

# Troutman Pepper Locke Cannabis Communications Newsletter — July 22, 2025

## WRITTEN BY

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Troutman Pepper Locke's Cannabis Practice helps clients throughout their business cycle enter or expand into the cannabis space. Our team combines the resources of attorneys in areas such as licensing and taxation, regulatory compliance, corporate and transactional, intellectual property, and real estate, among others, to provide comprehensive services.

*Our Cannabis Practice provides advice on issues related to applicable federal and state law. Cannabis remains an illegal controlled substance under federal law.*

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## CANNABIS REGULATORY UPDATES

### CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING HIGHLIGHTS GROWING BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS ON THE NEED FOR FEDERAL CLARITY IN HEMP-DERIVED CANNABINOID REGULATION

By [Jean Smith-Gonnell](#), [Agustin Rodriguez](#), and [Cole White](#)

On July 17, the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture hosted a closed-door roundtable briefing focused on the regulatory gray areas surrounding hemp-derived cannabinoid products. The session, convened in response to ongoing concerns over consumer safety, regulatory ambiguity, and market disruption, featured expert insights from four panelists: Jonathan Miller, general counsel for the U.S. Hemp Roundtable; Pamela Epstein, chief legal and regulatory officer at Terpene Belt Farms; Cole White, attorney at Troutman Pepper Locke, in his capacity as special counsel for the Attorney General Alliance; and Dr. Gillian Schauer, executive director of the Cannabis Regulators Association. The discussion reflected mounting congressional interest in addressing the unintended consequences of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018's (2018 Farm Bill) legalization of hemp and its derivatives.

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### CLOSING THE LOOPHOLE: UPDATES ON FEDERAL AND STATE ATTEMPTS TO REGULATE INTOXICATING HEMP-DERIVED PRODUCTS

By [Jean Smith-Gonnell](#) and [Cole White](#)

Intoxicating hemp-derived products have proliferated across the U.S. under the guise of the 2018 Farm Bill's definition of "hemp." Although these products produce psychoactive effects akin to state-regulated cannabis products, they are often manufactured and sold with little oversight or regulatory controls.

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