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## HOUSE 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  
32 staff, security, product reviewers, growers, and manufacturers  
33 within production centers and dispensaries; and



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

5 WHEREAS, despite the foregoing, other states have  
6 established wages for specific jobs related to the production of  
7 medical marijuana in place; and  
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9 WHEREAS, Hawaii consistently places last in cost of living,  
10 affordability, necessities, and utilities cost rankings, with  
11 the average home price of \$868,317 in Honolulu Metro; and  
12

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

17 WHEREAS, a fair wage established by the Department of Labor  
18 and Industrial Relations would enable just compensation in the  
19 industry; now, therefore,  
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
23 Session of 2016, that the Department of Labor and Industrial  
24 Relations is requested to conduct a study to determine the fair  
25 wage of medical marijuana dispensary employees; and  
26

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

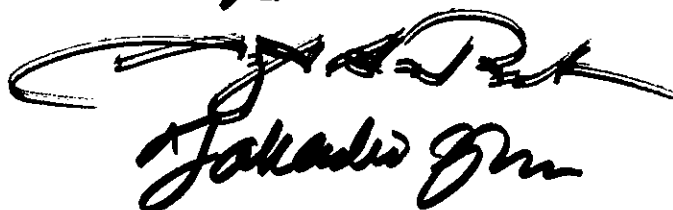
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Labor and  
33 Industrial Relations review necessary positions and wages for  
34 those positions related to medical marijuana dispensaries in  
35 other jurisdictions where medical marijuana dispensaries are  
36 established, and consider how this information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



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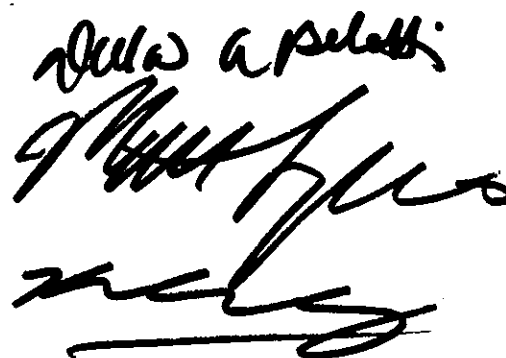
1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Labor and  
3 Industrial Relations and the Director of Health.  
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5  
6

OFFERED BY:



Jakobus Gm

Kindelchingame



MAR 10 2016

