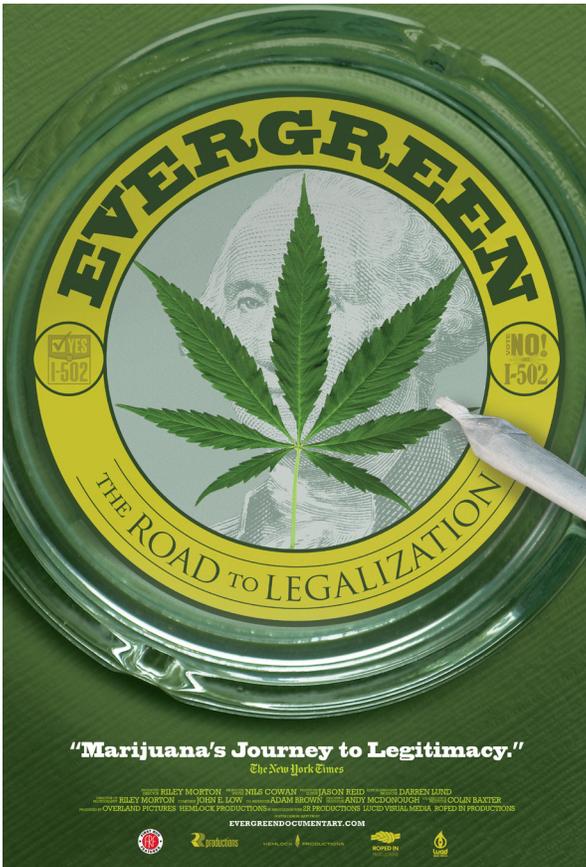


# EVERGREEN

## THE ROAD TO LEGALIZATION



“Marijuana’s Journey to Legitimacy. This assured documentary is loaded with rancor... the battle isn’t over whether pot should be legalized, but to what extent”

- Andy Webster

**The New York Times**

“A prologue to the next chapters of marijuana legislation... setting the stage for the discussion of federal legalization... captures a crucial moment in the future of marijuana activism”

- Eric Kohn

**Indiewire**

“Evergreen offers an important boots-on-the ground perspective... The personalities and rhetoric are colorful and the film’s presentation is lively”

- John DeFore

**THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**

“A fascinating, extraordinarily well-researched and executed doc... it’s all laid out digestibly and compellingly by Morton and his team”

- Brandon Harris

**FILMMAKER**  
THE MAGAZINE OF INDEPENDENT FILM

### FEATURING

**Rick Steves**, PBS Travel Guru / I-502 Sponsor  
**Alison Holcomb**, ACLU Attorney / I-502 Campaign Director  
**John McKay**, Former U.S. Attorney / I-502 Sponsor  
**Pete Holmes**, Seattle City Attorney / I-502 Sponsor  
**Doug Hiatt**, Defense Attorney / I-502 Opponent  
**Steve Sarich**, Medical Provider / I-502 Opponent  
**Vivian McPeak**, Director of Seattle Hempfest

### SYNOPSIS

Against the backdrop of the latest escalations in the 40-year-old U.S. War on Drugs, a state in the upper-left corner of America becomes a key battleground in the fight for cannabis prohibition reform. A growing medical pot industry paves the way for cultural change in Washington state, and the architects of Initiative 502 put forth a plan they feel will balance the delicate politics of the region and stand a chance to pass in November.

But many in the local cannabis community are vehemently opposed to I-502, saying it imposes harsh and scientifically arbitrary DUI laws, new taxes, additional restrictions and penalties that negatively impact youth, medical marijuana patients and providers. These unexpected opposing forces create a scintillating inside look at a political clash, showing just how advanced the perspective of many Americans has become on drug policy.

*EVERGREEN* is far from a basic survey film or issue piece. Its main characters, at once protagonists and antagonists, act and speak with incredible conviction and passion, engaging the viewer in a uniquely original and liberating point of view – that we should be debating not *whether* to legalize cannabis, but *how*.

**evergreendocumentary.com**

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**RUNTIME: 86 mins**



## A TIMELY AMERICAN CASE STUDY

*EVERGREEN: THE ROAD TO LEGALIZATION* is a captivating feature documentary on how the citizens of Washington state legalized recreational marijuana for the first time in America, including the groundbreaking effect of this unprecedented citizen initiative on the state, the nation and the world.

*EVERGREEN* tracks the behind-the-scenes efforts of both the pro-502 and anti-502 campaigns leading up to the historic vote of approval in November 2012. The film serves as a case study for other states in determining how to reform their own drug policies, examining the civics, economics, precedents and deep human impact of this controversial marijuana legislation. As Washington and Colorado lead the way, many other states are considering cannabis legalization in direct conflict with federal drug laws. This film captures the first wave of a revolutionary sea change in American drug policy.

## MEDIA IMPACT

"Riley Morton's resonant documentary examines two opposing fronts in the battle to decriminalize marijuana use... from the ground up with considerable clarity..."

- Ronnie Scheib, *Variety*



"You haven't seen the marijuana legalization debate rage on like this before... Both sides are given equal time, truly giving the film a sense of urgency that this type of issue truly deserves... a thrilling, stakes-raising bit of storytelling from everyone involved... A deeply vital piece of political discussion."

- Joshua Brunsting, *Criterion Cast Review*



"An engrossing behind-the-scenes look at how Washington state went from a politically polarized battleground to be one of the first states to pave the way for drug reform in the U.S... In conjunction with sharp editing and pacing, montages and interviews allow the nearly 90-minute film to roll seamlessly..."

- Sean Fitzgerald, *The Denver Post*



"The movie features accurate and well-edited interviews with key local, state and federal government officials... This is a well-produced documentary with well edited sound bites from many of the key people involved. 8/10."

- Ron Wilkenson, *It's Just Movies / Rotten Tomatoes*



"3.5 out of 4 stars. Enlightening... an energetic study of a hard-fought battle... a lively story about passion and political compromise."

- Tim Keogh, *The Seattle Times*



"Evergreen' reveals the weird lessons of Washington's weed battle... a fascinating case study in the promise and perils of ballot-box democracy."

- Andrew O'Hehir, *Salon*



"The best doc ever made on the subject of marijuana legalization... Extremely informative, very well researched and clearly presented."

- John McDonald, *The Video TapeWorm*



[evergreendocumentary.com](http://evergreendocumentary.com)

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## Festival and Limited Theatrical Run

New York, NY	Portland, OR
Seattle, WA	Corvallis, OR
Denver, CO	Orlando, FL
Durango, CO	Spokane, WA
Dormont, PA	Camas, WA
Anchorage, AK	Tacoma, WA
Salyulita, Mexico	Webster Groves, MO

**Winner – Silver Spiffy Award** *Spokane International Film Festival*

**Nominee – Golden Space Needle Award** *Seattle International Film Festival*

**Exclusive iTunes Release – September 2, 2014**



**Digital and Home Video Release – September 16, 2014**



**Produced by** veteran Seattle filmmakers Riley Morton and Nils Cowan with post-production by a Webby, Telly and Emmy® Award-winning team in Jason Reid, Darren Lund and Adam Brown.

**Featuring the music of** Blue Scholars, Common Market, Blue Sky Black Death, Eighty4 Fly, Art Vandelay, Mad Rad, D-Sane, The Maldives, Sweater Beats and Lisa Dank.

**Original Score by** John E. Low.

### CONTACTS

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**Adam Brown**  
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206-919-3778

**Andy McDonough**  
Executive Producer  
206-818-5191

**Darren Lund**  
Editor / Assoc. Producer  
425-503-3717

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