

Resolution Proposal

November 25, 2023

CALLING UPON THE STATE TO HARMONIZE THE STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATION OF CANNABIS IN HAWAII

WHEREAS, the State exercised its constitutional authority over the intrastate use of cannabis in 2000 when it approved Act 228 and authorized the medically supervised use of cannabis for a specific group of patients; and

WHEREAS, the federal Controlled Substances Act does not recognize the medical use of cannabis, which exposes state medical cannabis patients to devastating federal consequences; and

WHEREAS, an administrative solution for this problem exists with HCR132, which was unanimously adopted by both chambers of the Legislature in 2021 and which still sits with the Hawaii Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, the State has a moral and constitutional obligation to resolve the federal situation with cannabis in Hawaii using all means available given Congressional indecision and a growing interest in the adult use of cannabis; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Hawaii:

- 1. That the Council supports the State taking immediate action to harmonize the state and federal regulation of cannabis in Hawaii;**
- 2. That the Council supports the State Department of the Attorney General taking the lead on this process; and**
- 3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Mitch Roth, Mayor, County of Hawaii; Hawaii County's delegation to the State Legislature; the Honorable Josh B. Green, MD, Governor, State of Hawaii; the Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker, Hawaii State House of Representatives; the Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President, Hawaii State Senate; the Honorable Ed Case, United States Representative; the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, United States Representative; the Honorable Mazie K. Hirono, United States Senator; and the Honorable Brian E. Schatz, United States Senator.**