

July 2022 Newsletter
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Standardizing Cannabis Lab Testing Proposed

The National Cannabis Laboratory Council is proposing a standardized testing system for cannabis products across the nation. Read more [here](#).

Senators Send Biden a Letter on Cannabis Descheduling

On July 6, six senators sent a letter to President Biden urging him to begin the process to remove cannabis from Schedule 1 of the Controlled Substances Act and to pardon additional nonviolent cannabis-related offenders. Read more [here](#).

NIDA Director Blog Discusses Pre-Addiction

Dr. Nora Volkow discusses pre-addiction in her latest blog post. Read more [here](#).

Study: Deaths Involving Methadone Overdose Decline

According to a study led by researchers at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control published July 13 in *JAMA Psychiatry*, the percentage of methadone-involved overdose deaths relative to all drug overdose deaths declined from January 2019 to August 2021. Read more [here](#).

Study: Methadone Access Doesn't Increase Overdoses

According to a new study published in *JAMA Psychiatry*, expansions to methadone access to treat opioid use disorder during the pandemic didn't increase the risk of overdose death. Read more [here](#).

House Passes Marijuana Research Bill

On July 26, the House of Representatives passed the bipartisan Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research Expansion Act. Read more [here](#).

Booker, Schumer, Wyden Introduce Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act

On July 21, Senators Schumer, Wyden and Booker introduced their marijuana decriminalization bill, revised from the draft version they released last year. Read more [here](#).

Senate Appropriations Committee Releases FY23 Bills

On July 28, the Senate Appropriations Committee released their FY23 spending bills, including the Labor-HHS bill. The Senate bill includes \$47.9 billion for NIH, a \$2 billion increase over the FY22 NIH base program level. The Senate included \$1 billion for ARPA-H within the NIH total. The bill also includes \$1.68 billion for NIDA, \$88.7 million more than FY22. Read more [here](#).

Senate HELP Committee Holds Fentanyl Hearing

On July 26, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee held a hearing titled, Fighting Fentanyl: The Federal Response to a Growing Crisis. Read more [here](#).

Senate Judiciary Hearing on Decriminalizing Cannabis

On July 26 the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism held a hearing titled Decriminalizing Cannabis at the Federal Level: Necessary Steps to Address Past Harms. Read more [here](#).