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**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:18 PM  
**To:** Maxine Grad <[Mgrad@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:Mgrad@leg.state.vt.us)>; Tom Burditt <[TBurditt@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:TBurditt@leg.state.vt.us)>  
**Subject:** Amending H.548- Delivery Licenses for Qualified Social Equity Applicants

Good Afternoon Representatives Grad and Burditt,

My name is Nicholas Schuermann and I am the Executive Director of the Vermont chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). We are a fairly new advocacy group but we have high aspirations to foster fair, equitable and sustainable retail and medical cannabis markets in Vermont.

One of our initiatives is to develop and implement a social equity focused delivery license which would serve adult consumers and medical patients alike. The idea behind this is multi-faceted and tackles a variety of cannabis related issues. First, in an effort to address the harms done by cannabis prohibition, our goal would be to introduce and prioritize these licenses for qualified social equity applicants as defined by the Cannabis Control Board. Delivery licenses are low cost and do not require specialized knowledge relative to other licenses such as cultivation and retail. For this reason we believe it is perfect to tackle the State's goal of providing opportunities for individuals who have been negatively and disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition.

Second, a delivery license would do wonders for disabled and non-able bodied individuals who cannot adequately access adult or medical markets. Vermont is a rural state putting folks dozens even hundreds of miles away from any municipality which may host a medical or retail cannabis outlet. While Vermont already has a medical delivery program, it is insufficient to meet the needs of and serve all patients in the state. Developing a delivery license for retail sales would serve to bolster the medical delivery program as access to delivery outlets would increase significantly.

Finally, delivery has been debated, tested and succeeded in our neighboring state of Massachusetts, which Vermont has often looked to for guidance in cannabis regulation. Massachusetts has seen great success in their cannabis program, thanks in part to their robust delivery program. My idea would be to model our system similar to theirs with room for changes of course. I will link to their [FAQ page on delivery here](#).

We can all agree that cannabis prohibition has done generations of damage on low-income communities and those of color. We can also agree that unless you are able-bodied and have access to a car, it can be very difficult getting around rural parts of Vermont. By developing a social equity focused delivery license, we can tackle both these issues while increasing projected tax revenue for Vermont. Just released this week: [Cannabis Taxes Outpaced Alcohol Taxes in Massachusetts](#).

I thank you both for your time and dedication to cannabis related issues. I am eager to continue the conversation and move forward on this amendment so please reach out to me with any questions. My number is at the bottom of this email if phone calls are preferred. Thank you again and I look forward to hearing from you.

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Nick Schuermann, Executive Director