

## Memorandum

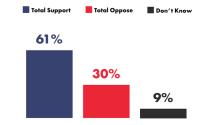
On behalf of the Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation (CPEAR), FTP Insights conducted an online survey of N=600 likely voters age 21+ in Ohio, including an oversample of N=100 Republicans.

Our survey found that Ohio voters strongly support allowing states to make their own decision about cannabis policy, with specific support for the Strengthening the Tenth Amendment Through Entrusting States (STATES) Act. The survey was

conducted February 13th through February 27th, 2024. The margin of error for N=600 is +/- 4.00% at the 95% confidence interval. Below are key findings from the survey.

There is robust support for the STATES Act among Ohio voters. This support extends across major demographic groups.

In our recently completed poll, 61% of Ohio voters support the STATES Act, which allows states to make their own decisions about cannabis policy (30% strongly support), with just 30% opposed (15% strongly oppose).



• This support extends across party lines, including 60% of Republicans, 68% of Democrats, and 43% of independents.

• Importantly, support for the STATES Act is strong across major demographic groups. This includes age (68% support among ages 21-44, 68% among ages 45-64, 45% among ages 65+), gender (59% among men, 63% among women), education (62% among non-college educated, 60% among college educated), and region (58% among Northern Ohio, 70% among Central Ohio, and 60% among Southern Ohio).

Description tested in the survey: As you may know, 38 states plus the District of Columbia have legalized some form of cannabis (also known as marijuana) use – medical, adult-use, or both – but it is currently prohibited at the federal level. The STATES Act would allow states that have chosen to allow adult-use cannabis in some form to implement their own policies. Cannabis would remain prohibited at the federal level for states who do not choose to legalize it. A candidate's support for the legislation makes them more appealing to Ohio voters.

Politicians who support the STATES Act could see a bump in support. Over a third (38%) of Ohio voters say they would be more likely to vote for a Congressional candidate who supports the STATES Act (15% much more likely).

Total more likely to vote Total less likely to vote It depends on other issues Don't know



• This includes 31% of Republicans, 46% of Democrats, 38% of independents, 50% of ages 21-44, 38% of ages 45-64, 26% of ages 65+, 39% of men, 37% of women, 39% of non-college educated, 38% of college educated voters, 37% of Northern Ohio, 40% of Central Ohio, and 38% of Southern Ohio who would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports the STATES Act.

• Only 21% would be less likely to vote for a candidate (14% much less likely), and 30% said it would depend on their position on other issues.

Protecting states' rights is the primary driver of support for the STATES Act.

In an open-ended question, 35% of Ohio voters who support the STATES Act say they do so because it protects states' rights to decide locally – more than any other reason. Other reasons mentioned for support include general support for cannabis legalization, being good for the economy, and allowing individual freedom of choice.

• Support for the STATES Act because it protects states' rights is a sentiment shared by 47% of Republicans, 26% of Democrats, 27% of independents, 32% of ages 21-44, 35% of ages 45-64, 39% of ages 65+, 35% of men, 34% of women, 33% of non-college educated, 37% of college educated voters, 38% of Northern Ohio, 24% of the Central Ohio, and 37% of Southern Ohio.

• Example open-end response: "The people have spoken in states where it's legal and the federal government should leave them alone." –Ohio voter

## Taken together, these results indicate that the STATES Act is good politics in Ohio – and good policy.

Our survey shows that in Ohio, voters believe that when it comes to cannabis, giving states more control is key. Voters across party and other key demographic groups support allowing states – not the federal government – to decide cannabis policy in their own state. In fact, a candidate's support for the STATES Act, which allows states to make their own decisions about cannabis policy, attracts voter support in Ohio.

These polling results also demonstrate that the STATES Act can be an ideal landing place for Republican lawmakers, as it reaffirms the fundamental conservative principle of states' rights while supporting important federal guardrails like preventing underage use and addressing concerns from law enforcement.