



CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER JOHN CHIANG

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Statement from California Treasurer John Chiang on Justice Department's Rescission of Obama-era Cannabis Policy

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – "Akin to the ill-conceived positions the Trump Administration has adopted on so many important public policy topics during the past year, Attorney General Sessions's decision today is out of step with the will of the people of not only California, but the 29 states that have legalized either or both medicinal and recreational-use cannabis.

"For years, red, blue and purple states have worked steadfastly to bring the cannabis industry out of the shadows so that it can be properly regulated to prevent sales to minors, to protect the public's health and safety, and ensure cannabis businesses behave as legitimate, tax-paying members of our economy. The action taken by Attorney General Sessions threatens us with new national divisiveness and casts into turmoil a newly established industry that is creating jobs and tax revenues.

"Until the slow, clunking machinery of the federal government catches up with the values and will of the people it purportedly serves, states —like California — will continue to both resist and, more importantly, to lead."

*For more news, please follow the Treasurer on Twitter at [@CalTreasurer](https://twitter.com/CalTreasurer), and on Facebook at [California State Treasurer's Office](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaStateTreasurersOffice).*

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