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## TEAMSTERS RATIFY FIRST CANNABIS CONTRACT IN MARYLAND

## Workers Blaze Trail for Industry-Leading Standards in the State

(ABERDEEN, Md.) – Budtenders and shift leaders at Ascend in Aberdeen, Md., have ratified their first collective bargaining agreement, making them the first cannabis workers in the state to be covered by a Teamsters contract.

"These workers stuck together and were fearless in advocating for themselves during this process," said Sean Cedenio, Secretary-Treasurer of Teamsters Local 570. "Their dedication is inspiring, and what we've accomplished here can serve as a model for other dispensaries throughout the state."

Teamsters already have a strong track record of securing strong contracts for Ascend workers in <u>Illinois</u> and <u>Michigan</u>. The new collective bargaining agreement guarantees the workers increases in wages, job security, paid time off, and safety improvements.

"More and more cannabis workers are rapidly realizing that a Teamsters contract brings the stability they deserve in an ever-changing industry," said Jesse Case, Director of the Teamsters Food Processing Division. "The Teamsters are rapidly becoming synonymous with long-term, stable careers in cannabis."

"Workers everywhere deserve quality wages and working conditions," said Ryan Bennett, a Dispensary Associate Lead and Local 570 member. "As the cannabis industry rapidly grows, so should the prosperity of the workers who make it successful. The Teamsters have a strong track record of giving workers of all stripes and industries a voice on the job, and this contract is proof of that."

Teamsters Local 570 represents workers in a wide variety of industries throughout Baltimore and the surrounding communities. For more information, go to <a href="https://www.team570.org/">https://www.team570.org/</a>.