
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION
REMOVING CANNABIS FROM THE FEDERAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES
ACT AND FACILITATE THE FULL SPECTRUM OF PRIVATE BANKING
SERVICES FOR CANNABIS-RELATED BUSINESS.

1 WHEREAS, 33 states, four United States territories, and the
2 District of Columbia have authorized the use of medical
3 cannabis; twenty-two states, the United States Virgin Islands,
4 and the District of Columbia have decriminalized cannabis; and
5 10 states, the Northern Mariana Islands, the District of
6 Columbia, and three Native American tribes have legalized adult-
7 use of cannabis; and
8

9 WHEREAS, data submitted by the Hawai'i Attorney General to
10 the United States Department of Justice over the past decade
11 indicates that there are over 1,000 arrests for cannabis
12 possession in Hawai'i each year, including hundreds of juveniles
13 who might not otherwise encounter the criminal justice system,
14 and that Native Hawaiians are disproportionately arrested for
15 cannabis possession; and
16

17 WHEREAS, Hawai'i enacted Act 228, Session Laws of Hawai'i
18 2000, which authorized the acquisition, possession, and use of
19 medical cannabis, and authorized the establishment and
20 regulation of medical cannabis dispensaries through Act 241,
21 Session Laws of Hawai'i 2015; and
22

23 WHEREAS, there are currently over 24,000 medical cannabis
24 patients registered with the Hawai'i Department of Health; and



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1 WHEREAS, continued scheduling of cannabis under the federal
2 Controlled Substances Act impairs the ability of medical
3 cannabis dispensaries and other cannabis-related businesses to
4 operate without the prospect of federal seizures, forfeitures,
5 arrests, and other enforcement and prosecutorial actions; and
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7 WHEREAS, alcohol and tobacco remain outside the purview of
8 the federal Controlled Substances Act and have significant
9 negative impacts on individual and public health, including
10 physical injuries, psychological and social harm, and the onset
11 of chronic, often fatal illnesses related to regular use; and
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13 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's medical cannabis dispensaries and other
14 cannabis-related businesses, including those providing goods,
15 services, property, and facilities to cannabis-related
16 businesses, are hampered by the inability to obtain the full
17 spectrum of private banking services under federal law; and
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19 WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in recent years by
20 members of Congress to facilitate the full spectrum of banking
21 services, including deposit insurance, for cannabis-related
22 businesses; now, therefore,
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
25 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of
26 2019, the Senate concurring, that this body hereby requests the
27 United States Congress to enact legislation that will remove
28 cannabis from the federal Controlled Substances Act and
29 facilitate the full spectrum of private banking services for
30 cannabis-related business; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
34 United States, Vice President of the United States, President
35 Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United
36 States House of Representatives, Majority Leaders and Minority
37 Leaders of the United States Senate and United States House of
38 Representatives, and members of Hawai'i's congressional



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1 delegation with the respectful request that the full and
 2 complete text of this Concurrent Resolution be printed in the
 3 Congressional Record.

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MAR - 8 2019

