

In The News

Akerman Partner Jonathan Robbins Anticipates More State Legislation to Protect Off-Duty Cannabis Workers

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A bill introduced in the California Assembly would prohibit employers from discriminating against workers and job applicants for off-duty cannabis use. If the proposal becomes law, California will become the seventh state to protect adults who legally use cannabis from employer sanctions. In a *Bloomberg Law* article titled, “Legal Cannabis Use Needs Workplace Protections, Some States Say,” Cannabis Practice Chair [Jonathan Robbins](#) said the push for new state laws comes in part from a tight labor market and efforts to increase equity in the workplace, as well as a diminished stigma for pot use – a trend that will continue across states.

“As long as the federal prohibition remains, you’re going to see states, in my opinion, continue to enact legislation to protect employees and make sure they are not discriminated against because they’re using cannabis. It will continue. It has to,” Robbins said.

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