

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO RECONVENE THE MARIJUANA EVALUATION TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED BY ACT 273, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2019, TO EXAMINE OTHER STATES' LAWS, PENALTIES, AND OUTCOMES PERTAINING TO MARIJUANA USE OTHER THAN FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES; MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON AMENDING MARIJUANA USE PENALTIES AND OUTCOMES IN THE STATE; AND SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE BEFORE THE CONVENING OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF 2024.

1 WHEREAS, the legalization of cannabis for purposes other
2 than medical use would have direct and indirect effects on
3 public safety and welfare; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is therefore essential that any legislation
6 pertaining to the legalization of recreational cannabis be
7 enacted in consideration of the relevant laws and outcomes in
8 other states that have legalized recreational use of cannabis;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, Act 273, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019 (Act 273),
12 established the Marijuana Evaluation Task Force within the
13 Department of the Attorney General, to:
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15 (1) Examine other states' laws, penalties, and outcomes
16 pertaining to marijuana use, other than marijuana use
17 for medical purposes, and make recommendations on
18 amending marijuana use penalties and outcomes in the
19 State;
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21 (2) Submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
22 including any proposed legislation, no later than
23 twenty days before the convening of the Regular
24 Session of 2021; and
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26 (3) Dissolve on June 30, 2021; and
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1 WHEREAS, due to the disruptions caused by the coronavirus
2 disease 2019 pandemic, the Marijuana Evaluation Task Force was
3 unable to complete its tasks within the time allotted in Act
4 273; and

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6 WHEREAS, S.B. No. 1010 (2021) would have extended the
7 deadline for the Marijuana Evaluation Task Force to submit its
8 report to twenty days before the convening of the Regular
9 Session of 2022, and would have extended the task force's
10 dissolution date to June 30, 2022; and

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12 WHEREAS, S.B. No. 1010 (2021), however, was not passed by
13 the Legislature and the Marijuana Evaluation Task Force was
14 dissolved on June 30, 2021, without submitting its report; and

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16 WHEREAS, the findings and recommendations of the Marijuana
17 Evaluation Task Force are critical for the Legislature to make
18 an informed decision on how to best legalize the use of cannabis
19 in the State for purposes other than for medical use; now,
20 therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of the
25 Attorney General is urged to reconvene the Marijuana Evaluation
26 Task Force established by Act 273, to examine other states'
27 laws, penalties, and outcomes pertaining to marijuana use other
28 than for medical purposes, and make recommendations on amending
29 marijuana use penalties and outcomes in the State; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that according to Act 273, the
32 Marijuana Evaluation Task Force is requested to be comprised of
33 the following members or their designees:

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35 (1) The chair of the Senate Standing Committee on
36 Judiciary, who is requested to serve as a co-chair of
37 the task force;
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39 (2) The chair of the House Standing Committee on Judiciary
40 and Hawaiian Affairs, who shall serve as a co-chair of
41 the task force;
42



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1 (3) The Attorney General;

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3 (4) The State Public Defender; and

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5 (5) A prosecuting attorney to be selected by the co-chairs
6 of the task force; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the co-chairs of the Marijuana
9 Evaluation Task Force are requested to invite other interested
10 parties to participate in the task force; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marijuana Evaluation Task
13 Force is urged to submit a report of its findings and
14 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
15 Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of
16 the Regular Session of 2024; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marijuana Evaluation Task
19 Force is requested to dissolve on June 30, 2025; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General and
23 State Public Defender.
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26 OFFERED BY:

