



PAUL COHEN'S *Marijuana Hub*

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HOW TO MAKE MONEY IN THE MARIJUANA STOCK MARKET ELECTION'S EFFECT ON CANNABIS

THE MARIJUANA NEWS HAD A VERY SUMMARY OF THE ELECTION AND ITS EFFECT ON LEGALIZATION. WE QUOTE:

"TO THE RED-AND-BLUE MAP OF AMERICAN POLITICS, IT MAY BE TIME TO ADD GREEN. THE MOVEMENT TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA, THE COUNTRY'S MOST POPULAR ILLICIT DRUG, WILL TAKE A GIANT LEAP ON ELECTION DAY IF CALIFORNIA AND FOUR OTHER STATES VOTE TO ALLOW RECREATIONAL CANNABIS, AS POLLS SUGGEST THEY MAY. THE MAP OF WHERE POT IS LEGAL COULD INCLUDE THE ENTIRE WEST COAST AND A BLOCK OF STATES REACHING FROM THE PACIFIC TO COLORADO, RAISING A STRONGER CHALLENGE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S BAN ON THE DRUG. IN ADDITION TO CALIFORNIA, MASSACHUSETTS AND MAINE BOTH HAVE LEGALIZATION INITIATIVES ON THE BALLOT NEXT MONTH THAT SEEM LIKELY TO PASS. ARIZONA AND NEVADA ARE ALSO VOTING ON RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA, WITH POLLS SHOWING NEVADA VOTERS EVENLY SPLIT. THE PASSAGE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA LAWS IN ALASKA, COLORADO, OREGON AND WASHINGTON OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS MAY HAVE UNLOCKED THE DOOR TO EVENTUAL FEDERAL LEGALIZATION. BUT A YES VOTE IN CALIFORNIA, WHICH HAS AN ECONOMY THE SIZE OF A LARGE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRY'S, COULD BLOW THE DOOR OPEN, EXPERTS SAY.

"IF WE'RE SUCCESSFUL, IT'S THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE WAR ON MARIJUANA," SAID GAVIN NEWSOM, THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA AND A FORMER MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO. "IF CALIFORNIA MOVES, IT WILL PUT MORE PRESSURE ON MEXICO AND LATIN AMERICA WRIT LARGE TO REIGNITE A DEBATE ON LEGALIZATION THERE. "LEGALIZES MARIJUANA UNDER STATE LAW, FOR USE BY ADULTS 21 OR OLDER. DESIGNATES STATE AGENCIES TO LICENSE AND REGULATE MARIJUANA INDUSTRY. IMPOSES STATE EXCISE TAX OF 15% ON RETAIL SALES OF MARIJUANA, AND STATE CULTIVATION TAXES ON MARIJUANA OF \$9.25 PER OUNCE OF FLOWERS AND \$2.75 PER OUNCE OF LEAVES. EXEMPTS MEDICAL MARIJUANA FROM SOME TAXATION. ESTABLISHES PACKAGING, LABELING, ADVERTISING AND MARKETING STANDARDS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR MARIJUANA PRODUCTS. PROHIBITS MARKETING AND ADVERTISING MARIJUANA DIRECTLY TO MINORS. ALLOWS LOCAL REGULATION AND TAXATION OF MARIJUANA. AUTHORIZES RESENTENCING AND DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS FOR PRIOR MARIJUANA CONVICTIONS." NET ADDITIONAL STATE AND LOCAL TAX REVENUES THAT COULD EVENTUALLY RANGE FROM THE HIGH HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO OVER \$1 BILLION ANNUALLY. MOST OF THESE FUNDS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO BE SPENT FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES SUCH AS YOUTH PROGRAMS, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT. NET REDUCED COSTS POTENTIALLY IN THE TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ANNUALLY TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS PRIMARILY RELATED TO A DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF MARIJUANA OFFENDERS HELD IN STATE PRISONS AND COUNTY JAILS."