

# Northeast Sustainable Hemp Association

## STATEMENT ON HEMP AND CBD POLICY IN MASSACHUSETTS

The Northeast Sustainable Hemp Association (NOSHA) is a grassroots association of independent and craft farmers, processors, product manufacturers, retailers and consumers. In response to the recent developments regarding hemp and CBD regulation in Massachusetts we are issuing this statement:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has developed a thriving cannabis sector despite federal constraints on cannabis. Massachusetts now has an opportunity to do the same for hemp. By supporting hemp farmers, processors, manufacturers, brands and retailers, Massachusetts can lead the way by fostering economic growth. But none of this can be achieved by generating new uncertainties or restrictions just as this market sector is emerging.

The rigorous safety testing protocols in place for marijuana also apply to hemp and hemp consumer products grown or produced in Massachusetts. Fortunately, these existing protocols provide robust consumer protection for hemp products, and therefore additional mandates for hemp are duplicative, unnecessary and overly burdensome.

To support a sustainable hemp farming and manufacturing sector, we need the legislature or regulatory agencies to clarify that the production, marketing, or distribution of food, food additives or any part of the hemp plant within the Commonwealth will not be restricted or prohibited within the Commonwealth based solely on the inclusion of hemp.

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