability of its legalization in this state as well as others and with that in mind my concern is that Black and Brown people are included in the process.

I ask that in the spirit of fairness and equity that those who have been most adversely affected by the (current) laws and prosecution for the use/distribution of marijuana, are afforded the opportunity to partake in the benefits of its' legalization. This is an urgent matter and if there was ever a time to right the many historical and systemic wrongs against us as a people, Connecticut can be a forerunner in this process.

Thank you for your time and attention to this pressing issue and may God continue to guide you all with His wisdom.

Respectfully,

Bishop Robert L. Middleton