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Industrial Hemp Legislative Update: *More than 5,900 Acres Licensed in 2015*

Throughout 2014, there were unprecedented actions to support the growing \$620 Million hemp industry in the United States. A bipartisan hemp amendment was included in the 2014 Farm Bill authorizing research and pilot programs in states where hemp farming or research is authorized under state law.

An industrial hemp amendment was included the FY 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Bill after it was passed by the Senate Appropriations Committee on a bipartisan 22-8 vote.

P.L. 113-79 (2014 Farm Bill), Sec. 7606, passed 225-200

- * *The Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research*
- * This language defined industrial hemp for the first time, and authorized state licensed pilot programs through Universities and State Departments of Agriculture.

P.L. 113-235 (FY15 Omnibus Appropriations Bill), Sec. 539, passed 246-162

None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 7606 ("Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research") of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration

Eight (8) state hemp bills have passed this year. Three (3) of the passed bills amended previous state hemp laws.

Twenty-five (25) states have laws allowing hemp production or research. They are: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia.

The market for hemp products in the U.S. estimated at \$620 million in 2014. Outdated and overbearing federal laws force U.S. companies to use imported hemp.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Farmers Union, and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, have current policies in support of industrial hemp production or research.

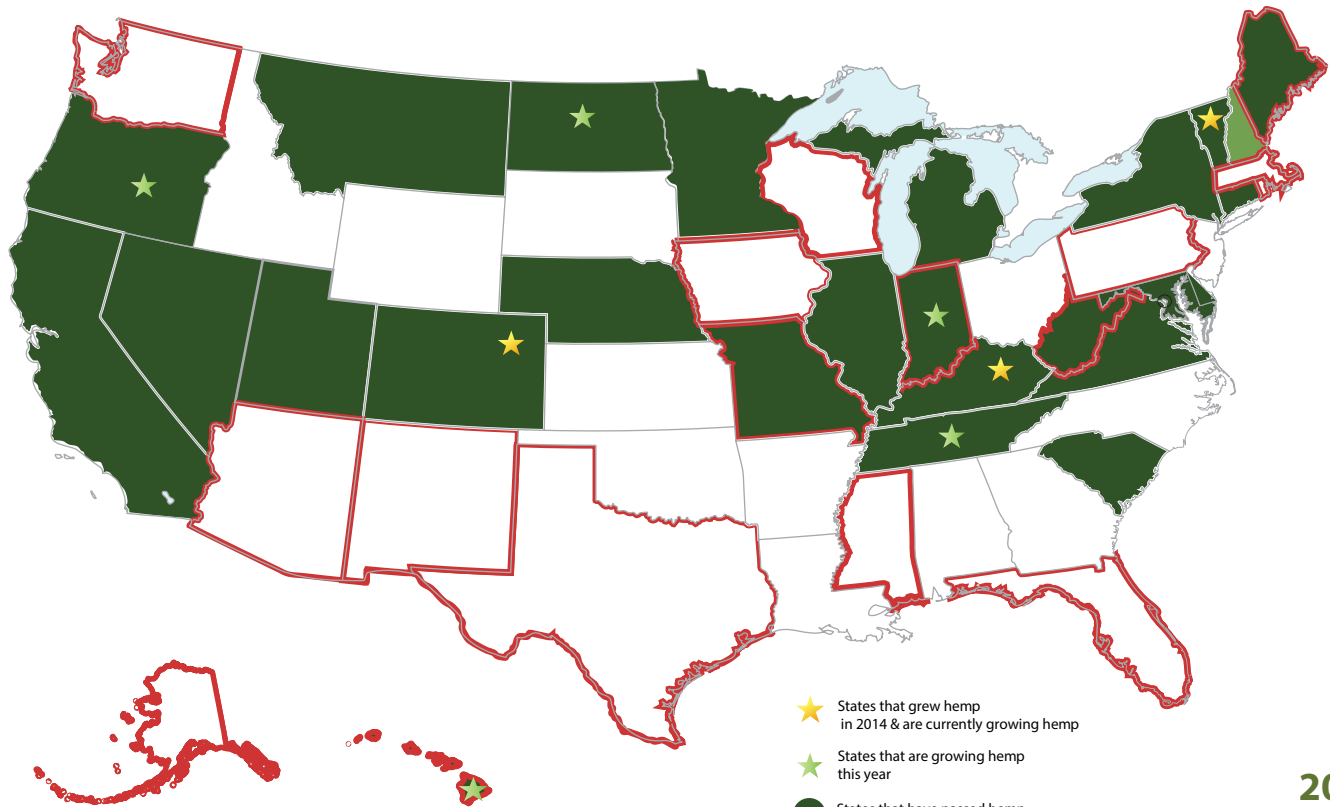
S. 134 Sponsor Sen. Wyden, Cosponsors: Sen. Merkley (1/8/15), Sen. McConnell (1/8/15), Sen. Paul (1/8/15), Sen. Gardner (2/27/15), Sen. Daines (3/9/15) Sen. Franken (3/9/15), Sen. Bennet (6/8/15), Sen. Tester (6/8/15) and Sen. Baldwin (6/17/15)

To become a Cosponsor contact: Erin Fauerbach in Sen. Wyden's office or Kaitlyn Conner in Sen. McConnell's office.

H.R. 525 Sponsor Rep. Massie, sixty (60) cosponsors and strong bi-partisan support

Support American Farmers, Create U.S. Jobs: *Cosponsor The Industrial Hemp Farming Act S. 134 & H.R. 525*

2015 State Hemp Legislation



- ★ States that grew hemp in 2014 & are currently growing hemp
- ★ States that are growing hemp this year
- States that have passed hemp legislation in accordance with SEC 7606 of the Farm Bill.
- States that have passed hemp legislation for the "study" of hemp
- States that currently have introduced or have momentum to have hemp legislation introduced & passed

Industrial Hemp Hemp Market Report

The sales data on hemp foods and body care, collected by market research firm SPINS, was obtained from natural and conventional retailers, excluding Whole Foods Market, Costco and certain other key establishments, who do not provide sales data — and thus it underestimates actual sales by a factor of at least two and a half. According to the SPINS data, combined U.S. hemp food and body care sales grew in the sampled stores by 21.2% or \$14,020,239, over the previous year ending December 31, 2014 to a total of just over \$80,042,540. According to SPINS figures, sales in conventional retailers grew by 26.8% in 2014, while sales in natural retailers grew by 16.3%. Indeed, the combined growth of hemp retail sales in the U.S. continues to steadily rise, as annual natural and conventional market percent growth has risen from 7.3% (2011), to 16.5% (2012), to 24% (2013), to 21.2% in 2014.

Source: "2014 Annual Retail Sales for Hemp Products Estimated at \$620 Million" HIA Press Release

