



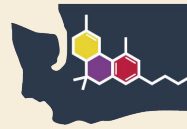
The Cannabis Alliance is a non-profit, member-ship-based association of individuals, businesses, government officials, and non-profit organizations [dedicated to the advancement of a vital, ethical, and sustainable cannabis industry.](#) We understand that the war on drugs has created misconceptions, mistrust and even fear about the industry and legalization. We want to change those perceptions and improve the business environment for our members through education, advocacy, and helping set the highest possible industry standards.

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# WASHINGTON STATE

## CANNABIS COMMISSION

### THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH

The farmers in Washington State produce over 500 different crops worth billions of dollars. All of these commodities receive extensive production research and technical support from Washington State University, the United States Department of Agriculture and other state and federal agencies EXCEPT cannabis. For example, every Washington farmer receives USDA funded pesticide applicator training, worker protection and safety training, but not cannabis growers. It is considered illegal for USDA to fund such vital work and WSU policy forbids providing such training least they lose their government funding. Washington's cannabis producers need a commission so they can pool their resources and self-fund research and education similar to other crops in the state. This will be the first commission on cannabis in the world and will provide patentable research; setting Washington State as the leader in safe cannabis production and handling.

### LEGISLATION IS NEEDED

The needs of the cannabis farmers are immediate. This is a high value crop that supports thousands of workers yet there is no science to support the safe growing and handling of this commodity. WSLCB is delayed in their effort to define product testing standards and DOE is still three years away from defining lab standards. A cannabis research commission would fund the science required to guide these efforts while supporting the cannabis farmers with the education they need. The legislative approach will streamline the process of establishing this important self-funded agency and indicate clear support from the state for long term safe cannabis production. The commission bill has been drafted with WSDA guidance and is closely modeled after [other state commissions.](#) The language has been vetted by the state Attorney General's Office, the Departments of Revenue, Treasury, and the Office of Finance. It also has supportive input from the governor's office.

### PESTICIDES AND PRODUCTION

Like any crop, pests need to be controlled safely and effectively and high-quality yield matters. Cannabis farmers have no solid research to guide them on how to best address the production challenges they face. Proper research, resources and training is vital for cannabis farmers who are currently left on their own to combat pests and molds or lose their crops. Washington's other commodity farmers are concerned for their crops' health from unwanted pathogens, pests or chemicals that improperly treated cannabis may cause. Commissions are important resources established specifically for farmers. They address the different challenges farmers face, research safe and effective solutions then educate their members about those tools. Commission research is shared with all farmers, not just the few who might be able to afford costly private research. The industry is in immediate need of research and education in order to help the farmers produce high quality and safe products; reflective of the agricultural powerhouse that is Washington State.

*"...of all of the crops grown in Washington, there is no crop that is more in need of a commission than cannabis growers. A cannabis commission is the single best mechanism to allow a grower to produce a crop that is safe for Washington consumers, cannabis growers and their employees."*

*-Alan Schreiber,  
Executive Director of Blueberry Commission  
and Asparagus Commission*



[washingtonstatecannabiscommission.com](http://washingtonstatecannabiscommission.com)