



**Department of Justice**  
Drug Enforcement Administration

*Office of Congressional Affairs*

*Springfield, VA 22152*

December 19, 2023

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Blumenauer:

Thank you for your October 27, 2023, letter regarding the scheduling of marijuana. We appreciate the opportunity to receive your concerns and questions.

On August 29, 2023, DEA received a letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) providing its findings and recommendation on marijuana scheduling, pursuant to President Biden's request for an administrative review. As part of this process, HHS first conducts a scientific and medical evaluation, and then DEA conducts its own review. DEA has the final authority to schedule, reschedule, or deschedule a drug under the Controlled Substances Act, after considering the relevant statutory and regulatory criteria and HHS's scientific and medical evaluation. DEA is now conducting its review.

We appreciate your ongoing interest in DEA's work, and we welcome the opportunity to work together on these important issues.

Sincerely,

*Michael D. Miller*

Michael D. Miller  
Acting Chief  
Office of Congressional Affairs