



Sent electronically [dan\\_geldon@warren.senate.gov](mailto:dan_geldon@warren.senate.gov) and [natalie\\_rogers@gardner.senaet.gov](mailto:natalie_rogers@gardner.senaet.gov)  
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June 7, 2018

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
U.S. Senate  
317Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
ATTN: Dan Geldon, Chief of Staff

The Honorable Cory Gardner  
U.S. Senate  
345 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
ATTN: Ms. Natalie Rogers, Chief of Staff

**Re: Support to Strengthen the Tenth Amendment through Entrusting the States Act (the STATES Act)**

Dear Senators Warren and Gardner:

As the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe prepares to enter the commercial cannabis market on its Tribal lands, we have seen firsthand the challenges caused by the current tension between Federal and state laws regarding the legalization of cannabis. As a strong advocate for governmental sovereignty and jurisdiction, we recognize the importance of granting to states and Indian Tribes the ability to choose for themselves whether to legalize and how to regulate the cannabis industry within their own borders. I offer this letter as Jamestown's support of the "*Strengthening the Tenth Amendment through Entrusting States Act*", (the **STATES Act**).

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe has long been a proponent of self-determination and is fortunate to enjoy a strong relationship with the State of Washington. As we prepare to enter the cannabis market, we have worked closely with our State to enter a cannabis compact that provides benefits to both parties, respects one another's laws, and provides a collaborative framework that protects the regulated system in our State. We believe that the **STATES Act** is consistent with these efforts and appreciate the assurances it provides to both states and Tribes that the markets they have created and the investments of time, resources, and effort they have made cannot be decimated by Federal action. The Washington State system—and we hope our upcoming entry into that system—has provided countless jobs all over our state, economic benefit to businesses in the market and those that support it, and needed financial resources to our State and Tribes.

Additionally, the Tribe supports the legislation in that it gives the banking industry the assurances it needs to open accounts for cannabis operators. We know our experience in trying to obtain banking services is not unique and that the financial services market is largely closed to the cannabis industry. We appreciate that the STATES Act addresses this serious public safety

issue by allowing banks to service the industry, thereby removing the dangers of an industry currently dealing nearly exclusively in cash.

We are grateful for your support of this important legislation. If I can be of any assistance in answering questions from a Tribal standpoint, please do not hesitate to contact me at [rallen@jamestowntribe.org](mailto:rallen@jamestowntribe.org) or (360) 681-4621.

Sincerely,



W. Ron Allen, Tribal Chairman/CEO

Cc: The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
The Honorable Patty Murray  
National Congress of American Indians