

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States, President of the
2 United States, Attorney General of the United States, Drug
3 Enforcement Administration and Department of Health and Human
4 Services to remove cannabis as a Schedule I controlled
5 substance under the Controlled Substances Act.

6 WHEREAS, The Controlled Substances Act (Public Law 91-513, 84
7 Stat. 1236) was enacted by the 91st Congress and became
8 effective May 1, 1971; and

9 WHEREAS, Under the Controlled Substances Act, a Schedule I
10 controlled drug or other substance is considered to have a high
11 potential for abuse and dependence, no currently accepted
12 medical use in treatment and a lack of accepted safety for use
13 under medical supervision; and

14 WHEREAS, Cannabis is currently a Schedule I controlled drug
15 or other substance under the Controlled Substances Act; and

16 WHEREAS, There are no exceptions under Federal law for the
17 application of cannabis for medicinal purposes even if the use
18 is sanctioned by State law; and

19 WHEREAS, As of May 2021, a total of 36 states and four

1 step in harmonizing Federal and State policy to improve public
2 health, reduce criminal justice expenditures, raise tax revenue
3 and usher in economic growth; and

4 WHEREAS, Removing cannabis as a Schedule I controlled
5 substance will facilitate medical research, ensure patient
6 access and remove Federal prohibitions; and

7 WHEREAS, Billions in taxpayer dollars are spent every year in
8 Federal expenditures attributable to cannabis prohibition
9 enforcement in the criminal justice system; and

10 WHEREAS, Federal mandatory minimum sentencing laws for drug
11 offenses result in nonviolent cannabis offenders serving long
12 sentences often disproportionate to their crime; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States Attorney General can initiate a
14 review process to consider available evidence and change a
15 controlled substance's schedule classification; and

16 WHEREAS, Under this action, the Drug Enforcement
17 Administration, in conjunction with the United States Department
18 of Health and Human Services, would be directed to carry out a
19 review process to reschedule a controlled substance, such as
20 when the Drug Enforcement Administration rescheduled hydrocodone
21 combination products or opioid-based prescription painkillers
22 from Schedule III to Schedule II in 2014; and

23 WHEREAS, Congress has the authority to pass a law that
24 changes or restricts a controlled substance's schedule
25 classification; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
27 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United
28 States, President of the United States, Attorney General of the
29 United States, Drug Enforcement Administration and Department of
30 Health and Human Services to remove cannabis as a Schedule I