

From: [Ricky Lee](#)
To: [LCB DL Rules](#)
Subject: Social Equity Program
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 11:20:26 AM
Attachments: [Lee Petition.pdf](#)

External Email

September 17 2024

WSLCB Washington State Department of Commerce
1011 Plum St SE
Olympia, WA 98504

Subject: Social Equity in Cannabis Program (SSB 5080)

Rules Committee

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the continued inclusion of Certificate Holders in the Social Equity Program. I feel this program was specifically designed to address the historical injustices and systemic disparities faced by Black and Brown communities due to the War on Drugs including Cannabis. Allowing Certificate Holders to benefit from this program (SB5080) undermines the intent is a slap in the face and disrespects the trauma and struggles these communities have endured.

Certificate Holders do not represent the true victims of the War on Cannabis. Instead, these individuals and entities who have leveraged their resources to lobby for inclusion in a program never meant for them. These Certificate Holders have bypassed the fundamental intentions of the Social Equity Program which was created to provide opportunities for those directly impacted by the criminalization of Cannabis.

We urge you to take immediate action to remove Certificate Holders from the Social Equity Program. By doing so, we can honor the resilience of Black and Brown communities and uphold the principles of justice and equity that this program was founded upon.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Regards

Ricky Lee

Essential Lee Cannabis
Owner