

MAR 1 1 2016

---

# SENATE 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

5  
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

10  
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

15  
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

21  
22           WHEREAS, each dispensary licensee may commence dispensing  
23 medical marijuana and manufactured marijuana products no sooner  
24 than July 15, 2016; and

25  
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

29  
30           WHEREAS, medical marijuana dispensaries will boost the  
31 economy and create numerous jobs in the State, including support



1 staff, security, product reviewers, growers, and manufacturers  
2 within production centers and dispensaries; and  
3

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  
7

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  
11

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  
15

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  
19

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,  
23

24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the  
26 House of Representatives 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  
30

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  
35

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



# S.C.R. NO. 124

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.  
4  
5  
6

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



*Will Egan*

