Don’t compromise away the opportunity for those MOST HARMED to benefit from marijuana legalization.

**ECONOMIC RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

Marijuana legislation must contain Economic Restorative Justice provisions. It should be crafted with a single goal - to repair the damage marijuana prohibition and biased policing has inflicted on those most harmed, the majority of whom are Black individuals, families, and communities. The objectives should prioritize business development, workforce development, and community development, creating a facility for wealth attainment and self-sustaining community economic growth.

Specific provisions in MRTA will perpetuate the existing underrepresentation of Black New Yorkers in programs like M/WBE and Affirmative Action that were conceived during the civil and economic rights struggle but diluted to include groups not involved in the struggle.

The legislation must be changed to meet the goal of providing Economic Restorative Justice to those most harmed only. Every opportunity should be taken to develop legislation that provides a business advantage for the MOST HARMED.

“The Negro has been inflicted with 244 years of slavery and 100 years of segregation. And so, with the legacy of these two unjust systems facing him, it is only natural that he is way behind. And he has been out of the mainstream of American life, he has been on the periphery of American life for all of these years. And it would really be a miracle, that history hasn’t seen for someone to start exactly 344 years behind in a race and get ahead or catch up—unless something special is done. We’ve had special treatment in the negative sense for 344 years. Now we’ve got to get special treatment in the positive sense, in order to catch up and improve these lagging standards.”

— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 1964 —
**Most Harmed**
Strictly defined as an individual or family members of individuals who were arrested, convicted, or incarcerated for possession of marijuana, or resided in communities negatively impacted by aggressive policing prior to 1980. This definition includes all races, genders, veteran status, and sexual orientations and ensures only those who have experienced the consequences will benefit.

**First and Only**
Only issue adult use licenses to Restorative Justice applicants for a period of at least three years. Alternatively, to preclude court challenges like Cambridge Mass, don’t issue any licenses for two years while the restorative justice applicants take advantage of the business development provisions.

**Micro Business License**
No size restrictions for Restorative Justice Licensees.

**No Income Restrictions**
No income restrictions will increase the pool of Day One licensees with the business skills and financial acumen necessary to build competitive businesses that integrate with the legacy market and incubates other restorative justice licensees.

**Exclusivity**
Dispensaries in communities MOST HARMED should be majority owned by Restorative Justice licensees only.

**Business Development**
Day One funding to community organizations with deep roots in the Most Harmed communities to provide ongoing recruitment of and technical assistance to legacy market operators to transition their businesses through the economic Restorative Justice legislation.

**Legacy Operators**
Day One funding to community organizations with deep roots in the Most Harmed communities to provide ongoing recruitment and technical assistance to legacy market operators to transition their businesses through the economic Restorative Justice legislation.

**Day One**
Creating a board, to create a plan, after obtaining public input will delay entry of Restorative Justice applicants for years. The plan and sufficient funding must be part of the legislation and be ready to launch upon passage.