

Let's Restore Common Sense to Industrial Hemp Classification
Please Sponsor and Work to Pass S. 134/HR 525
The Industrial Hemp Farming Act of 2015 into Law

It is time to recognize that industrial hemp does not fit the definition of a products that belong on the DEA's Schedule I of controlled substances. There is no capacity for this product to be abused as an illicit drug. S.134/HR525 seek to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude industrial hemp from the definition of 'marihuana'. Defines 'industrial hemp' to mean the plant *Cannabis sativa L.* and any part of such plant, whether growing or not, with a delta-nine tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis. Deems *Cannabis sativa L.* to meet that concentration limit if a person grows or processes it for purposes of making industrial hemp in accordance with state law, unless the Attorney General determines that the state law is not reasonably calculated to comply with such definition.

American farmers lose out on this cash crop because of this arcane legal designation. Consider the many environmental and economic benefits of growing hemp:

- Hemp does not require herbicides or pesticides.
- Hemp can be grown in a wide range of latitudes and altitudes.
- Hemp replenishes soil with nutrients and nitrogen, making it an excellent rotational crop.
- Hemp controls erosion of the topsoil.
- Hemp converts carbon dioxide (CO₂) to oxygen better than trees.
- Hemp uses less than half the water it takes to grow cotton.
- Hemp can be grown more than once per year.

United States is the number one consumer of hemp products, while China is the number one grower. Buick, long savored as a luxury car for middle class families in the United States has become the best-selling car in China – in part due to the tremendous profits being achieved from hemp production. How many of your constituents would like to be able to own a Buick?

There are 25,000 known uses for hemp ranging from automobile dashboards, door panels, trunks, interiors and other parts to clothing, paper, paint, fiberboard, biofuels, etc. Hemp can be used to make anything that can be made out of a petrochemical. Major corporations including Ford, Mercedes Benz, and BMW all use hemp products grown outside the US, manufactured outside the US and ship into the US for assembly. If hemp is grown in the US, the manufacturing of parts is most likely to remain here as well, meaning a boon to our jobs market.

According to the USDA, One acre of hemp produces as much cellulose fiber pulp as 4.1 acres of trees. (Dewey & Merrill. Bulletin #404. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture)

Anti-microbial properties of clothing/linens: The Chinese military has learned that in addition to the durability of the fabric (hemp is four times stronger than cotton), that hemp has an antimicrobial effect against staph infections. They now use hemp to make their military uniforms, socks, and bed linens. We should be exploring this opportunity for our own troops and for hospital and nursing home linens.

Great Southern Hemp Company - 204 Ehanwei Court - Louisburg, NC 27549
(954) 667-7767

(Facts retrieved from www.hemp-technologies.com)