



Sample Comment Format

Comment Deadline: July 22, 2024

Introduction

RE: Docket No. DEA-1362

Thank you for the opportunity to comment upon the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to reschedule marijuana to Schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act, Docket No. DEA-1362.

I am [write a description who you are and what your interests in this rulemaking are. Don't forget to tell them that you are a Transportation Safety Professional.]

Because I am professionally involved with and dedicated to transportation safety in the United States, I am concerned that this rulemaking is likely to have serious consequences for transportation safety. If marijuana is moved to CSA Schedule III, this action will remove marijuana from the drug testing panel of the United States Department of Transportation (DOT). This will remove the highly effective deterrence that has been achieved by 35 years of testing DOT-regulated commercial transportation safety-sensitive employees for marijuana use. DOT safety-sensitive employees, include, but are not limited to: airline pilots, air traffic controllers, school bus drivers, subway and train operators, ferry operators, pipeline operators and truck drivers. These safety-sensitive employees have been subject to testing for marijuana and other drugs since shortly after catastrophic accidents caused by marijuana use occurred in the mid- and late- 1980s. We do not want to see the return of fatal accidents that occurred before the beginning of DOT-regulated testing more than three decades ago.

I am a member of the National Drug and Alcohol Screening Association (NDASA). I am aware NDASA is also filing comments to this docket that are being made in a similar way to support transportation safety and marijuana deterrence in commercial transportation.

Main Content Suggestions

Pick some issues worth disagreeing over in "Issues in the NPRM" and discuss them in your own words. **DO NOT SUBMIT THE ISSUES IN THE NPRM DOCUMENT TO THE DOCKET** [It is for reference purposes only to assist NDASA members in making comments on this rulemaking]

- Share your professional knowledge and data.



- Explain the impact the rule would have on your business if it were to take effect.
- Provide actual cost numbers or be as specific as possible.
- Point out any discrepancies between the agency's description of how the rule will work and the practical impact you see based upon how your business or industry operates in the real world.
- Provide details and examples of how the rule will affect your business, customers, policies and safety.
- Make clear requests or recommendations to improve the rule:

Conclusion

For the reasons states above, I recommend that marijuana remain n CSA Schedule I. If that is not possible, it should be rescheduled to nothing lower than CSA Schedule II, where HHS will remain able to certify laboratories to test for it. If the Attorney General and DEA move marijuana to Schedule III, there needs to be some form of a Safety Carve-Out to allow HHS to continue to test for substances below Schedules I and II. That Safety Carve-Out could be as simple as a new Executive Order to provide HHS with the authority to test for and certify laboratories for drugs below Schedules I and II. This would preserve the status quo for transportation safety.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and for the opportunity to raise significant concerns for the future of transportation safety that would occur if the proposed rule is finalized in its current form.

Name

Title

Company name

Instructions for how to file your comments

Electronic comments

DOJ encourages that all comments be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal, which provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or to attach a file for lengthier comments.

Please go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. and follow the online instructions at that site for submitting comments.

Upon completion of your submission, you will receive a Comment Tracking Number for your comment.



Submitted comments are not instantaneously available for public view on <https://www.regulations.gov>. If you have received a Comment Tracking Number, your comment has been successfully submitted and there is no need to resubmit the same comment.

The electronic Federal Docket Management System will not accept comments after **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 22, 2024**.

