

Dear Kansan,

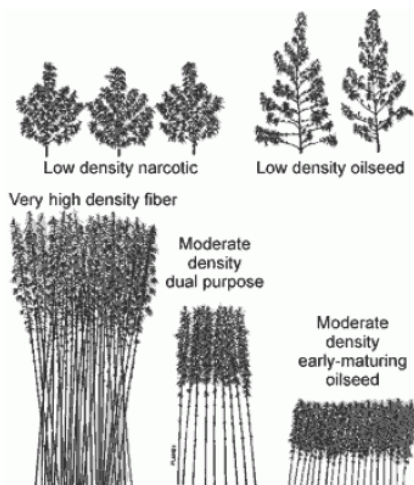
For the future of our nation's energy security, to keep our kids fed and safe, and to revive our economy at the state and national level, it is time to consider re-legalizing hemp.

Yes, hemp. It grows faster, using less water and chemicals, and produces more per acre than cotton, soybeans, and corn. Hemp leaves the soil in which it was grown healthier than it found it instead of stripping it like other crops do. This summer, the DEA "on crackdown" was able to spot cannabis plants more easily because they were still green and flourishing next to dead, brown conventional crops. A plant that can provide most everything these other crops give, thriving even in the horrible drought and excessive heat we experienced this summer, is being destroyed and prohibited by our government. We need to educate the public and our legislators about the benefits of this plant as an industrial crop, an alternative and companion to what we grow now. Hemp can make a difference. Hemp can pull us out of this rut of despair that has everyone wringing their hands and wondering about what will become of our future.

Just 6% of crop lands in the continental United States dedicated to growing Industrial Hemp would make our country energy independent. Hemp can be made into ethanol and biodiesel, the latter product being superior to other biodiesel alternatives because of its much lower gel point. The parts of the hemp plant not used to make fuel can be made into fabric, paper, concrete, plastic, and animal bedding. All here, in Kansas, and we have factories and plants sitting vacant, right now, that can turn this weed into sustainable products, money, jobs, and tax revenue for our state.

In this time in our world that feels unstable, in our country that seems hopelessly given away to the interests of the wealthy, a change in a few lines of our state's code can make a huge difference in our lives. Knowing that we are growing fuel in our state that can keep trucks running to keep grocery stores supplied in the event of a gasoline shortage or crisis, that we can cut down less trees to make paper products, that we can have an alternative source from which to make plastic products we have come to rely on, and that these peace of mind changes are being held back by special interests and under educated lawmakers is unacceptable.

Educate yourself and your friends, neighbors, and legislators on this change that needs to be made in our laws. We need to act (and succeed!) this legislative session to clear the path for energy and economic recovery and security to return to our state and nation. Information can be found at [kansashempyes.org](http://kansashempyes.org), and you can join our Facebook group, Kansans for Agricultural and Business Revival. Thank you for your consideration and support.



"Hemp is of first necessity to the wealth & protection of the country." — Thomas Jefferson

"Why use up the forests which were centuries in the making and the mines which required ages to lay down, if we can get the equivalent of forest and mineral products in the annual growth of the hemp fields?" — Henry Ford

It is easy to distinguish between industrial hemp and medicinal/recreational cannabis.