
HOUSE 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

25
26 WHEREAS, continued scheduling of cannabis under the federal
27 Controlled Substances Act impairs the ability of medical
28 cannabis dispensaries and other cannabis-related businesses to
29 operate without the prospect of federal seizures, forfeitures,
30 arrests, and other enforcement and prosecutorial actions; and



H.R. NO. 86

1 WHEREAS, alcohol and tobacco remain outside the purview of
 2 the federal Controlled Substances Act and have significant
 3 negative impacts on individual and public health, including
 4 physical injuries, psychological and social harm, and the onset
 5 of chronic, often fatal illnesses related to regular use; and
 6

7 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's medical cannabis dispensaries and other
 8 cannabis-related businesses, including those providing goods,
 9 services, property, and facilities to cannabis-related
 10 businesses, are hampered by the inability to obtain the full
 11 spectrum of private banking services under federal law; and
 12

13 WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in recent years by
 14 members of Congress to facilitate the full spectrum of banking
 15 services, including deposit insurance, for cannabis-related
 16 businesses; now, therefore,
 17

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 19 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of
 20 2019, that this body hereby requests the United States Congress
 21 to enact legislation that will remove cannabis from the federal
 22 Controlled Substances Act and facilitate the full spectrum of
 23 private banking services for cannabis-related business; and
 24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 26 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
 27 Vice President of the United States, President Pro Tempore of
 28 the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of
 29 Representatives, Majority Leaders and Minority Leaders of the
 30 United States Senate and United States House of Representatives,
 31 and members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation with the
 32 respectful request that the full and complete text of this
 33 Resolution be printed in the Congressional Record.
 34
 35
 36

OFFERED BY:

[Handwritten signatures and names]
 T. Wilson
 Cynthia Thibodeau
 Dave Carnas
 Amy Puzoso

