

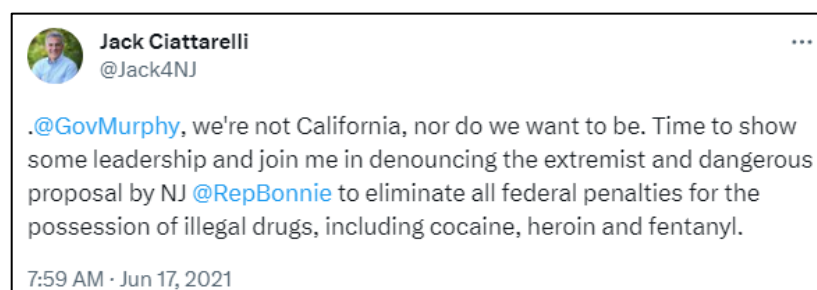
## ***Sue Altman Has Publicly Supported Legislation To Decriminalize All Drugs, Including Crack, Heroin, And Fentanyl***

### **In June 2021, Altman Criticized A Legislator Who Expressed Concern Over A Bill That Aimed At Decriminalizing All Drugs, Including Cocaine, Heroin And Fentanyl**

**In 2021, Reps. Bonnie Watson Coleman And Cory Bush Introduced The Drug Policy And Reform Act, Which Aimed To “Decriminalize All Drugs, Expunge Existing Records And Allow For Re-Sentencing ...” And Other Items.** “FIFTY YEARS AGO on Thursday, President Nixon declared a ‘War on Drugs.’ In a special address to Congress, he promised a coordinated federal response to drug addiction, which he described as a ‘national emergency’ that ‘destroys lives, destroys families, and destroys communities.’ Five decades and hundreds of billions of dollars later, the War on Drugs has done nothing to curb addiction. Instead, it has destroyed the lives, families, and communities of millions of Americans, disproportionately people of color, who have been incarcerated for drug offenses. Reps. Cori Bush (D-Mo.) and Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-N.J.) are attempting to undo some of this damage by introducing the Drug Policy Reform Act. The DPRA, which the two lawmakers are introducing Tuesday, would decriminalize all drugs, expunge existing records and allow for re-sentencing, and invest in health-centered measures to take on drug addiction. The bill has little chance of passing through Congress, but it will serve as an important legislative marker for the movement to end the punitive War on Drugs.” (Ryan Bort, “Democrats Introduce Bill To End The War On Drugs,” [Rolling Stone](#), 6/15/21)

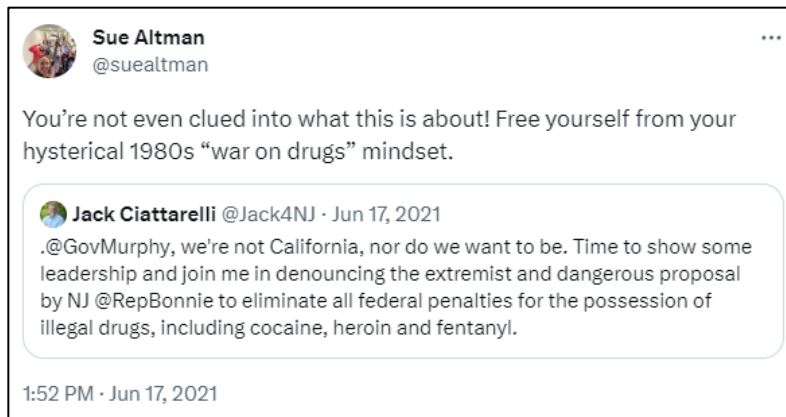
- **According To The Drug Policy Alliance, The Drug Policy Reform Act Of 2021 “Eliminates Criminal Penalties For Personal Use Possession Of All Scheduled Drugs (Marijuana, Heroin, Crack/Cocaine, Etc.).”** “Section 5: Eliminates Criminal Penalties for Personal Use Possession • Eliminates criminal penalties for personal use possession of all scheduled drugs (marijuana, heroin, crack/cocaine, etc.). • Individuals may still be fined for drug possession, but the court may waive this fine if it determines that an individual cannot pay. • Eliminates eligibility for Byrne or COPS grant programs for states and localities that maintain criminalization of personal use drug possession.” (Summary Of The Drug Policy Reform Act (DPRA) Of 2021, [Drug Policy Alliance](#), March 2023)

**New Jersey State Rep. Jack Ciattarelli, Who Was Running Against Gov. Phil Murphy At The Time, Called For Murphy To Oppose Watson Coleman’s Drug Decriminalization Bill, Because It Would “Eliminate All Federal Penalties For The Possession Of Illegal Drugs, Including Cocaine, Heroin And Fentanyl.”** “.@GovMurphy, we're not California, nor do we want to be. Time to show some leadership and join me in denouncing the extremist and dangerous proposal by NJ @RepBonnie to eliminate all federal penalties for the possession of illegal drugs, including cocaine, heroin and fentanyl. ([Jack Ciattarelli Twitter Feed](#), 6/17/21)



([Jack Ciattarelli Twitter Feed](#), 6/17/21)

**Altman Attacked Ciattarelli And Said “Free Yourself From Your Hysterical 1980s ‘War On Drugs’ Mindset.”** “You’re not even clued into what this is about! Free yourself from your hysterical 1980s ‘war on drugs’ mindset.” ([Sue Altman Twitter Feed](#), 6/17/21)

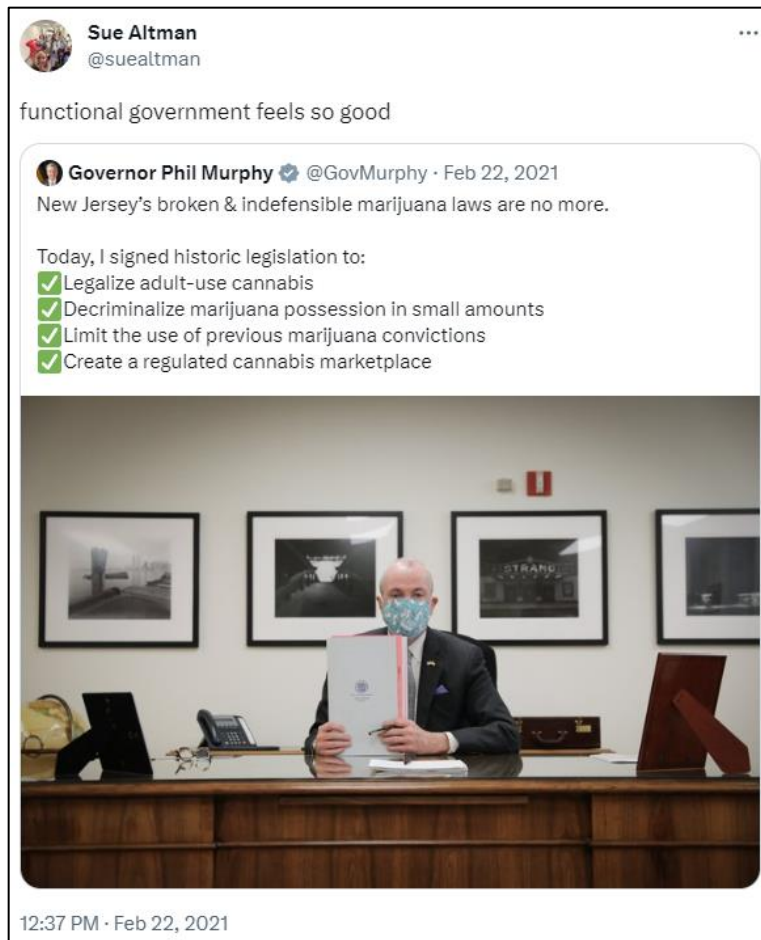


([Sue Altman Twitter Feed](#), 6/17/21)

## **Altman Supported Legalizing Recreational Marijuana**

**In February 2021, Gov. Phil Murphy Signed Legislation To Legalize Recreational Marijuana For People 21 And Older.** “New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy on Monday signed bills to legalize and regulate marijuana use for those 21 and older, decriminalize possession of limited amounts of marijuana and clarify marijuana and cannabis use and possession penalties for those younger than 21. ‘This legislation will establish an industry that brings equity and economic opportunity to our communities, while establishing minimum standards for safe products and allowing law enforcement to focus their resources on real public safety matters,’ Murphy, a Democrat, said in a news release, thanking legislative and community partners for their work on the issue. ‘Today, we’re taking a monumental step forward to reduce racial disparities in our criminal justice system, while building a promising new industry and standing on the right side of history.’” (Brian Vitagliano And Caroline Kelly, “New Jersey Governor Signs Law Decriminalizing Marijuana Use For Those 21 Years And Older,” *CNN*, 2/22/21)

**Altman Praised Murphy’s Signing Of The Legalization Bill, Saying “Functional Government Feels So Good.”** ([Sue Altman Twitter Feed](#), 2/22/21)



(Sue Altman Twitter Feed, 2/22/21)

## **Altman Supported Releasing All Prisoners Held On Cannabis-Related Offenses And Giving Preferential Access To The Legal Cannabis Market**

**In 2020, Our Revolution New Jersey Circulated A Petition Calling For State Lawmakers To Pass Legislation To Release All Prisoners Held On Cannabis Related Offenses, And For All Cannabis-Related Crimes To Be Expunged From Criminal Records.** “We are calling on the New Jersey Legislature, as well as the Cannabis Regulatory Commission, to do everything in their power to accomplish the following demands, which would allow for a more just legalization process: To provide justice to those who were arrested under the existing prohibition of cannabis, we demand the release of all prisoners being held on cannabis-related offenses and a speedy expungement of all cannabis-related offenses from all criminal records.” (“Prioritize Restorative Justice in Legalization,” [Our Revolution New Jersey](#), 8/20)

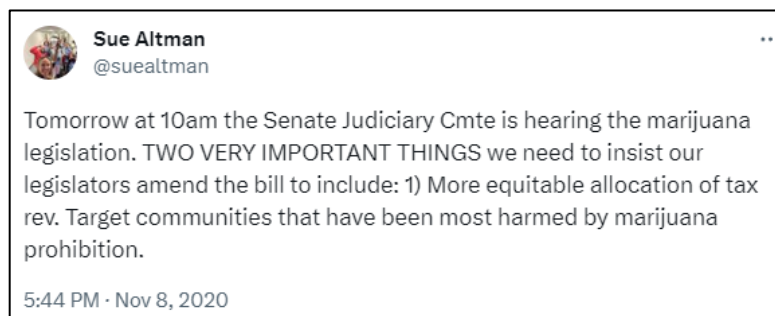
**The Our Revolution Petition Also Called For People Convicted Of Cannabis-Related Crimes To Be Given Preferential Access To Marijuana Grow And Sales Licenses, As Well As First Access To State Grants Or Loans Associated With Recreational Cannabis Businesses.** “We are calling on the New Jersey Legislature, as well as the Cannabis Regulatory Commission, to do everything in their power to accomplish the following demands, which would allow for a more just legalization process:... To restore justice to those harmed under the racist approach to enforcement of cannabis prohibition, we demand a transitional opportunity program for all of those newly released (under demand number one) to enter the new cannabis market, with a guaranteed grow and sales licenses upon completion of the program, as well as first access to grants or loans associated with recreational cannabis businesses.” (“Prioritize Restorative Justice in Legalization,” [Our Revolution New Jersey](#), 8/20)

**Altman Urged Her Twitter Followers To Sign The Petition, Saying “Legalization Is Important But It Only Goes So Far.”** “Sign this important petition from @ORNJ\_Official  
Legalization is important but it only goes so far.” (Sue Altman Twitter Feed, 8/19/20)



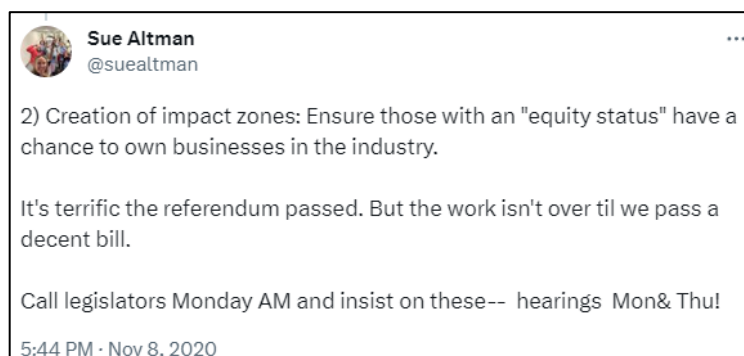
(Sue Altman Twitter Feed, 8/19/20)

**In November 2020, Altman Called For State Lawmakers To Give More Money From Taxing Legal Cannabis To “Target Communities That Have Been Most Harmed By Marijuana Prohibition.”** “Tomorrow at 10am the Senate Judiciary Cmte is hearing the marijuana legislation. TWO VERY IMPORTANT THINGS we need to insist our legislators amend the bill to include: 1) More equitable allocation of tax rev. Target communities that have been most harmed by marijuana prohibition.”




(Sue Altman Twitter Feed, 11/8/20)

**Altman Also Called For The Creation Of “Impact Zones” To “Ensure Those With An ‘Equity Status’ Have A Chance To Own Businesses In The Industry.”** “2) Creation of impact zones: Ensure those with an ‘equity status’ have a chance to own businesses in the industry. It's terrific the referendum passed. But the work isn't over til we pass a decent bill. Call legislators Monday AM and insist on these-- hearings Mon& Thu!” (Sue Altman Twitter Feed, 11/8/20)



(Sue Altman Twitter Feed, 11/8/20)

**Altman Said That The War On Drugs Had Been A “Racist Catastrophe” And That “Equitable” Distribution Of The Tax Proceeds From Marijuana Legalization Would Be A “Form Of Reparations.”** “The legalization referendum is an admission that the war on drugs was a racist catastrophe. Now we have to UNDO it. Not simply ‘move forward’ like, ‘we’re cool.’ No! Equitable revenue distribution is a form of reparations- EXTREMELY valid.” ([Sue Altman Twitter Feed](#), 11/9/20)




**Sue Altman**  
@suealtman

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Now we have to UNDO it. Not simply “move forward” like, “we’re cool.” No!

Equitable revenue distribution is a form of reparations- EXTREMELY valid.



**Amol Sinha** @AmolSinha · Nov 9, 2020

We led the @NJCAN2020 campaign to get NJ to vote YES on cannabis legalization. In our polling we found that the vast majority of NJ voters support tax revenue going to social services and infrastructure (66%) particularly in communities hardest hit by the war on drugs (61%).

10:58 AM · Nov 9, 2020

([Sue Altman Twitter Feed](#), 11/9/20)