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American Indian Tribe and Wisconsin Attorney General Reach Landmark Agreement Favoring Full Implementation of Tribe's Hemp & CBD Control Program.

Webster, Wisconsin. The St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, a federally recognized American Indian tribe in northwest Wisconsin, and the State of Wisconsin's top law enforcement official, Attorney General Brad Schimel, reached agreement favoring full implementation of the Tribe's hemp and cannabidiol ("CBD") control program and establishment of a tribally owned and operated hemp business.

In November of 2017, the Tribe adopted a comprehensive control program for hemp and CBD, a hemp extract widely recognized for its use in treating a variety of medical ailments and treatment of childhood epilepsy.

During the Tribe's approval process, the Tribe and Attorney General disagreed on the reach of State civil regulatory jurisdiction over the Tribe's hemp and CBD operations under Public Law 280, a Federal law that gives the State criminal jurisdiction over the Tribe. That disagreement resulted in legal action filed by the Tribe in U.S. District Court.

"The Tribe commends State Attorney General Schimel for working with our community to resolve any confusion over the Tribe's inherent sovereign authority to adopt and implement its hemp and CBD control program," said Elmer J. Emery, of the St. Croix Tribal Council. "The Tribe's hemp business will provide much needed revenue for essential tribal services, as well as economic development in Burnett County, which has one of the highest unemployment rates in the State. The Tribe is very pleased with the Attorney General's leadership on these issues, and decision to put our disagreements behind us. We look forward to continuing to work with the State both now and in the future."

"Hemp and medical CBD are legal and regulated in the State of Wisconsin," said the Tribe's legal counsel Jeff Cormell. "The agreement reached today settles a legal challenge filed by the Tribe in U.S. District Court and allows the Tribe to move forward with its own regulatory program for hemp and CBD, as well as establish a tribally owned and operated hemp business."

"Hemp and CBD are one of the fastest growing sectors of the burgeoning cannabis economy," said Brad Bartlett, senior counsel with the law firm McAllister Garfield. "This

landmark agreement ensures that the Tribe has parity in treatment with states when it comes to participating in the nation's new cannabis economy.”

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