
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY TO DETERMINE FAIR WAGES FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA
DISPENSARY SUPPORT STAFF EMPLOYEES.

1 WHEREAS, in 1996, California voters passed Proposition 215,
2 making it the first State in the Union to allow for the medical
3 use of marijuana and since then, 22 states, the District of
4 Columbia, and Guam have enacted similar laws; and
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6 WHEREAS, the legalization of marijuana for strictly medical
7 use pursuant to Act 228, Session Laws of Hawaii 2000, is
8 intended to provide medical relief for seriously ill individuals
9 in the State; and
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11 WHEREAS, Hawaii's medical marijuana program laws were
12 silent for 15 years on how patients could obtain medical
13 marijuana if they or their caregivers are unable to grow their
14 own supply of medical marijuana; and
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16 WHEREAS, Act 241, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, established
17 a licensing system for medical marijuana dispensaries whereby
18 the Department of Health may issue up to eight medical marijuana
19 dispensary licenses statewide and each licensee may establish up
20 to two retail dispensing locations; and
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22 WHEREAS, each dispensary licensee may commence dispensing
23 medical marijuana and manufactured marijuana products no sooner
24 than July 15, 2016; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Department of Health received 66 dispensary
27 applications for the eight available licenses, which will be
28 awarded by April 15, 2016; and
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30 WHEREAS, medical marijuana dispensaries will boost the
31 economy and create numerous jobs in the State, including support



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1 staff, security, product reviewers, growers, and manufacturers
2 within production centers and dispensaries; and

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4 WHEREAS, notwithstanding state and federal minimum wage
5 laws, no state that has medical marijuana dispensaries has
6 established a fair wage for industry employees; and

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8 WHEREAS, despite the foregoing, other states have
9 established wages for specific jobs related to the production of
10 medical marijuana in place; and

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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii consistently places last in cost of living,
13 affordability, necessities, and utilities cost rankings, with
14 the average home price of \$868,317 in Honolulu Metro; and

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16 WHEREAS, there is an opportunity to ensure that the new
17 medical marijuana dispensary workforce is fairly compensated to
18 afford the basic cost of living in Hawaii; and

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20 WHEREAS, a fair wage established by the Department of Labor
21 and Industrial Relations would enable just compensation in the
22 industry; now, therefore,

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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
25 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
26 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
27 Labor and Industrial Relations is requested to conduct a study
28 to determine the fair wage of medical marijuana dispensary
29 employees; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Labor and
32 Industrial Relations, with the cooperation of the Department of
33 Health, is requested to review and identify the necessary
34 positions in medical marijuana dispensaries; and



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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Labor and
37 Industrial Relations review necessary positions and wages for
38 those positions related to medical marijuana dispensaries in
39 other jurisdictions where medical marijuana dispensaries are
40 established, and consider how this information may be used in
41 determining fair wages for Hawaii's medical marijuana dispensary
42 employees; and


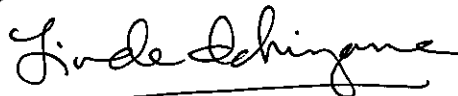






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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Labor
3 and Industrial Relations and the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:

MAR 10 2016

