



October 22, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Global Hemp Association, I write respectfully to urge the Parliament of Albania and other institutions to support the National Albanian Hemp Industry Association's; "Vote for Hemp" campaign requesting to amend Law nr. 7975, date 26.7.1995 "On Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances" to meet the best international standards for supporting redevelopment of the industrial hemp industry in Albania. The redevelopment of Albania's hemp industry can lead to increased agricultural employment and exports, creating rural development opportunities, and reducing illegal cannabis cultivation.

The United States Farm Bill of 2018 set the limit specifically for Delta-9 Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) at 0.3%. On March 22 the final rules to the Farm Bill 2018 implemented changes to the industrial hemp regulations. These new regulations allow for some additional support for farms:

- Allow farms 30 days before harvest to get their plants tested for Delta-9 THC.
- Allowing hemp processors to remediate Delta-9 THC from harvested hemp that are between the range of 0.3% and 1% Delta-9 THC.

However, the Global Hemp Association, the Farm Bureau and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture in the United States are requesting the United States Congress to increase the Delta-9 THC limit for hemp to 1% because the current 0.3% requirement has proven unworkable, forcing many farmers to destroy their crops when they were slightly over the limit. We need Congress to change the definition of hemp to allow up to 1% Delta-9 THC so that farmers can grow hemp crops without fearing that they will later have to destroy them. We recommend a 1% THC limit for Albania as well. We would like to emphasize that 1% THC is not psychoactive at such a low level of THC.

The advantage of increasing the THC limit allows for the cultivation of more hemp varieties which can be approved for cultivation. There are possibly only a few hemp varieties that could produce less than 0.1% THC in a harvested plant, 60 to 70 hemp varieties that produce up to 0.2%, 300 to 500 hemp varieties which produce up to 0.5% THC and possibly thousands of hemp varieties which can produce up to 1% THC in a harvested plant. These higher THC ranges create production and trade advantages for countries allowing higher THC levels. A low THC level does not permit the use of varieties of seed from which plants can be grown for many desirable characteristics such as longer fiber stems, or more abundant seed for food or oil.

We look forward to supporting Albania's success with redeveloping its industrial hemp industry.

Sincerely,

Mandi Kerr

Mandi Lynn Kerr
CEO & Founder