

Illinois Passes Legislation Making Medical-Use Cannabis Program Permanent and Expanding Qualifying Conditions

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CHICAGO--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **Cresco Labs Inc.** ("Cresco Labs" or the "Company") (CSE: CL) (OTCQX: CRLBF), one of the largest vertically integrated multistate cannabis operators in the United States, today provided comments on the passage of legislation on June 2, 2019 that makes Illinois' medical-use cannabis program permanent, expands the list of qualifying medical conditions, and allows for nurse practitioners and physician's assistants to certify a patient's eligibility for the program in addition to doctors.

"The legislation passed this weekend represents the acknowledgement of the enormous success of the pilot medical-use cannabis program put in place in Illinois in 2013," said Cresco Labs CEO & Co-Founder Charlie Bachtell. "With the expansion of the qualifying conditions and allowing for nurse practitioners and physician's assistants to also certify a patient's eligibility, more people suffering from debilitating illnesses like chronic pain, migraines and irritable bowel syndrome will be able to treat and manage the pain of their conditions with cannabis rather than highly addictive opioids. The expansion of the Illinois program will continue to set the bar for other states to follow and maintain the Illinois medical cannabis program as one of the best in the country. The new legislation also includes a social equity component, and our recently announced **social equity and educational development (SEED) program** will assist the state in meeting its goals to ensure that a broader segment of our population have the opportunity to pursue employment in the growing cannabis industry. To date, approximately 60,000 patients are registered for the Illinois medical-use program and we expect the expansion of the program to significantly impact the number of participants. As the current market leader in the medical-use cannabis program in the state, we have the cultivation capacity, dispensary network and distribution platform in place to effectively meet the increased demand for cannabis in Illinois that will result from the expansion of the medical-use program, as well as the legalization of adult-use cannabis beginning in 2020."

The market share leader in Illinois, Cresco currently distributes its suite of wholesale brands to every dispensary in Illinois:

- Cresco – an everyday cannabis brand with above-average quality
- remedi – products designed for the medically-minded patient, with forms similar to traditional pharmaceuticals
- Reserve – a premium cannabis line
- Mindy's Artisanal Edibles – a line of culinary-backed, cannabis-infused edibles created by James Beard Award-winning chef Mindy Segal
- Mindy's Kitchen – a line of fun, fruity confections

About Cresco Labs

Cresco Labs, based in Chicago, is a leading U.S. cannabis company with experienced management, access to capital and a demonstrated growth strategy. As a differentiated grower, processor and retailer of premium cannabis operating across the United States, the company focuses on entering highly regulated markets with outsized demand potential and strong regulatory structures. Its impressive speed-to-market gives Cresco a distinct competitive advantage as it replicates its model to expand its national footprint. Cresco's proven ability to execute is complemented by a cutting-edge brand strategy spearheaded by several of the brightest minds in consumer marketing in the nation. Cresco's products are tailored to all major consumer segments: everyday cannabis, medicinally focused, connoisseur grade, and chef inspired edibles by James Beard Award-winning pastry chef Mindy Segal. Learn more about Cresco Labs at www.crescolabs.com.

Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation and may also contain statements that may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking information and forward-looking statements are not representative of historical facts or information or current condition, but instead represent only the Company's beliefs regarding future events, plans or objectives, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of the Company's control. Generally, such forward-looking information or forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as, 'may,' 'will,' 'should,' 'could,' 'would,' 'expects,' 'plans,' 'anticipates,' 'believes,' 'estimates,' 'projects,' 'predicts,' 'potential' or 'continue' or the negative of those forms or other comparable terms. The

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