



JUDGE GRANTS TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST DEWINE'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL HEMP BAN

Columbus, OH — October 14, 2025 — A judge has issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) blocking Governor Mike DeWine's executive order banning hemp-derived products, marking a decisive victory for Ohio's farmers, small businesses, and consumers.

The ruling halts enforcement of the Governor's order, which declared a "public health emergency" and attempted to ban the sale of hemp products across the state without legislative approval. The court's action reaffirms the rule of law and underscores that the Governor cannot unilaterally legislate by executive fiat.

"This is a victory for Ohio's Constitution, for small business owners, and for the hardworking people who depend on this industry," said Dakota Sawyer, Chief Executive Officer of Statesman Limited, which represents members of the hemp and craft beverage industries. "Governor DeWine's order was not only unlawful — it was an abuse of executive authority that threatened to devastate an entire sector overnight. Today's decision restores sanity and due process."

The hemp industry in Ohio supports thousands of jobs and millions in economic activity. Producers, retailers, and farmers across the state have long operated under clear federal and state guidelines that define hemp as a legal agricultural product. The Governor's order would have reversed years of progress and investment, imposing new restrictions that bypassed the legislative process.

"We applaud the judge for recognizing the overreach and for standing up for Ohio's Constitution," Sawyer continued. "The courts have now made it clear — emergency powers are not a substitute for the legislative process."

Statesman Limited and its clients are continuing to engage with lawmakers to develop a responsible, science-based regulatory framework for hemp that protects consumers while supporting small businesses and agricultural innovation.

"This ruling should send a message to every branch of government," Sawyer added. "The rule of law still matters in Ohio. If the state wants to change hemp policy, it must do so through the legislature not through an executive order."